



**One Hundred Fourteenth Congress
U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Homeland Security
Washington, DC 20515**

September 15, 2015

The Honorable Jeh Johnson
Secretary
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
3801 Nebraska Ave, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Secretary Johnson:

As leaders of the primary committee of oversight of the Department of Homeland Security (Department), we are encouraged by many of the efforts you are undertaking to strengthen unity of effort within the Department. We share your desire to ensure the Department is optimally organized to achieve its vital mission and appreciate the responsiveness of your staff on some of the aspects of this effort. However, we are concerned with the lack of transparency on the proposed reorganization of the National Protection and Programs Directorate (NPPD).

Despite multiple media reports on the proposal to reorganize NPPD and numerous requests for information from our staff, we have yet to receive any specific details from the Department. NPPD is home to a number of important organizations, including the National Cybersecurity and Communications Integration Center, the Office of Biometric Identity Management, the Office of Emergency Communications, the Office of Infrastructure Protection, and the Federal Protective Service, which all need to be properly represented in any reorganization of NPPD to effectively carry out their missions.

As you are aware, we are drafting legislation to update and improve the Department, including NPPD. We took the first step in this effort with the passage of H.R. 1731, which would rename NPPD as Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Protection and codify a Deputy Under Secretary for Cybersecurity and a Deputy Under Secretary for Infrastructure Protection. As the Committee continues to work to fulfill its oversight responsibilities and strengthen the Department, we will lead further efforts to reorganize NPPD. We value your perspective on this process. As such, receipt of information on your recommendation for the organization of NPPD is necessary promptly.

We look forward to working hand-in-hand with you and Under Secretary Spaulding on this critical effort. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



MICHAEL T. MCCAUL
Chairman
Committee on Homeland Security



BENNIE THOMPSON
Ranking Member
Committee on Homeland Security



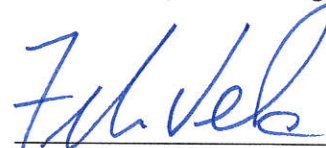
JOHN RATCLIFFE
Chairman
Subcommittee on Cybersecurity,
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and Security Technologies



CEDRIC RICHMOND
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Cybersecurity,
Infrastructure Protection, and
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CANDICE MILLER
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FILEMON VELA
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SCOTT PERRY
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DONALD PAYNE
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