

Questions for the Record from Representative Gaetz for Executive Associate
Director Berger
“Oversight of Homeland Security Investigations”
September 18, 2024

1. On July 13, 2024, the day of the attempted assassination of former President Donald Trump in Butler, Pennsylvania, did any Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) personnel participate in a muster organized by the United States Secret Service, and if so, to the recollection of those HSI participants, when and where did that muster occur?
2. You confirmed in testimony today that Customs and Border Protection (CBP) did question and refer Ryan Wesley Routh to HSI for further investigation. Records from that interview note that “HSI was contacted and refused the case.” On what date(s) did HSI open any investigation into Mr. Routh?

Questions for the Record from Representative Cohen for Executive Associate Director Berger
“Oversight of Homeland Security Investigations”
September 18, 2024

1. In our conversation, we discussed how foreign human trafficking victims arrived in the United States. You said most initially came into the United States by crossing our land borders. Can you please provide more details? What proportion of these victims were trafficked into the United States versus what proportion were first trafficked in the United States?
2. Similarly, we discussed the fentanyl smuggling. In our conversation, you did not know how fentanyl was coming into the United States. I believe understanding how fentanyl is crossing our borders can inform our policies and priorities to maximize the effectiveness of interdiction and law enforcement efforts. Please provide additional information about how fentanyl and related supplies are entering the United States and where.
3. With Operation Boiling Point, HSI is confronting Organized Theft Groups and Organized Retail Crime. Can you please share with us how you are coordinating with other federal partners and state and local officials to tackle organized retail crime?
4. What connections do these Organized Theft Groups have to Transnational Criminal Organizations?

Questions for the Record from Representative Johnson for
Executive Associate Director Berger
"Oversight of Homeland Security Investigations"
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1. How does HSI measure and report on the impact and outcomes of its Organized Retail Crime (ORC) investigations, and what are the key performance indicators and metrics to assess its effectiveness and efficiency?
2. The Project Boiling Point website states that "ORC is not shoplifting." Does HSI have data comparing the number and value of losses between shoplifting to ORC?
3. HSI [defines](#) ORC as "the association of two or more persons engaged in illegally obtaining items of value from retail establishments, through theft and/or fraud, as part of a criminal enterprise." How does HSI distinguish between retail theft as part of a criminal enterprise and shoplifting? How does HSI support victims of exploitation, including human trafficking, in cases when they are coerced to steal from retailers as part of ORC operations?

Questions for the Record from Representative McBath for Executive Associate Director Berger
“Oversight of Homeland Security Investigations”
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1. The Combating Organized Retail Crime Act (“CORCA”), which authorizes Homeland Security Investigations (“HSI”) to set up an Organized Retail Crime Coordination Center has been of interest to myself and other Members on this committee. Based on HSI’s experience with the similarly structured National IPR Coordination Center, can you give this Subcommittee some sense of the time, money, and other resources you would need to get such a center up and running?
2. How does combatting organized retail crime (“ORC”) help HSI achieve its mission of investigating the unlawful movement of goods and money out of and through the United States?
 - How does it contribute to protecting the security of our country?
3. What additional resources from Congress would be helpful to HSI to combat ORC?