

Dear Chairman Comer, Ranking Member Garcia, and Members of the House Committee on Oversight and Accountability:

I write to commend the Committee's ongoing investigation into the Metropolitan Police Department's handling of crime data in Washington, DC. The findings, particularly the intentional misclassification of thousands of reports and the resulting distortion of public safety metrics, highlight a deeply concerning breakdown in accountability. Residents rely on accurate data not only for transparency, but for trust in the people and organizations tasked with ensuring their safety. Your work has brought critical clarity to an issue that many residents here in DC have long suspected: that widespread weaknesses in management have allowed performance failures to go unaddressed and concealed.

This moment presents an important opportunity to examine the broader governance structure that allowed such practices to occur. With that, I respectfully encourage the Committee to consider a more comprehensive framework for reform, one that addresses not only enforcement, but core structure. A model centered on three pillars, what I refer to as the "Trifecta":

- Structured Federal Oversight ("Home Rule Reform Framework"): Establishing clear, ongoing accountability mechanisms between District agencies and Congress, including standardized reporting and performance benchmarks.
- Targeted Public Safety Intervention ("One & Done"): Implementing early-intervention strategies for juveniles focused on prevention, accountability, and long-term stability within at-risk populations.
- Comprehensive Operational Audit ("DC DOGE"): Conducting a full-scale review of District agencies to identify inefficiencies, duplication, and vulnerabilities that undermine public trust.

For additional details on the proposed "Trifecta" framework, supporting materials are available upon request.

The recent findings regarding MPD are not an isolated incident, but part of a broader pattern that highlights the need for structural reform. The Committee's leadership in this matter is both timely and necessary.

Thank you for your continued commitment to transparency, accountability, and the safety of District residents.

Respectfully,

Lori Furstenberg
Chair, DC Chapter, The Conservative Caucus