

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM

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MEMORANDUM

February 19, 2026

To: Members, Subcommittee on Government Operations

From: Committee Staff

Re: Hearing titled “An Update on DoD’s Struggling Background Check System”

On Tuesday, February 24, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. ET in room 2247 of the Rayburn House Office Building, the Subcommittee on Government Operations will host a hearing titled “An Update on DoD’s Struggling Background Check System.”

I. BACKGROUND:

The transition of certain responsibilities from the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) to the Department of Defense (DoD) marked the beginning of a broad initiative to overhaul the federal personnel vetting system. A central element of this reform is the implementation of the Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency’s (DCSA) information technology platform, the National Background Investigation Services (NBIS). However, the system is now more than eight years behind schedule, and DoD will spend billions of additional tax dollars to operate legacy systems, including some that were involved in a 2015 data breach.

II. HEARING PURPOSE:

This hearing will examine DCSA’s progress implementing NBIS since the Subcommittee’s initial public review of the issue at a hearing in June 2024. As the foundation of the federal personnel vetting system, NBIS remains critical to national security, and continued delays raise serious concerns. Further, the hearing will assess how the inability to secure permanent leadership at DCSA after former Director David Cattler’s retirement last year impacts ongoing NBIS efforts.

III. WITNESSES:

The Honorable Justin Overbaugh

Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence and Security
Acting Director, Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency
U.S. Department of Defense

Ms. Alissa Czyz

Director, Defense Capabilities and Management
U.S. Government Accountability Office