

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1014

July 13, 2022

The Honorable Theodore E. Deutch
Chair
Committee on Ethics

The Honorable Jackie Walorski
Ranking Member
Committee on Ethics

Re: Ethics Complaint Against Mr. Timothy Hysom for Violations of House Standards of Official Conduct and House Rules

Dear Chair Deutch and Ranking Member Walorski:

Pursuant to House Rule XI, Cl. 3(b)(2)(A), I write today to urge the Committee on Ethics to open an investigation immediately into the conduct of Mr. Timothy Hysom—Chief of Staff for Representative Jake Auchincloss—and to impose the appropriate penalties as warranted.

As the chief ethics body of the House of Representatives, it is your duty to consider ethical referrals, conduct investigations, and issue citations against Members and staff for violations of House Rules faithfully and impartially. I would urge the Committee to investigate the conduct of a House employee that certainly violates the respect this institution deserves and uphold whatever respect remains for the person and property of fellow Members of Congress.

Every Representative should be secure in their person and property while on the capitol grounds and in the various House office buildings. Yet, over the last six months, Timothy Hysom—Chief-of-Staff for Representative Jake Auchincloss—has repeatedly defaced posters hanging outside of my congressional office.¹

Specifically, Hysom used various derogatory comments to denigrate my sincerely held religious beliefs that there are only two genders made in the Image of God. The Criminal Division of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia recently issued an Affidavit in Support of An Arrest Warrant citing numerous instances in which Hysom vandalized and destroyed public property, a violation of DC law.² Rather than attending an interview with the DC Superior Court to clear his name, Hysom declined and hired a defense attorney.³

¹ Dates of Offenses: 1/24/22; 2/1/22; 2/2/22; 2/19/22; 2/28/22; 3/10/22; 3/11/22.

Affidavit in Support of an Arrest Warrant for Timothy Duane Hysom, Superior Court of the District of Columbia, Criminal Division, CCN: 22-034-255.

² DC Code 22-3312.01, Defacing Public or Private Property.
<https://code.dccouncil.us/us/dc/council/code/sections/22-3312.01>.

³ Affidavit in Support of an Arrest Warrant for Timothy Duane Hysom, Superior Court of the District of Columbia, Criminal Division, CCN: 22-034-255. 4. June 19, 2022.

Hysom's behavior is a clear violation of Rule XXIII, cls. 1-2 of the Rules of the House (117th Congress), which states, in full:

“1. A Member, Delegate, Resident Commissioner, officer, or employee of the House shall behave at all times in a manner that shall reflect creditably on the House.

2. A Member, Delegate, Resident Commissioner, officer, or employee of the House shall adhere to the spirit and letter of the Rules of the House and to the rules of duly constituted committees thereof.” (Emphasis added)⁴

The House Ethics Manual interprets clause 2 of Rule XXIII to “provide the basis for congressional discipline” and comments that:

This standard was drafted in general terms...to provide the House the means to deal with infractions that rise to trouble it without burdening it with defining specific charges that would be difficult to state with precision...**employees may not do indirectly what they would be barred from doing directly.** Individuals should thus read House rules broadly.⁵

The Manual goes on to outline the Code of Ethics for Government Service, which explicitly states that employees should “adhere to the highest moral principles...engage in no business with the Government inconsistent with the performance of governmental duties.”⁶

Repeatedly defacing the property of another Member of Congress certainly falls into the realm of behavior which would be barred directly under any normal code of ethics. By extension, Hysom's actions clearly violate the spirit of the law to adhere to the highest moral principles and refrain from engaging in non-governmental business while in performance of governmental duties.

Surely the Committee would not condone Hysom's defacement as acceptable behavior under any interpretation of House Rules. Such a precedent would lead to the endorsement that staff or Members may violate the property of others whenever their party happens to be in the Majority.

If the Rules of the House and Ethics Manual were not sufficiently clear, the brute facts that Hysom has already been charged with defacing a Member of Congress's property on multiple occasions and detained by Capitol Police should be sufficient grounds to warrant further scrutiny.

As such, I am requesting that the Committee on Ethics immediately investigate the conduct of Mr. Hysom toward my office over the last 7 months. Every Member of this body deserves the same level of due process. Consistency and impartiality would compel you to investigate the matter merely on principle.

⁴ Rules of the House of Representatives, 117th Congress, Rule XXIII.1-2.

<https://rules.house.gov/sites/democrats.rules.house.gov/files/117-House-Rules-Clerk.pdf>.

⁵ House Ethics Manual, Committee on Standards of Official Conduct, 110th Congress, 2d Session, 2008 Ed. 17. https://ethics.house.gov/sites/ethics.house.gov/files/documents/2008_House_Ethics_Manual.pdf.

⁶ Id. 20.

I hope the Committee will consider this request with utmost urgency.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Marjorie Taylor Greene". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Marjorie Taylor Greene
Member of Congress

Attachments:

Superior Court of the District of Columbia
Criminal Division
Affidavit in Support of an Arrest Warrant
Timothy Duane Hysom
June 2022

CCN: 22-034-255