



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

July 5, 2019

The Honorable Jennifer L. Costello  
Acting Inspector General  
Office of Inspector General  
Department of Homeland Security  
245 Murray Lane SW  
Washington, DC 20528-0305

Dear Acting Inspector General Costello:

As has been widely reported, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) employees allegedly posted violent, racist, misogynistic comments and pictures on a private Facebook group entitled "I'm 10-15" and at least one other similar group. Such vile and threatening behavior from agents of the United States Government is entirely unacceptable, should be grounds for immediate dismissal from service, and is the subject of an investigation by CBP's Office of Professional Responsibility. I am writing to request that you investigate (1) what the leadership within CBP knew about this Facebook group or groups, (2) when they knew it, (3) what action they took, if any and (4) was such action appropriate.

It has been reported that recently named CBP Commissioner Mark Morgan knew about the group as early as 2016, when he was Chief of the Border Patrol. If accurate, this report calls into question Mr. Morgan's fitness to hold any office in the United States Government. Acting Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Secretary Kevin McAleenan and Border Patrol Chief Carla Provost have attempted to distance themselves from the individuals engaged in posting on the "I'm 10-15" Facebook group, but a report released on July 3<sup>rd</sup> suggests that high-level CBP officials were not only aware of the group, but in fact treated it as a source of useful information.

The report, posted on Politico's website, cites screenshots of email communications provided by a current DHS official that allegedly demonstrate that Mr. Morgan knew of the group's existence and had some awareness of the type of content frequently posted to it. Another DHS official also stated to reporters that DHS and CBP leadership had been repeatedly notified of the existence and character of the group but took no action.

This information demands an immediate investigation. As such, I am writing to request that you investigate Acting Secretary McAleenan, Acting CBP Commissioner Morgan, and Border Patrol Chief Provost with respect to their knowledge and handling of the "I'm 10-15" group and any other social media group that was a platform used by large segments of the workforce to engage in misconduct.

Thank you, in advance, for your timely attention to this request.

Sincerely,



BENNIE G. THOMPSON  
Chairman