

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

May 29, 2026

Director Kash Patel
Federal Bureau of Investigation
935 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20535

Dear Director Patel:

We write to request that the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) provide itemized details on all your personal travel and all your non-official business during official travel and while utilizing FBI resources. Since your confirmation, report after report has emerged of apparent exploitation of your “required use” designation and your title for extensive personal travel and to garner VIP access to events. Most recently, reporting has emerged of your VIP snorkeling excursion around the USS Arizona at the Pearl Harbor National Memorial on your way back to Las Vegas from official visits to New Zealand and Australia.¹

During Director Wray’s tenure as FBI Director, you heavily criticized his personal travel, arguing “[y]ou don’t need a government funded G-5 jet so you can fly off to the Adirondacks for vacation and fail to do your duty under the Constitution.”² Yet, since your confirmation report after report has detailed an unconscionable pattern of taking personal privileges under the guise of government business, even at the expense of mission readiness. As noted in a previous letter from Senator Durbin, credible whistleblower disclosures reveal how your irresponsible joyriding on Department of Justice (DOJ) and FBI-operated aircraft have negatively impacted high-profile criminal investigations.³ While we recognize the unique security needs of the FBI Director, similar questions must be raised about this recent trip.

Therefore, we demand the following information by June 12, 2026:

1. A detailed list of all personal travel you have taken since confirmation as FBI Director, including form(s) of travel, number of days in each destination, and each activity requiring security measures for your safety.

¹ Jim Mustian, Eric Tucker & Michael Biesecker, *Emails Show FBI Director Kash Patel’s Hawaii Trip Included ‘VIP Snorkel’ at a Peral Harbor Memorial*, AP (May 14, 2026), <https://apnews.com/article/fbi-kash-patel-snorkel-hawaii-pearl-harbor-192a81cde7a5879aab747bc0ba4b78b9>.

² Alex Kaplan, On a Far-Right Podcast, Kash Patel Previously Called on Congress to Ground then-FBI Director Christopher Wray’s Government-Funded Jet If the FBI Didn’t Answer Congressional Questions, MEDIA MATTERS (Nov. 5, 2025), <https://www.mediamatters.org/kash-patel/far-right-podcast-kash-patel-previously-called-congress-ground-then-fbi-director>.

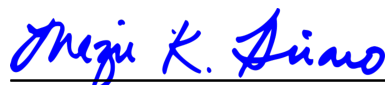
³ The Honorable Richard J. Durbin, Ranking Member, Senate Committee on the Judiciary, to Orice Williams Brown, Acting Comptroller General, U.S. Gov’t Accountability Off., and Don R. Berthiaume, Acting Inspector General, U.S. Dep’t of Justice (Feb. 24, 2026), available at <https://www.durbin.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/durbin-reveals-new-whistleblower-information-for-investigation-into-kash-patel-joyriding-to-the-olympics>.

2. A detailed list of all non-official business enjoyed during official travel, including form(s) of travel, number of days the official travel was extended for non-official business, and each non-official activity requiring security measures for your safety.
3. A summary of the total cost to taxpayers for each item detailed in Questions 1 and 2.

Sincerely,



Charles E. Schumer
United States Senator



Mazie K. Hirono
United States Senator



Richard J. Durbin
United States Senator

cc: Assistant Inspector General Performing the Duties of the Inspector General M. Sean O'Neill
Office of the Inspector General, U.S. Department of Justice

Senior Advisor Don R. Berthiaume
Office of the Inspector General, U.S. Department of Justice