

BOB GOODLATTE, Virginia  
CHAIRMAN

F. JAMES SENSENBRENNER, JR., Wisconsin  
LAMAR S. SMITH, Texas  
STEVE CHABOT, Ohio  
DARRELL E. ISSA, California  
J. RANDY FORBES, Virginia  
STEVE KING, Iowa  
TRENT FRANKS, Arizona  
LOUIE GOHMERT, Texas  
JIM JORDAN, Ohio  
TED POE, Texas  
JASON CHAFFETZ, Utah  
TOM MARINO, Pennsylvania  
TREY GOWDY, South Carolina  
RAUL R. LABRADOR, Idaho  
BLAKE FARENTHOLD, Texas  
DOUG COLLINS, Georgia  
RON DeSANTIS, Florida  
MIMI WALTERS, California  
KEN BUCK, Colorado  
JOHN RATCLIFFE, Texas  
DAVE TROTT, Michigan  
MIKE BISHOP, Michigan

JOHN CONYERS, JR., Michigan  
RANKING MEMBER

JERROLD NADLER, New York  
ZOE LOFGREN, California  
SHEILA JACKSON LEE, Texas  
STEVE COHEN, Tennessee  
HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR., Georgia  
PEDRO R. PIERLUISI, Puerto Rico  
JUDY CHU, California  
TED DEUTCH, Florida  
LUIS V. GUTIERREZ, Illinois  
KAREN BASS, California  
CEDRIC L. RICHMOND, Louisiana  
SUZAN K. DELBENE, Washington  
HAKEEM S. JEFFRIES, New York  
DAVID CICILLINE, Rhode Island  
SCOTT PETERS, California

ONE HUNDRED FOURTEENTH CONGRESS

# Congress of the United States

## House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

2138 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6216

(202) 225-3951

<http://www.house.gov/judiciary>

October 4, 2016

The Honorable Sarah R. Saldaña, Director  
U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement  
500 12th St., SW  
Washington, D.C. 20536

Dear Director Saldaña,

Recent media reports indicate that U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents induced local law enforcement officers to scan license plates to collect data on individuals attending gun shows in California.<sup>1</sup> If true, this invasive investigative tactic poses many serious concerns for millions of law abiding Americans. Also troubling is the report that ICE has no written policy governing the use of license plate readers.

While the use of license plate readers is a valid law enforcement tool when properly used, this does not appear to be the case in this situation. When attending a gun show, law abiding citizens are exercising their First Amendment right to peaceably assemble. Further, if they are purchasing or otherwise acquiring or possessing a firearm, they are exercising their Second Amendment right to keep and bear arms. These Constitutionally-protected activities should not subject gun show attendees to unwarranted and heavy-handed surveillance practices by their government.

In order for this Committee to more fully understand why ICE would employ this technique under such questionable circumstances, please provide a written response to the below questions and make ICE staff available for a briefing on this matter no later than October 14, 2016.

1. Please provide a copy of all ICE policies governing the use of license plate readers. If there are no policies, please explain why none have been developed.

---

<sup>1</sup> Devlin Barrett, *Gun-Show Customers' License Plates Come Under Scrutiny*, Wall St. J., October 2, 2016, available at <http://www.wsj.com/articles/gun-show-customers-license-plates-come-under-scrutiny-1475451302>.

2. At how many gun shows did ICE record or make a request to another law enforcement agency to record the license plates of the gun show attendees? Please indicate the dates and locations of the gun shows described above. Please provide all documents, communications or other materials ICE prepared, sent or received pertaining to the gun show operations described above.
3. How many license plates were recorded during these operations?
4. Does ICE still maintain the records of the license plates recorded at gun shows? If so, for what reason and how long does ICE intend to maintain that information? If not, what became of them?
5. How many arrests or investigative leads were obtained because of these operations?
6. Which law enforcement agencies agreed to scan license plates at the request of ICE? Did any law enforcement agencies refuse such a request? If so, please identify the agencies that declined.
7. Does ICE have any ongoing operations or planned operations at gun shows?

Thank you for your prompt attention to this very important matter. Should you have any questions concerning this request, please contact Jason Cervenak or Tracy Short on the House Judiciary Committee staff at 202.225.3951. I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,



Bob Goodlatte  
Chairman