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Transcript of Joseph Guy  
Conducted on December 3, 2025

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Deposition of JOSEPH GUY, held at the offices of:

1100 Connecticut Avenue, NW  
Suite 950  
Washington, DC 20036

Pursuant to agreement, before Konly Harding,  
Notary Public in and for the District of Columbia.

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1 defending?

2 A Former presidential appointees.

3 Q And then you said you had a second position  
4 simultaneously, is that correct?

5 A Yes.

6 Q And what was the second position?

7 A I was an action plan manager for the America  
8 First Transition Project.

9 Q And what was your role in that position?

10 A I coordinated volunteers who were working on  
11 different transition plans across the government.

12 Q And how long were you in that position?

13 A I'd like to say I started that in June of  
14 2024. And that went until, I think, December 2024.

15 Q Okay. And what was your next position?

16 A I started as Deputy Chief of Staff to  
17 Secretary Noem in January of 2024, or 2025 rather,  
18 sorry.

19 Q And do you still hold that role?

20 A Yes, I do.

21 Q And what are your responsibilities in that  
22 role?

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1           A     I coordinate and manage, at a high level,  
2 presidential and secretarial priorities for DHS  
3 components.

4           Q     And how many hours a week would you say you  
5 dedicate to that position?

6           A     Roughly 50, I would say.

7           Q     And what is your current job title at OIDO?

8           A     I am the Acting Immigration Detention  
9 Ombudsman.

10          Q     And when did you first enter that role?

11          A     In May of 2025.

12          Q     And how many hours per week would you say  
13 that you spend in your role as the Acting Ombudsman?

14          A     I would say roughly five.

15          Q     Okay. And can you describe any prior work  
16 experience that you have involving immigration  
17 detention?

18          A     Yes, so when I was a legislative assistant,  
19 particularly in the House of Representatives,  
20 immigration was in my portfolio. So I would have had,  
21 I have some familiarity with it from that time.

22          Q     And what kind of work were you doing with

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1 regard to that portfolio?

2 A Coordinating on policy, stakeholder  
3 engagement, learning about it from outside groups or  
4 from other offices and legislative assistants that  
5 would have been engaging on the same sorts of work, or  
6 wanting Representative Cawthorn to engage from his  
7 office on legislation that they were doing. That's  
8 sort of the name of the game there.

9 Q And can you describe any prior experience in  
10 civil rights enforcement?

11 A I would just say something along those  
12 similar lines. General experience just through policy  
13 discussions and coordination.

14 Q And can you describe any prior experience  
15 related to immigration law?

16 A I would say the same thing for immigration  
17 law, especially in that legislative assistant role. I  
18 had a lot of discussions with immigration groups, and  
19 while I'm not a lawyer, I did learn quite a bit about  
20 the policy.

21 Q And prior to receiving your role as the  
22 acting ombudsman of OIDO, what had you heard of OIDO,

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1 or were you familiar with the subcomponent?

2 A I was not familiar with it whatsoever.

3 Q And are you familiar with Project 2025?

4 A I know what it is, yes.

5 Q Have you read Project 2025?

6 A I have not.

7 Q Are you aware that Project 2025 includes the  
8 statement that the Office of the Immigration Detention  
9 Ombudsman should be eliminated?

10 A I was not.

11 Q Would you agree with that statement?

12 A I don't think I would.

13 Q Okay, and can you elaborate?

14 A I am here to carry out the intent of the  
15 President and the Secretary. And if that intent is for  
16 the office to not be eliminated and to carry out its  
17 statutory functions, that's what I think should  
18 happen.

19 Q Okay. And without telling me the content of  
20 your conversations, how many hours did you spend with  
21 your attorney in preparing for this deposition?

22 A I would say roughly four.

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1 which component we're discussing and what size of a  
2 facility-- For the most part.

3 Q Would you be able to specify the names of  
4 those standards if you know them?

5 A I do not know them.

6 Q So I'm going to introduce an exhibit. It's  
7 going to be exhibit 27. And it's a large document, so  
8 I put it in a binder for you. And would you mind  
9 passing this to the court reporter? Thank you so much.  
10 And here's a copy for you all. All right, I'll give  
11 you a minute to open this document and take a look at  
12 the title page and the table of contents. And this is  
13 going to be exhibit 27. And take your time, but just  
14 let me know when you're ready.

15 A Do you want me to--

16 Q No, you definitely do not need to read  
17 through the entire document. I just wanted you to  
18 familiarize yourself with the table of contents.

19 A Okay.

20 Q Are you ready? Have you ever seen this  
21 document before?

22 A I have not.

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1 Q Okay. So I will represent to you that this  
2 is a complete copy of the 2011 performance-based  
3 national detention standards. Are you familiar with  
4 the PBNDS?

5 A I am not.

6 Q Okay. And you mentioned that there are  
7 different standards that are used in different  
8 components. Is your understanding that these standards  
9 govern ICE facilities?

10 MR. DAVIS Objection. Lack of  
11 foundation.

12 Q Let me rephrase. Do you know what facilities  
13 these standards govern?

14 A Can I have time to go through this document?

15 Q Yes, you can take as much time as you need.

16 A Okay.

17 Q So based on your brief review of this  
18 document, what does it appear to govern?

19 A Detention standards.

20 Q And do you know whether these standards  
21 apply to ICE detention facilities?

22 A I would imagine that they do.

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1 Q And do you know how these standards are  
2 enforced?

3 A At the component level, I would say.

4 Q And by component level, do you mean by ICE?  
5 Or by which component?

6 A Yes, by ICE.

7 Q Okay. By any other components?

8 MR. DAVIS Objection. Lack of  
9 foundation. He says he hasn't seen this document  
10 before.

11 Q Okay. Let's move on. Do you know, are these  
12 standards mandatory?

13 MR. DAVIS Objection. Lack of  
14 foundation.

15 A Without having had proper time to review the  
16 document, I don't want to say.

17 Q And do you know how these standards are  
18 typically incorporated into detention facility  
19 contracts?

20 MR. DAVIS Objection. Lack of  
21 foundation.

22 A I have very dedicated and knowledgeable

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1 staff who work for me, whose job it is to know exactly  
2 what the detention standards are and exactly how they  
3 apply. And I know that they know that, which is what I  
4 see my role as.

5 Q And we'll get into the current OIDO staff in  
6 more detail later, but can you just tell me generally  
7 which staff you're referring to?

8 A Mr. Ron Sartini.

9 Q Okay. Anyone else?

10 A Well, we'll just say Ron for now.

11 Q Okay. And can you tell me, based on your  
12 review of the table of contents, how many pages this  
13 document appears to be?

14 A 468.

15 Q And would you agree that that's an extensive  
16 document?

17 A Yes.

18 Q Okay. And is it your understanding that many  
19 immigration detention facilities are operated through  
20 contracts with private prison companies?

21 A I know of some of that that goes on.  
22 However, I would not be able to get into any specific

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1 speaking?

2 A I would say that this has to do with the way  
3 we intake complaints. So I think that one is decently  
4 straightforward in that you have to have a process for  
5 intaking and handling complaints.

6 Q And what does it mean for that process to be  
7 independent?

8 A It means that OIDO has to decide,  
9 independent of other entities, what to do with  
10 complaints that are in-taken.

11 Q And what would those other entities refer  
12 to?

13 A It could be DHS, it could be ICE, it could  
14 be CBP, it could be any number of things. Okay.

15 Q And how would that, from your understanding,  
16 how would that process be neutral?

17 A Just in that complaints that are taken in,  
18 anybody's able to file a complaint. There's not  
19 anything preventing anyone from filing a complaint.

20 Q And how would that process be confidential?

21 A In that we don't release information on  
22 complaints.

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1 Q Okay. And then turning to Section 205B2,  
2 establishing an accessible and standardized process  
3 regarding complaints against any officer or employee  
4 of U.S. Customs and Border Protection or U.S.  
5 Immigration and Customs Enforcement or any contracted,  
6 subcontracted, or cooperating entity personnel for  
7 violations of law, standards of professional conduct,  
8 contract terms, or policy related to immigration  
9 detention. Generally speaking, what does that mean to  
10 you in practice?

11 A I would say, generally speaking, this just  
12 means having a system to intake complaints that is  
13 accessible and easy.

14 Q And what does accessible mean to you in this  
15 context?

16 A It means that it is able to be accessed by a  
17 broad swath of people that it applies to.

18 Q And what does standardized mean to you in  
19 this context?

20 A In this context, I would say uniform is a  
21 good word to use.

22 Q And then moving to Section 205B3, conduct

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1 unannounced inspections of detention facilities  
2 holding individuals in federal immigration custody,  
3 including those owned or operated by units of state or  
4 local government and privately owned or operated  
5 facilities. Generally speaking, what does that look  
6 like in practice to you?

7 A Generally speaking, I would say that this  
8 means that we conduct inspections. I know it says  
9 unannounced, but I think that we have been doing  
10 announced inspections based on dangers posed to  
11 everyone involved at facilities at the moment.

12 Q And we'll speak more about the inspection  
13 process later, but are you also conducting unannounced  
14 inspections or just announced inspections at this  
15 time?

16 A As far as I know, all of our inspections  
17 thus far have been announced.

18 Q Okay. And then moving to Section 205B4,  
19 review, examine, and make recommendations to address  
20 concerns or violations of contract terms identified in  
21 reviews, audits, investigations, or detainee  
22 interviews regarding immigration detention facilities

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1 A Can you explain what you mean by that or  
2 repeat the question?

3 Q So you mentioned earlier that you reviewed  
4 the 2023 OIDO congressional report, is that correct?

5 A Yes.

6 Q And in that report, to memory, there is a  
7 discussion of how case managers often maintained a  
8 physical presence in the detention facilities, is that  
9 correct to your knowledge?

10 A Yes.

11 Q So are you aware that, as part of their  
12 practice, case managers often addressed complaints in  
13 person in these facilities?

14 A Yes.

15 Q Okay. And would you agree that a quick  
16 resolution of an issue in a detention facility would  
17 be a success?

18 MR. DAVIS Objection, vague.

19 A I don't know if I would agree with that. I  
20 would say that resolving the problem is more important  
21 than it being resolved quickly. Yeah, I think  
22 resolving something quickly is generally could be

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1 considered a good thing.

2 Q So you would agree that it would be  
3 productive to resolve something quickly?

4 MR. DAVIS Objection, vague.

5 A Generally.

6 Q Okay. And are you aware that prior to the  
7 March 2025 RIF, OIDO made use of its continued  
8 presence in detention facilities to ensure that the  
9 recommendations made by other subcomponents like CRCL  
10 were implemented?

11 A I'm sorry, can you repeat that?

12 Q Were you aware that prior to the March 2025  
13 RIF, OIDO made use of its continued physical presence  
14 in the detention facilities to ensure that  
15 recommendations from other subcomponents like CRCL  
16 were implemented?

17 MR. DAVIS Objection, vague.

18 A I was not aware.

19 Q Okay. And I'm going to represent to you a  
20 quote from the 2023 OIDO report. And that quote is  
21 that by drawing on the trust OIDO earned from detained  
22 people, as well as ICE and CBP personnel, OIDO was

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1 A Not that I know of.

2 Q How many immigration detention centers are  
3 currently in operation, if you know?

4 A It's difficult to say exactly how many  
5 because my understanding is that they roll off and on,  
6 on a regular basis, but somewhere in the neighborhood  
7 of 200.

8 Q Okay. And if you know, what is their total  
9 capacity?

10 A Do you mean how many people they can  
11 potentially hold or how many people they currently  
12 hold?

13 Q How many people they can potentially hold.

14 A I do not know.

15 Q Do you know how many people are currently  
16 detained by DHS in total?

17 A Roughly 66,000 people.

18 Q And do you know which three states currently  
19 have the highest detention populations?

20 A Not with any certainty.

21 Q Okay. And do you know what the total  
22 detention capacity was on March 20th, 2025?

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1 2025?

2 A I think that Ron was there. I don't know  
3 enough. I wasn't involved with the RIF, and I don't  
4 really know exactly what happened.

5 Q Okay. Are you aware that OIDO employees  
6 subject to the RIF were instructed to not perform any  
7 job functions, including winding down of operations or  
8 transferring complaints after the RIF?

9 A I was not aware of that.

10 Q Are you aware that OIDO employees were not  
11 permitted to communicate with anyone about upcoming  
12 detention site visits?

13 A I was not aware of that either.

14 Q Are you aware that OIDO employees were not  
15 permitted to create out-of-office email messages  
16 explaining that they were placed on administrative  
17 leave by the RIF?

18 A I was not aware of that.

19 Q Are you aware that OIDO employees were not  
20 permitted to hand off their pending caseloads or make  
21 plans to transfer current investigation tasks to  
22 others?

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1 A I was not aware.

2 Q Do you have knowledge of, or are you aware  
3 of, the creation of any transfer or transition memos  
4 during the RIF?

5 A I do not.

6 Q Okay, so I want to check on how you're  
7 doing. Would you like to take a break, or would you  
8 like to keep going?

9 MR. DAVIS It's almost 12.

10 Q It's almost noon.

11 MR. DAVIS Up to you, if you want  
12 to go further, go for lunch.

13 A Yeah, I think I could go for lunch. Okay. Is  
14 that alright with everybody?

15 Q Okay, so let's go off the record. We'll take  
16 a lunch break.

17 THE REPORTER Back on record.

18 Q Okay, so I'd like to shift gears and talk  
19 about the post-RIF restructuring of OIDO. When were  
20 you first approached, if you remember, to take on your  
21 role at OIDO?

22 A It must have been probably in the beginning

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1 of May.

2 Q And if you recall, who approached you?

3 A Probably it would have been Troup Hemingway.

4 Q And generally speaking, what were you told  
5 about what your position would be?

6 A I don't recall really being told too much. I  
7 was told that, I would be appointed to be the acting  
8 ombudsman, and that I would be working with Ron. And  
9 then I think it was off to the races.

10 Q And I believe that you don't recall the  
11 exact date that you officially started, is that right?

12 A No, I don't.

13 Q Would you say it was sometime in mid to late  
14 May?

15 A Yes.

16 Q And to your knowledge, did Ron Sartini  
17 generally play a role in the restructuring of OIDO?

18 A Yes, to my knowledge he did.

19 Q And do you know when he became involved?

20 A I don't know exactly.

21 Q Was he already involved when you became  
22 involved, or did he become involved after you became

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1 involved?

2 A He was involved when I got involved.

3 Q When or before?

4 A Before.

5 Q And what was the initial division of labor,  
6 generally speaking, between yourself and Ron Sartini?

7 A Ron ran all of the day-to-day operations and  
8 got into details of all of the work. And I talked to  
9 him a couple of times a week just to see if he had  
10 any, anything to say or updates. He would update me on  
11 kind of what he was thinking and what was going on.

12 Q And could you estimate how many hours a week  
13 you would meet with Ron Sartini?

14 A Probably two. On average.

15 Q And how would you describe your distinct  
16 role apart from what Ron Sartini was doing at that  
17 time?

18 A I have much more high-level oversight as to  
19 kind of what's going on, both-- at a broad level, and  
20 he takes what we discuss and makes it actually happen  
21 and implements.

22 Q And would you say that that division of

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1 labor is the same today?

2 A Yes.

3 Q And so would you say that the division of  
4 labor has been consistent from when you were first  
5 appointed in mid to late May until today?

6 A Yes, I think so.

7 Q Okay. And did you have a role in  
8 restructuring any of the oversight bodies, OIDO,  
9 CISOM, or CRCL?

10 A No.

11 Q Did you have a role in restructuring OIDO?

12 A I guess if you're saying, I mean, just in a  
13 kind of high-level, I know this is happening type job.

14 Q And when would you say you first became  
15 involved in the high-level restructuring of OIDO?

16 MR. DAVIS I'm going to object to  
17 the characterization of what's going on with the  
18 office.

19 A I'm sorry, what was that?

20 Q Can you repeat your objection?

21 MR. DAVIS Objection to  
22 characterizing what's happening with OIDO as a

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1 Q And then, to the right of Ron Sartini, you  
2 have Contractors. Is that accurate?

3 A Yep.

4 Q And do you know how many Contractors are  
5 currently working for OIDO?

6 A I don't.

7 Q Do you have an estimate?

8 A No.

9 Q Is it more or less than five Contractors?

10 A If I had to guess, I would say less than.

11 Q Okay. And then, underneath Ron Sartini, you  
12 have [REDACTED] And who is-- What's the person's full name?

13 A I think [REDACTED] last name is [REDACTED]

14 Q [REDACTED] And what's his role?

15 A He is Ron's Chief of Staff.

16 Q And Ron Sartini has other roles within DHS.  
17 Is that right?

18 A I believe that is correct.

19 Q Do you know what his other roles are  
20 currently?

21 A He is the Acting Deputy CRCL Officer and the  
22 Acting Citizenship and Immigration Services Ombudsman.

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1 Q And does [REDACTED] also serve as Mr.  
2 Sartini's Chief of Staff in his capacities at CRCL and  
3 the CIS Ombudsman as well, to your knowledge?

4 A I believe that is the case.

5 Q Okay. And then, underneath [REDACTED], we  
6 have five positions under the title Law Enforcement  
7 Assessor. Is that accurate?

8 A Yes.

9 Q Okay. And are those positions all currently  
10 filled?

11 A Yes.

12 Q And that would refer to the two Detailees  
13 and three full-time federal employees that you  
14 mentioned earlier? Is that right?

15 A Yes.

16 Q Okay. And how would you describe the  
17 position of Law Enforcement Assessor in terms of their  
18 duties?

19 A I would say that they are versatile and that  
20 they handle a number of issues. They do anything from  
21 managing complaints, functioning as case managers, and  
22 functioning as detention facility inspectors. And I

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1 Q Okay. And just so I understand, we've  
2 previously referred to them as law enforcement  
3 specialists, law enforcement assessors. Those are the  
4 same position. Is that accurate?

5 A Did I say law enforcement specialist?

6 Q I believe so, but I'm not certain. I just  
7 want to be certain that we're talking about the same  
8 position.

9 A If I said law enforcement specialist, I'm  
10 sorry. I meant law enforcement assessor.

11 Q Okay. And how, I'm sorry, was your answer  
12 that you did interface with them or you did not yet?

13 A I have not yet.

14 Q Okay. Do you have plans to interface with  
15 these individuals?

16 A I do.

17 Q And how often do you anticipate meeting with  
18 these individuals?

19 A Ron and I have discussed maybe a monthly  
20 meeting.

21 Q Monthly meeting. But just so I understand,  
22 there has not been a monthly meeting since these

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1 individuals were hired in late summer. Is that  
2 accurate?

3 A That is accurate.

4 Q Okay. Are there any software tools currently  
5 being used at OIDO?

6 A What do you mean by that?

7 Q Any automation, any systems, databases that  
8 are being used?

9 A I'm sure that there is, but Ron Sartini  
10 manages the details of that.

11 Q Okay. And did you have a role in the fiscal  
12 year 2026 budgeting process?

13 A No.

14 Q Do you have knowledge of who was involved in  
15 that process?

16 A Generally, I can say that I know it is a  
17 combination of the White House Office of Management  
18 and Budget and the Management Directorate, for the  
19 most part, at DHS.

20 Q And so you were not consulted in the budget  
21 proposal. Is that accurate?

22 A That is correct.

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1 stricter controls on this actually is in the  
2 detainee's best interest.

3 Q And do you have knowledge of fraudulent  
4 complaints being filed with OIDO in the past?

5 A Not specifically, but I believe that it has  
6 happened in the past.

7 Q Do you have an estimation of how many times  
8 it's happened in the past?

9 A I do not.

10 Q Would you say it's more or less than 20  
11 times?

12 MR. DAVIS Objection. Speculation.

13 A I don't know that.

14 Q Okay. And outside of the online portal, are  
15 there any other methods to submit a complaint?

16 A It has to be done through the portal, as far  
17 as I know.

18 Q And to your knowledge, how does a detained  
19 person access the portal from inside a detention  
20 facility?

21 A They have access to the internet.

22 Q So your understanding is that people in

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1 detention have access to the internet? Is that  
2 accurate?

3 A Generally, yes.

4 Q Are you aware that people in immigration  
5 detention facilities do not have access to the  
6 internet?

7 A I'm not aware of that.

8 Q Okay. So assuming that detained individuals  
9 do not have access to the internet, from your  
10 understanding, how would a detained person access the  
11 OIDO portal?

12 A They would be able to have their NGOs and  
13 family that come in and visit detention facilities all  
14 the time. And they would be able to do it through them  
15 if they don't have access to the internet themselves.

16 Q So hypothetically speaking, if a person is  
17 not able to be visited by family or NGOs, because  
18 they're detained in an isolated area or far away from  
19 their family and community, from your understanding,  
20 would they be able to file a complaint through the  
21 OIDO portal?

22 A It is my understanding that detainees, for

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1 the most part in permanent facilities, have access to  
2 the internet. That's my understanding.

3 Q And what is that understanding based on?

4 A Discussions with my team.

5 Q Okay. And are you aware that prior to the  
6 RIF, individuals in detention could submit OIDO  
7 complaints by paper form?

8 A I had heard that, yes.

9 Q And are you aware that prior to the RIF,  
10 individuals could submit OIDO complaints verbally to  
11 an OIDO employee that was on site in the detention  
12 facility?

13 A Yes, I think I was aware of that.

14 Q Do you know why OIDO eliminated all but the  
15 online portal submission process for OIDO complaints?

16 A The President directed efficiency, and in  
17 the spirit of efficiency, we made the determination  
18 that we would streamline and have complaints filed  
19 through one singular web-based portal, where  
20 instantaneously you have access to be able to see who  
21 complained, and to do whatever the next steps are. You  
22 have access, it's all in one place, you don't have

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1 things getting tangled up, and the short answer is  
2 efficiency.

3 Q Okay. And was there analysis performed that  
4 came to the conclusion that the online portal was the  
5 most efficient way to process complaints?

6 MR. DAVIS Objection. Deliberative  
7 process privilege. The witness can answer at a high  
8 level of generality, but not any specific analysis or  
9 advice given.

10 A I would say that there were.

11 Q Were you involved in that analysis?

12 A No.

13 Q Do you know who was involved in that  
14 analysis?

15 A Mr. Sartini would have been.

16 Q Okay. So just to be sure, you don't have  
17 knowledge of what that analysis involved. Mr. Sartini  
18 does. Is that accurate?

19 A Yes.

20 Q Okay. And if hypothetically detained people  
21 in fact cannot access the online portal from inside a  
22 detention facility, would you agree that that would

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1 make complaints inaccessible to detained people?

2 MR. DAVIS Objection, vague, and  
3 speculation.

4 A I don't want to speculate.

5 Q Would you agree that accessible necessarily  
6 requires being able to access the complaint portal?

7 A Yes.

8 Q Okay. And I'll represent to you that in the  
9 2023 OIDO congressional report, the breakdown of how  
10 complaints were submitted, of the 12,664 complaints  
11 submitted in 2023, 11,453 were submitted in person,  
12 and 282 were submitted by the online portal. Does that  
13 change your assessment as to why only 37 complaints  
14 were filed between March 21st and August 12th, 2025?

15 MR. DAVIS Objection, lack of  
16 foundation. He doesn't have the report to see the  
17 context and also speculation.

18 A No.

19 Q Okay. And are you aware of whether an  
20 individual can submit a complaint through the OIDO  
21 portal in a language other than English?

22 A I believe that the only language available

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1 right now is English.

2 Q And so would you agree that if a person does  
3 not speak English, a complaint system that can only be  
4 accessed in English might be inaccessible to that  
5 person?

6 MR. DAVIS Objection, speculation,  
7 and vague.

8 A I don't want to speculate about that.

9 Q Do you know if there are instructions posted  
10 in the detention facilities that direct people to the  
11 OIDO online portal?

12 A I do not.

13 Q Would you agree that in order to make a  
14 complaint system accessible, there should be  
15 information provided to detain people about how to  
16 reach that portal?

17 MR. DAVIS Objection, vague, and  
18 speculation.

19 A I would not like to speculate about that.

20 Q Okay. And with regard to the OIDO complaint  
21 portal being available only in English, are you aware  
22 of any analysis that was taken in reaching that

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1 A I believe five.

2 Q And would those five employees refer to the  
3 law enforcement assessors?

4 A As far as I know, yes.

5 Q Do you have any knowledge of how those roles  
6 are delegated amongst the five law enforcement  
7 assessors?

8 A No, Ron handles that.

9 Q Okay. Do you have any knowledge of how many  
10 inspections have occurred since you took your position  
11 as acting ombudsman?

12 A Yes.

13 Q How many have occurred?

14 A Twenty-two.

15 Q Twenty-two since May, late May of this year?

16 A That's correct.

17 Q And who conducted those inspections?

18 A One of our five law enforcement assessors  
19 would have been the person at each of the 22  
20 inspections.

21 Q Okay. So there was one law enforcement  
22 assessor at each inspection. Is that correct?

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1 A That is my understanding.

2 Q Okay. And do you know among those 22  
3 inspections, were any of those inspections  
4 unannounced?

5 A As far as I know, they were all announced.

6 Q And do you have knowledge of what analysis  
7 was conducted to determine where those inspections  
8 were to take place?

9 MR. DAVIS Objection, deliberative,  
10 process privilege. You can answer generally, but not  
11 about specific analysis done.

12 A Generally, the trends and complaints coming  
13 in and reporting.

14 Q Were you part of that analysis?

15 A I was not.

16 Q Who conducted that analysis?

17 A I don't know for certain, but I'm certain  
18 that Ron Sartini knows.

19 Q Okay. And have there been any unannounced  
20 inspections conducted since May 2025?

21 A I'm sorry, didn't you ask that question  
22 already?

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1 qualified to be doing them.

2 Q And are you directly involved in any of the  
3 training or briefing of the law enforcement assessors  
4 related to inspections?

5 A Not at this time.

6 Q And who is in charge of that? Would that be  
7 Ron Sartini?

8 A I think so.

9 Q And how, to your knowledge, are the  
10 inspectors supervised?

11 A I'm not familiar with the cadence and the  
12 methods that Ron and Chief of Staff █████ employ to  
13 supervise the law enforcement assessors, but I know  
14 that they do it.

15 Q Do you have any knowledge as to the quality  
16 control of inspections?

17 A What do you mean by quality control?

18 Q Ensuring that they are consistent.

19 A I don't know specifics.

20 Q Is it your testimony that one law  
21 enforcement assessor conducts each inspection? Is that  
22 accurate?

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1 A As far as I know, yes, that's accurate.

2 Q Could you walk me through, to your  
3 knowledge, what an inspection consists of?

4 A To my knowledge, not being on the ground, an  
5 inspection is essentially a full work day where an  
6 inspector goes to a detainment facility and they have  
7 access to records, detainees, rooms, timesheets, and  
8 they go through all these various things at their  
9 discretion and inspect against relevant standards.

10 Q And to your knowledge, how long, generally  
11 speaking, does an inspection take?

12 A One full work day, generally.

13 Q Would that be generally eight hours?

14 A I think so, yes.

15 Q And as part of the inspection, to your  
16 knowledge, does the inspection speak with detained  
17 people?

18 A Yes.

19 Q And do you have any knowledge of how the  
20 inspector determines which people to speak with?

21 A It could be based on a complaint, but I  
22 think there's a fair amount of discretion that the law

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1           A     The ones that were made in 2023 and 2024?  
2 Policy recommendations? No.

3           Q     Do you have knowledge of how many  
4 recommendations were issued between March 20, 2025,  
5 and the date that you became the acting ombudsman of  
6 OIDO?

7           A     I am not.

8           Q     Do you have any knowledge of how many  
9 recommendations have been issued since you became the  
10 acting ombudsman of OIDO?

11          A     I don't think any specific policy  
12 recommendations have been issued yet.

13          Q     And to your knowledge, who in the current  
14 OIDO staff would be responsible for drafting and  
15 implementing those recommendations?

16          A     I have to have a discussion with Mr. Sartini  
17 about that.

18          Q     Is there currently any process for issuing  
19 recommendations?

20          A     There is not that I know of.

21          Q     So the next statutory obligation that you  
22 testified about was assisting individuals affected by

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1 process. Privilege. You can answer generally, but not  
2 about specific analysis conducted.

3 A It was likely based on the trends that we've  
4 seen in the data and maybe coordination with things  
5 that we've seen from the ICE and CBP.

6 Q Do you have any knowledge to estimate what  
7 percentage of time the five law enforcement assessors  
8 are spending inside detention facilities?

9 A Well, I know that before the shutdown, we  
10 had done three inspections, and since the shutdown  
11 ended, we have done 19. So they've spent a fair amount  
12 of their time in these facilities in the last couple  
13 of weeks. I don't know how to put a percentage on  
14 that, but it's certainly, they've been doing a lot of  
15 work over the last few weeks.

16 Q And do you know where these five law  
17 enforcement assessors are based?

18 A Not specifically, but I know that they're in  
19 areas with high concentrations of detention facilities  
20 right now.

21 Q Okay. Is it your opinion that these law  
22 enforcement assessors are assisting individuals during

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1 annual report to Congress. Would you agree that that's  
2 a statutory function of OIDO?

3 A Yes.

4 Q What is the current status of the 2024 OIDO  
5 report to Congress?

6 A It is being drafted.

7 Q And who is participating in the drafting of  
8 that report?

9 A Mr. Sartini and, from what I'm told, law  
10 enforcement assessors.

11 Q Will you be involved in the review of that  
12 report?

13 A Yes.

14 Q Do you have knowledge of the anticipated  
15 timeline for the finalization of that report?

16 A I do.

17 Q What is the anticipated timeline?

18 A I think because of the shutdown, all yearly  
19 congressional reports were extended for 45 days or  
20 something like that. And we are planning on having the  
21 report done and submitted at the latest mid-February.

22 Q And, to your knowledge, will that report be

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1 made publicly available?

2 A I believe it will.

3 Q In addition to issuing annual reports to  
4 Congress, what other communication with Congress does  
5 OIDO currently do?

6 A I do not know.

7 Q Have you, since your time as Acting  
8 Ombudsman of OIDO, received any inquiries from members  
9 of Congress?

10 A No.

11 Q If you were to receive an inquiry from a  
12 member of Congress, what would be the process for  
13 responding to that inquiry?

14 A I would call my colleague, the Acting  
15 Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs at DHS,  
16 Dillon McGregor. And I would let him know that this  
17 person reached out. And then I would probably talk to  
18 others at the department who are on the executive team  
19 and let them know that this happened. And make a  
20 determination on what to do from there.

21 Q I'm going to introduce another exhibit. What  
22 are we at? 47?

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1 MS. GILBRIDE 48. Is this one we  
2 used yesterday?

3 Q Yes, actually it is. It's the July 18th  
4 letter. Do you remember what that number was?

5 MS. GILBRIDE Maybe we should  
6 just reintroduce it because I'm not certain. I believe  
7 it was 21, but let's just reintroduce it.

8 Q Okay, so this will be 48. Did you introduce  
9 those?

10

11 MS. GILBRIDE They were  
12 consecutive with each other. I'll be able to figure it  
13 out. I'll look at my exhibit list from yesterday.  
14 It was 22 and 23.

15 Q Okay, do we want to re-number it?

16 MS. GILBRIDE If it's not a  
17 hassle.

18 Q Can we re-number this exhibit 22? Thank you.  
19 Have you seen this document before?

20 A No.

21 Q So I will represent to you that this is a  
22 letter from July 18th, 2025. Based on your review of

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1 the document, what does this document appear to be?

2 A A letter from Senators Gary Peters, Patty  
3 Murray, and Richard Durbin asking for five things from  
4 the Secretary of Homeland Security having to do with  
5 these oversight offices.

6 Q And would you agree that OIDO is referenced  
7 in this letter?

8 A Yes.

9 Q And that information is requested pertaining  
10 to OIDO?

11 A Yes.

12 Q And would you agree that you were the acting  
13 ombudsman at the time this letter was submitted?

14 A Yes.

15 Q But your testimony, just to be sure, is that  
16 you've never yourself reviewed this letter?

17 A That's true.

18 Q Do you have any knowledge of who is  
19 responding to this letter?

20 A I would imagine OLA is coordinating, but I  
21 don't know for certain.

22 Q And the letter appears to request the

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1 information by July 31st, 2025. Would you agree?

2 A Yes.

3 Q And to your knowledge, has a response been  
4 submitted?

5 A Not to my knowledge.

6 Q Okay. I'm going to introduce another  
7 exhibit, which will be 23. Have you ever seen this  
8 document before?

9 A No.

10 Q I will represent to you that this is a  
11 letter dated August 8th, 2025. Based on your review of  
12 this document, what do you understand this document to  
13 be?

14 A It is a letter addressed to Mr.  
15 (indiscernible), Mr. Hemingway, and myself, requesting  
16 a number of hitbacks, nine of them to be exact, by a  
17 number of members of Congress.

18 Q And to be clear, you've never seen this  
19 letter before, is that correct?

20 A No.

21 Q Do you have knowledge of who from your  
22 office would have reviewed this letter, if anyone?

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1 A I think Mr. Sartini would likely know.

2 Q And would Mr. Sartini typically consult you  
3 with regard to these types of letters?

4 A We have not discussed this letter or other  
5 congressional letters. Typically, letters are the  
6 congressional correspondence is handled by the Office  
7 of Legislative Affairs.

8 Q And would you consider this letter to be a  
9 congressional inquiry?

10 A I would.

11 Q And would you agree that the letter appears  
12 to request certain categories of information by  
13 September 5th, 2025?

14 A It does say that.

15 Q And to your knowledge, has any response been  
16 provided?

17 MR. DAVIS Objection, lack of  
18 foundation.

19 A I would have to go look into it.

20 Q And to your knowledge, who in your office  
21 would be involved in putting together a response to  
22 this type of congressional inquiry?

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1 A Ron and the law enforcement assessors.

2 Q I think we can go off to record.

3 THE REPORTER We're back on the  
4 record.

5 Q So, Mr. Guy, you testified that the next  
6 annual congressional report is going to be published  
7 in mid-February 2026. Is that accurate?

8 A I think we are aiming for mid-February at  
9 the latest.

10 Q And to clarify, is that going to be the 2024  
11 annual report?

12 A No, I don't believe so.

13 Q Which year annual report will that be?

14 A This past year.

15 Q 2025?

16 A Yes.

17 Q Do you know what the status of the 2024  
18 annual report is?

19 A I have discussed that with Ron, and he told  
20 me that he has not been able to find anything to do  
21 with that report.

22 Q Okay, so you have no additional knowledge on