

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20510**

February 3, 2025

Mr. Brian Driscoll  
Acting Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
935 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20535

Dear Acting Director Driscoll:

Since 2021, we have examined the events before, during, and after the January 6, 2021 U.S. Capitol breach, including the discovery of two pipe bombs near the Republican National Committee (RNC) and Democratic National Committee (DNC) headquarters in Washington, D.C.<sup>1</sup> According to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), an unidentified suspect captured on security camera footage carrying a backpack and wearing a grey-hooded sweatshirt, mask, gloves, glasses, and a pair of Nike Air Max Speed Turf sneakers planted both explosive devices the night of January 5, 2021.<sup>2</sup> However, more than four years later, the FBI has yet to identify, apprehend, and charge the individual(s) responsible.

In the course of its investigation, the FBI reportedly “identified at least five different instances” on security camera footage in which the suspect appeared to “use a cellular device.”<sup>3</sup> As a result, the FBI requested “cellular . . . data associated with mobile devices in the area around the RNC and DNC” in an effort to identify the suspect.<sup>4</sup> In June 2023, however, Steven D’Antuono, the former Assistant Director in Charge of the FBI’s Washington Field Office and the official leading the pipe bomb investigation, testified to Congress that the FBI received “corrupted” data from “one of the [cellular] providers.”<sup>5</sup> In testimony, D’Antuono even suggested that the corrupted data may have contained the identity of the pipe bomber.<sup>6</sup>

Q. We received a video of this. The alleged perpetrator uses a cell phone. . . . [T]hat produced nothing; it’s a geofence of data cell phone records?

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<sup>1</sup> See e.g. Letter from Sen. Ron Johnson, to James Murray, Dir., U.S. Secret Service (Feb. 15, 2022), <https://www.ronjohnson.senate.gov/services/files/7AF5EB3A-EAB5-4BCE-8A2B-77B0A5A0E136>; Devlin Barrett, Alan Feuer, *F.B.I. Offers New Details in Hunt for Jan. 6 Pipe Bomb Suspect*, NEW YORK TIMES (Jan. 2, 2025), <https://www.nytimes.com/2025/01/02/us/politics/fbi-capitol-riot-pipe-bomb-suspect.html>.

<sup>2</sup> FBI, *PIPE BOMBS IN WASHINGTON, D.C.*, FBI: MOST WANTED (Jan. 5, 2021), <https://www.fbi.gov/wanted/seeking-info/suspected-pipe-bombs-in-washington-dc>.

<sup>3</sup> Staff of H. Comm. on Administration, Subcommittee on Oversight and Comm. on Judiciary, Subcommittee on the Administrative State, Regulatory Reform, and Antitrust, 118th Cong., Interim Rep. on Examining the State of the Investigation into the RNC and DNC Pipe Bombs 65 (Jan. 2, 2025), [https://cha.house.gov/\\_cache/files/f/e/fe4f4a06-d98a-4437-8891-792c5d406213/F503CD6C839F28CEB7D4216055E45035.joint-pipe-bomb-report-cn-bd-cn-mj-db-bd-db-bd-ch-bd-db-db-bd-db-bd---final-version-redacted2.pdf](https://cha.house.gov/_cache/files/f/e/fe4f4a06-d98a-4437-8891-792c5d406213/F503CD6C839F28CEB7D4216055E45035.joint-pipe-bomb-report-cn-bd-cn-mj-db-bd-db-bd-ch-bd-db-db-bd-db-bd---final-version-redacted2.pdf).

<sup>4</sup> *Id.*

<sup>5</sup> H. Comm. on the Judiciary, Transcribed Interview of Steven D’Antuono 41 (June 7, 2023), <https://judiciary.house.gov/sites/evo-subsites/republicans-judiciary.house.gov/files/evo-media-document/2023-06-07-ti-of-steven-dantuono-redacted.pdf>.

<sup>6</sup> *Id.*

A. So . . . there's a lot of phone data that came in. Yes, I've seen the same video. I've watched the same video. We put out the same video. It looks like a phone. Was it a real phone, a not a real phone, was it a ruse? . . . So was the person just sitting there trying to pretend like they're on a bench taking a phone call? We don't know until we find the person, right, and ask them those questions.

We did a complete geofence. We have complete data. Not complete, because **there's some data that was corrupted by one of the providers, not purposely by them, right.** It just—unusual circumstance that we have corrupt data from one of the providers. . . . I can't remember right now which one. But for that day, which is awful because we don't have that information to search. **So could it have been that provider? Yeah, with our luck, you know, with this investigation it probably was, right. So maybe if we did have that—that data wasn't corrupted—and it wasn't purposely corrupted. . . . So that is painful for us to not to have that.** So we looked at everything.<sup>7</sup>

\* \* \* \*

Q. And I asked you, was there an effort to use geofencing, to use the data to identify the suspect or to track the suspect, because we see in the video then what looks like they're using a phone. And can you tell me, you said that there was some data that was lost or corrupted by the telecom provider. Can you tell me that again?

A. My understanding was that we had—we would try to get cell phone data from those days from everyone, right, every carrier, T-Mobile. I don't want to like name—

Q. Right. All of them.

A. All of them, right, because that's what we do. And so these questions, ah, did you do this? Yeah, we did. We did them all, right. There was one provider—I can't remember and I don't want to speculate as to the provider, **but there was one provider that the data for I believe January 5th and possibly January 6th was corrupt and we couldn't get it.**

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<sup>7</sup> *Id.* (emphasis added).

- Q. What was your reaction when they told you we can't get that data because it's corrupt?
- A. Oh, great, you know, that's—that's wonderful, right. That, like, really screws up everything, right, because that's—you hope to have all the data, right, as an investigator you want all the data. But things happen in investigations. This has happened before with bank statements or bank account information or corrupted data or email servers and whatever. Things happen, right. And it's just like, oh, Jesus, you know.<sup>8</sup>

According to a January 2, 2025 House report, the Committee on House Administration, Subcommittee on Oversight “sent letters to the major cell carriers” to verify D’Antuono’s testimony and to “confirm whether they provided corrupted cell tower data to the FBI or whether the FBI contacted the [major] cell carriers to inform them that . . . [the] data was corrupted.”<sup>9</sup> In response to these letters, all three major cell carriers reportedly indicated that they neither provided corrupted data to the FBI nor received any notification from the FBI of any issues accessing the data.<sup>10</sup> On October 16, 2024, the House Subcommittee sent the FBI a letter requesting information on whether the FBI “received ‘corrupted’ data from one of the major cell carrier companies” and what steps the FBI took in response.<sup>11</sup> According to the Subcommittee’s report, the FBI had not responded to that letter.<sup>12</sup>

In order to better understand how the FBI used cellular data in its investigation of the pipe bombs discovered on January 6, 2021, we request that you provide the following information:

1. All records<sup>13</sup> referring or relating to the FBI’s request(s) for and review and analysis of cellular data in connection with the investigation into the January 5, 2021 pipe bombs, including but not limited to:

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<sup>8</sup> *Id.* at 111 (emphasis added).

<sup>9</sup> The January 2, 2025 House report identified the three recipients of the Oversight Subcommittee’s letters as “the major cell carriers.” The report, however, redacted the specific names of the three major cell carrier companies. Staff of H. Comm. on Administration, Subcommittee on Oversight and Comm. on Judiciary, Subcommittee on the Administrative State, Regulatory Reform, and Antitrust, 118th Cong., Interim Rep. on Examining the State of the Investigation into the RNC and DNC Pipe Bombs 71 (Jan. 2, 2025), [https://cha.house.gov/\\_cache/files/f/e/fe4f4a06-d98a-4437-8891-792c5d406213/F503CD6C839F28CEB7D4216055E45035.joint-pipe-bomb-report-cn-bd-cn-mj-db-bd-db-bd-ch-bd-db-db-bd-db-bd---final-version-redacted2.pdf](https://cha.house.gov/_cache/files/f/e/fe4f4a06-d98a-4437-8891-792c5d406213/F503CD6C839F28CEB7D4216055E45035.joint-pipe-bomb-report-cn-bd-cn-mj-db-bd-db-bd-ch-bd-db-db-bd-db-bd---final-version-redacted2.pdf).

<sup>10</sup> *Id.* at 71, 72.

<sup>11</sup> Letter from Chairman Barry Loudermilk, Subcomm. on Oversight, Comm. on House Administration, to Christopher Wray, Director, FBI (Oct. 16, 2024), [https://justthenews.com/sites/default/files/2024-11/10.16.2024-Letter\\_from\\_Chairman\\_Loudermilk\\_to\\_FBI\\_Director\\_Wray%5B75%5D.pdf](https://justthenews.com/sites/default/files/2024-11/10.16.2024-Letter_from_Chairman_Loudermilk_to_FBI_Director_Wray%5B75%5D.pdf).

<sup>12</sup> Staff of H. Comm. on Administration, Subcommittee on Oversight and Comm. on Judiciary, Subcommittee on the Administrative State, Regulatory Reform, and Antitrust, 118th Cong., Interim Rep. on Examining the State of the Investigation into the RNC and DNC Pipe Bombs 16 (Jan. 2, 2025), [https://cha.house.gov/\\_cache/files/f/e/fe4f4a06-d98a-4437-8891-792c5d406213/F503CD6C839F28CEB7D4216055E45035.joint-pipe-bomb-report-cn-bd-cn-mj-db-bd-db-bd-ch-bd-db-db-bd-db-bd---final-version-redacted2.pdf](https://cha.house.gov/_cache/files/f/e/fe4f4a06-d98a-4437-8891-792c5d406213/F503CD6C839F28CEB7D4216055E45035.joint-pipe-bomb-report-cn-bd-cn-mj-db-bd-db-bd-ch-bd-db-db-bd-db-bd---final-version-redacted2.pdf).

<sup>13</sup> “Records” include any written, recorded, or graphic material of any kind, including letters, memoranda, reports, notes, electronic data (emails, email attachments, and any other electronically-created or stored information),

- a. all communications between or among employees of the FBI regarding the FBI's request, review, or analysis of cellular data in connection with the investigation into the January 5, 2021 pipe bombs, including all communications between and amongst the FBI Cellular Analysis Survey Team (CAST);
  - b. all communications between the FBI and any cellular carrier, third-party contractor, other law enforcement agency, or other external entity regarding the FBI's request, review, or analysis of cellular data in connection with the investigation into the January 5, 2021 pipe bombs;
  - c. copies of all cellular data provided by the carriers in connection with the investigation into the January 5, 2021 pipe bombs;
  - d. all records<sup>14</sup> referring or relating to corrupted or otherwise unusable cellular data provided by any cellular carrier in connection with the investigation into the January 5, 2021 pipe bombs; and
  - e. all memoranda, reports, assessments, evaluations, or other records regarding the analysis of the cellular data, including all such records created by the FBI CAST.
2. Please provide a spreadsheet identifying which cellular data the FBI believes was corrupted.
  3. Please provide a copy of the FBI's response to Chairman Loudermilk's October 16, 2024 letter.<sup>15</sup>
    - a. If the FBI has not responded, please provide a response to the questions outlined in Chairman Loudermilk's October 16, 2024 letter.

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calendar entries, inter-office communications, meeting minutes, phone/voice mail or recordings/records of verbal communications, and drafts (whether or not they resulted in final documents).

<sup>14</sup> *Id.*

<sup>15</sup> Letter from Chairman Barry Loudermilk, Subcomm. on Oversight, Comm. on House Administration, to Christopher Wray, Director, FBI (Oct. 16, 2024), [https://justthenews.com/sites/default/files/2024-11/10.16.2024-Letter\\_from\\_Chairman\\_Loudermilk\\_to\\_FBI\\_Director\\_Wray%5B75%5D.pdf](https://justthenews.com/sites/default/files/2024-11/10.16.2024-Letter_from_Chairman_Loudermilk_to_FBI_Director_Wray%5B75%5D.pdf).

Please provide this information by no later than February 18, 2025. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Ron Johnson  
Chairman  
Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations  
U.S. Senate



Jim Jordan  
Chairman  
Committee on the Judiciary  
U.S. House of Representatives



Barry Loudermilk  
Member of Congress  
U.S. House of Representatives

cc: The Honorable Richard Blumenthal  
Ranking Member  
Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations

The Honorable Michael Horowitz  
Inspector General  
Department of Justice