

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

June 10, 2025

President Donald J. Trump
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

RE: Deployment of National Guard Troops to Los Angeles

Mr. President,

We are writing to express grave concern regarding the deployment of the National Guard and the activation of 700 Marines to Los Angeles. These actions were taken without the consent of California Governor Gavin Newsom and over the objections of local law enforcement. It constitutes a clear violation of constitutional principles and law, and a grave overreach of executive authority.

On June 6 and 7, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) carried out a series of immigration raids in downtown Los Angeles, which were met with widespread public protests. On the evening of June 7, you issued a formal memorandum titled “Department of Defense Security for the Protection of Department of Homeland Security Functions,” authorizing the deployment of 2,000 California National Guard personnel to Los Angeles for a 60-day period. This action bypassed the state governor’s authority and proceeded despite active objections from local law enforcement already managing the situation. By the time National Guard troops arrived on Sunday morning, protests had largely subsided, and the streets were calm. Instead, the National Guard presence contributed to a renewed escalation of tensions. The overwhelming majority of protestors have done so peacefully. State and local authorities have already said that they can and will arrest and prosecute the very few who have committed acts of violence.

This deployment does not appear to be motivated by any public safety emergency that could not be dealt with successfully by local authorities. Instead, it coincides with a broader federal enforcement escalation involving mass ICE raids, militarized immigration tactics, and the use of tear gas and riot control methods in civilian areas. These actions undermine civil liberties, destabilize communities, erode public trust in government institutions, and violate the law.

Your memorandum cited 10 U.S.C. §12406 as the legal basis for your actions. That provision allows the President to call the National Guard into federal service only in three specific circumstances:

- (1) the United States, or any of the Commonwealths or possessions, is invaded or is in danger of invasion by a foreign nation;

(2) there is a rebellion or danger of a rebellion against the authority of the Government of the United States; or

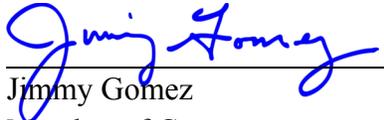
(3) the President is unable with the regular forces to execute the laws of the United States

10 U.S.C. §12406 also requires that “Orders for these purposes shall be issued through the governors of the States.” None of these enumerated circumstances exist and no order was issued through the governor of our state. Therefore, your order is plainly unlawful.

In addition, on June 8, U.S. Northern Command announced the activation of 700 active-duty U.S. Marines to the Los Angeles area under the same Task Force. The deployment of active-duty Marines marks a significant escalation in the federal government's response, blurring the line between military and civilian law enforcement roles. The deployment of active-duty military personnel into domestic operations raises serious legal and constitutional questions. Marines are trained for combat, not law enforcement. The introduction of Marines in securing largely peaceful protests is an unnecessary escalation in a situation that has already been inflamed because of escalatory actions.

As federal officials we must prioritize de-escalation and adherence to the constitutional principles that govern the balance of power between federal and state and local governments. For these reasons, we urge you to immediately withdraw the National Guard and U.S. Marines from Los Angeles and to refrain from further deployments of any military personnel in circumstances that violate constitutional boundaries and escalate domestic tensions.

Sincerely,

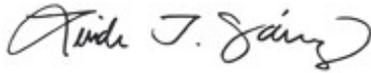

Jimmy Gomez
Member of Congress


Adam B. Schiff
United States Senator


Nanette Diaz Barragán
Member of Congress


Nancy Pelosi
Member of Congress


Zoe Lofgren
Member of Congress



Linda T. Sánchez
Member of Congress



Mark Takano
Member of Congress



Derek T. Tran
Member of Congress



Ted W. Lieu
Member of Congress



Sydney Kamlager-Dove
Member of Congress



Dave Min
Member of Congress



Sara Jacobs
Member of Congress



Kevin Mullin
Member of Congress



Salud Carbajal
Member of Congress



Mark DeSaulnier
Member of Congress



Mike Thompson
Member of Congress



Jim Costa
Member of Congress



Jimmy Panetta
Member of Congress



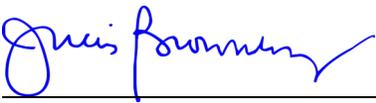
Luz M. Rivas
Member of Congress



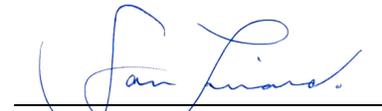
Norma J. Torres
Member of Congress



Ami Bera, M.D.
Member of Congress



Julia Brownley
Member of Congress



Sam T. Liccardo
Member of Congress



J. Luis Correa
Member of Congress



Laura Friedman
Member of Congress



Ro Khanna
Member of Congress



Raul Ruiz, M.D.
Member of Congress



Scott H. Peters
Member of Congress



Doris Matsui
Member of Congress



Brad Sherman
Member of Congress



Gilbert Ray Cisneros, Jr.
Member of Congress



Mike Levin
Member of Congress



Pete Aguilar
Member of Congress



Jared Huffman
Member of Congress



Eric Swalwell
Member of Congress



Lateefah Simon
Member of Congress



Judy Chu
Member of Congress



Maxine Waters
Member of Congress



Juan Vargas
Member of Congress



John Garamendi
Member of Congress



Robert Garcia
Member of Congress



George Whitesides
Member of Congress

CC: Secretary Pete Hegseth, U.S. Department of Defense