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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

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**SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE STRATEGIC
COMPETITION BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES
AND THE CHINESE COMMUNIST PARTY**

March 4, 2026

Honorable Kristi Noem
Secretary of Homeland Security
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
200 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001

Mr. Todd Lyons
Acting Director of U.S. Immigration and
Customs Enforcement (ICE)
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
500 12th St., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20536

Secretary Noem and Acting Director Lyons:

I write to demand a full and transparent accounting of the death of Mr. Emmanuel Damas, a Haitian national who died while in the custody of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) at the Florence Service Processing Center in Arizona.

Mr. Damas was taken into ICE custody in Boston, MA in September 2025 and was subsequently transferred to the Florence facility. According to family members, Mr. Damas first experienced a toothache in mid-February 2026. What began as a localized dental complaint worsened significantly in the days that followed. Family members report that Mr. Damas struggled to receive timely medical attention before ultimately being transferred to a hospital, where he subsequently passed away.

Mr. Damas's family deserves answers.

Pursuant to my oversight authority, I request that you provide the following no later than fourteen (14) days from receipt of this letter:

1. The complete medical examiner's report concerning Mr. Damas's cause and manner of death;
2. A comprehensive accounting of all medical care offered to, provided to, or withheld from Mr. Damas during his detention at Florence, including: dates of every medical evaluation; names and credentials of treating personnel; clinical findings; any documented complaints of dental pain or infection; and, any requests for specialist or emergency referral and the responses to those requests; and,
3. Written responses to the following questions:
 - a. What systems are in place for a detainee at the Florence Service Processing Center to request medical attention?

- b. Why was Mr. Damas not evaluated or treated by a dental or medical specialist given the reported progression of his condition, and who made that determination?
- c. When was Mr. Damas's family notified of his deteriorating condition and subsequent hospitalization? Does that timeline comply with ICE's detention standards and notification protocols? If not, what corrective action has been taken or is planned?
- d. Has ICE initiated an internal review or critical incident investigation into the circumstances of Mr. Damas's death? If so, please provide all findings to date. If not, please explain why no such review has been initiated.

I look forward to your prompt response.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Greg Stanton". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Greg Stanton
Member of Congress