



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

September 19, 2022

The Honorable Merrick B. Garland
Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

The Honorable Alejandro Mayorkas
Secretary
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
3801 Nebraska Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20201

Dear Attorney General Garland and Secretary Mayorkas:

I write with grave concern regarding the allegations that the migrants who were flown to Martha's Vineyard on September 14th were coerced to board the flight through false information. According to press reports, the migrants were intentionally misled into believing that the flight was destined for Boston and that they would receive shelter and expedited work permits after arrival.

These allegations raise serious concerns as to whether any Federal laws were violated in the coercion and transport of the migrants. I therefore urge the Department of Justice to investigate any such potential violations of Federal laws.

Similarly, I urge the Department of Homeland Security to conduct an immediate review of the circumstances regarding these individuals' release into and transport within the United States. Specifically, I urge the Department to review any coordination in their release from federal custody and any screening that may have occurred in connection to their flight within the United States.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bennie G. Thompson".

Bennie G. Thompson
Chairman