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June 9, 2021

The Honorable Merrick B. Garland
Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20530

Re: January 6th Prisoners and Prosecution

Dear Attorney General Garland:

I am writing to get information regarding the welfare and treatment of prisoners under your protection arising out of the riot at the Capitol on January 6, 2021. There are media reports of prisoners being held in solitary confinement (euphemistically called Special Housing Unit or SHU), normally a punishment meted out to unruly and dangerously violent prisoners. At times, it has been used to protect vulnerable prisoners from the general prison population as well.

The psychological harm from solitary confinement is well documented as well as the hindrance with working with the prisoner's defense team. My questions regarding this are:

1. How many prisoners arrested for crimes arising out of the January 6th riot have been placed in solitary confinement?
2. Of those, how many were placed there to protect them from other prisoners and how many were placed there due to behavioral issues while confined?

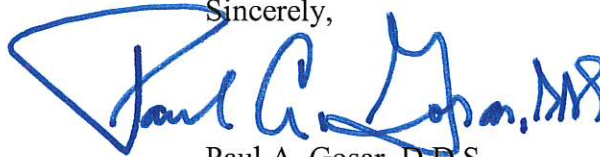
My second area of inquiry is this:

1. Of the rioters arrested arising out of January 6th, how many have been charged with trespassing, unlawful entry, damage to property, or assault?
2. How many people have been charged with carrying a firearm inside the Capitol on January 6th?
3. How many people have been charged with obstructing or interfering with the Capitol Police?
4. How many people have been charged with obstructing a Congressional proceeding on January 6th?

5. Lastly, the federal code classifies these offenses as misdemeanors unless there are facts warranting an increase to a felony, including if the violation occurs when the Vice-President is present or if the trespasser was armed or entered with violence. How many prisoners are being charged with misdemeanors and how many are being charged with felonies?

Thank you for looking into this. Many constituents have shared their concerns with me about these issues and want to ensure that the people arrested for illegal acts on January 6th are treated fairly and equally to other rioters arrested in events that took place across the country in 2020. By copy of this to the United States Attorney for the District of Columbia, I am submitting this letter as a Freedom of Information Act Request for the information requested above.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Paul A. Gosar, D.D.S." The signature is stylized and includes a large, sweeping initial "P" and "G".

Paul A. Gosar, D.D.S.
Member of Congress

CC: Mr. Channing D. Phillips
Acting United States Attorney for District of Columbia
United States Attorney's Office
555 4th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20215

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