

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0603

April 20, 2021

The Honorable Theodore E. Deutch
Chairman
House Committee on Ethics
1015 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Jackie Walorski
Ranking Member
House Committee on Ethics
1015 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Deutch and Ranking Member Walorski:

I write to request that the House Committee on Ethics open an investigation into Representative Maxine Waters (CA-43) for her incitement of the violent riots in Brooklyn Center, her unethical use of her office to unconstitutionally pressure an independent judiciary, and her pattern of similar behavior that is unbecoming of a Member of Congress and discredits the House of Representatives.

Representative Waters traveled outside of her District to incite violence in Minneapolis—violence that shamefully led to two members of the National Guard being injured in a drive-by shooting.¹ In an interview on MSNBC following the riots, she said that her goal was to “give support” to rioters saying, “Not only do I love them, and I support them, but they can count on me to be with them” during their violent actions and violations of lawful curfew orders.²

Rep. Waters’ pattern of unethical behavior includes:

1. On April 18, 2021, Rep. Waters used her office to threaten an independent judiciary and incite violence. A protestor asked her, “Congresswoman, what happens if we do not get what you just told? What should the people do? What should protestors do?” Instead of trying to calm the situation, she encouraged rioters to “stay in the streets” and “get more confrontational” if a guilty verdict is not delivered. Her words incited violence, and just hours later, two members of the National Guard were injured in a drive-by shooting.³
2. On April 18, 2021, Rep Waters encouraged rioters to violate lawful orders by police officers by encouraging rioters to stay out past curfew, stating. “I don’t think anything about curfew... I don’t know what curfew means... I don’t agree with that.” It must be investigated if Rep. Waters violated curfew herself, or if she only broke the law by inciting other criminal curfew violations.⁴

¹ “Minnesota National Guard neighborhood security team fired upon in Minneapolis,” Minnesota National Guard (April 18, 2021), <https://minnesotanationalguard.ng.mil/minnesota-national-guard-neighborhood-security-team-fired-upon-in-minneapolis/>.

² “Maxine Waters says she told Jim Jordan to ‘shut your mouth’ for ‘bullying’ Dr. Fauci,” MSNBC (April 18, 2021), <https://www.msnbc.com/the-sunday-show/watch/maxine-waters-says-she-told-jim-jordan-to-shut-your-mouth-for-bullying-dr-fauci-110413893870>.

³ Alpha News (@AlphaNewsMN) Twitter, (April 18, 2021, 12:55 AM), <https://twitter.com/AlphaNewsMN/status/1383645408765743108?s=20>.

⁴ Alpha News (@AlphaNewsMN) Twitter, (April 18, 2021, 12:55 AM), <https://twitter.com/AlphaNewsMN/status/1383645408765743108?s=20>.

3. On April 18, 2021, Rep. Waters unconstitutionally used her office to pressure an independent trial court to find Derek Chauvin guilty of murder by stating, "We're going to get a verdict that say 'Guilty guilty guilty,' and if we don't, we cannot go away...oh no, not manslaughter, no no no, this is guilty—for murder."
4. These are not isolated incidents. Rep. Waters has a pattern of inciting violence and disrespecting the House rules. In 2018 she incited violence and persecution against Trump Administration officials, stating: "Let's make sure we show up wherever we have to show up. And if you see anybody from that cabinet in a restaurant, in a department store, at a gasoline station, you get out and you create a crowd. And you push back on them. And you tell them they're not welcome anymore, anywhere."⁵

Representative Waters' egregious and repeated actions violate clauses 1 and 2 of House Rule XXIII ("Code of Official Conduct"). Her behavior does not "reflect creditably on the House," nor does it follow "the spirit and the letter of the Rules of the House." Remarks inciting violence, bullying an independent judiciary, and encouraging rioters to break local laws discredit the House and are a stain on this body.

After the House Committee on Ethics concludes its investigation of this matter, I urge the Committee to take all disciplinary action that it deems appropriate.

Sincerely,



Lauren Boebert
Member of Congress
1609 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The foregoing complaint was sworn to and subscribed before me this 20 day of APRIL 2021, by U.S. Congresswoman Lauren Boebert.



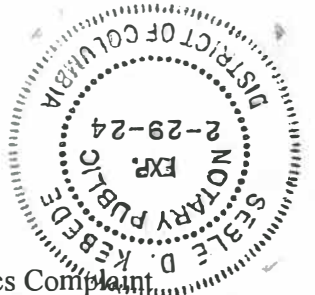
Signature of Notary Public
Print, Type/Stamp Name of Notary

Personally known: _____
OR Produced Identification: 02-029-0759
Type of Identification Produced: Trimmer's License

Cc: U.S. Representative Maxine Waters

Enclosures: Certification to Accompany U.S. Representative Maxine Waters Ethics Complaint

SEBLE D. KEBEDE
NOTARY PUBLIC DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
My Commission Expires February 29, 2024



⁵ Jamie Ehrlich, "Maxine Waters encourages supporters to harass Trump administration officials," CNN (June 25, 2018), <https://www.cnn.com/2018/06/25/politics/maxine-waters-trump-officials/index.html>