

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

January 4, 2023

The Honorable Merrick Garland
Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Attorney General Garland,

We write in regard to the Department of Justice's investigation of Oklahoma's mental health service system.

On November 17th, the Department of Justice (DOJ) announced an investigation into the state of Oklahoma, Oklahoma City, and the Oklahoma City Police Department (OKCPD). We understand that the investigation will examine whether unnecessary admissions to psychiatric facilities and police conduct occurred.

We understand that this is an ongoing investigation. However, we urge the DOJ to maximize transparency and communication with the OKCPD as the investigation unfolds.

Additionally, we request answers to the following questions:

1. What is the timeline of the investigation and when does DOJ anticipate completion of the investigation?
2. Since Oklahoma City is one of four cities with police departments under investigation, did the complaints against all four originate from the same source?
3. Is the investigation only being conducted pursuant to Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994? Are there any other statutes the DOJ is using or will use as the basis of the investigation in Oklahoma City?
4. Does the investigation relate to federal programs that are administered by state and local entities in Oklahoma?

Thank you for your attention to this matter, and we look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,



James Lankford
US Senator



Stephanie Bice
Member of Congress