

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

September 26, 2025

The Honorable William J. Pulte
Director
Federal Housing Finance Agency
400 7th St. SW
Washington, D.C. 20219

Dear Director Pulte:

Our nation is in the midst of a housing crisis. As the Director of the Federal Housing Finance Agency (FHFA), you have a critical role to play in lowering housing costs for the American people. Yet since taking office, instead of prioritizing housing affordability, you have abused your power and authority as FHFA Director to engage in what can only be described as a politically motivated public campaign to attack President Trump's perceived adversaries.

Since your confirmation on March 13, 2025, you have accused New York Attorney General Letitia James, sitting U.S. Senator Adam Schiff, and Federal Reserve Governor Lisa Cook of mortgage fraud.¹ Your attacks mirror those of President Trump, who has personally threatened all three officials with political and criminal retribution.² And he is now engaged in a public effort—enabled by your mortgage fraud accusations—to illegally oust Governor Cook, a President Biden appointee, from the Federal Reserve after months of trying, and failing, to push the central bank to lower interest rates at his request.³

Your most recent accusation against Governor Cook comes in the wake of your multi-week effort to push President Trump to illegally fire Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell and erode the independence of our nation's central bank.⁴ In addition to repeatedly criticizing Chair Powell on social media and reportedly drafting a termination letter for the President to send to Chair

¹ Politico, "Meet the Trump housing official leading probes into the president's foes," Danny Nguyen, August 21, 2025, <https://www.politico.com/news/2025/08/21/bill-pulte-trump-housing-mortgage-00518558>.

² CNN, "Trump calls Schiff and Pelosi 'enemy from within' even after allies defend past comments," Jack Forrest and Veronica Stracqualursi, October 20, 2024, <https://www.cnn.com/2024/10/20/politics/trump-enemy-from-within-schiff-pelosi>; ABC News, "Here's a list of the individuals, including Lisa Cook, targeted so far by the Trump administration," Peter Charalambous, Benjamin Siegel, Alexander Mallin, and Katherine Faulders, August 29, 2025, <https://abcnews.go.com/US/list-individuals-including-lisa-cook-targeted-trump-administration/story?id=124968309>; Newsweek, "Donald Trump Celebrates Legal Win Against Letitia James," Khaleda Rahman, August 22, 2025, <https://www.newsweek.com/trump-letitia-james-fraud-case-new-york-2117483>; New York Times, "Trump, in a Move With Little Precedent, Says He Is Firing a Fed Governor," Tony Romm, Colby Smith, and Ben Casselman, August 25, 2025, <https://www.nytimes.com/2025/08/25/us/politics/lisa-cook-fired-trump-fed.html>; NPR, "Trump has made more than 100 threats to prosecute or punish perceived enemies," Tom Dreisbach, October 22, 2024, <https://www.npr.org/2024/10/21/nx-s1-5134924/trump-election-2024-kamala-harris-elizabeth-cheney-threat-civil-liberties>; NBC News, "Trump publicly pushes Attorney General Pam Bondi to prosecute his political foes," Dennis Romero, September 20, 2025, <https://www.nbcnews.com/politics/trump-administration/trump-publicly-pushes-attorney-general-pam-bondi-go-political-foes-rcna232669>.

³ ABC News, "Here's a list of the individuals, including Lisa Cook, targeted so far by the Trump administration," Peter Charalambous, Benjamin Siegel, Alexander Mallin, and Katherine Faulders, August 29, 2025, <https://abcnews.go.com/US/list-individuals-including-lisa-cook-targeted-trump-administration/story?id=124968309>.

Powell,⁵ you facilitated President Trump’s unproven allegations that Chair Powell was responsible for mismanagement of the Federal Reserve’s long-standing efforts to renovate its buildings.⁶ It is no coincidence that this push to fire Chair Powell came as the Federal Open Market Committee held interest rates steady despite President Trump’s and your demands for cuts.

You have suggested that your focus on the unproven allegations of mortgage fraud against officials such as Attorney General James, Senator Schiff, and Governor Cook represents an apolitical effort to protect the housing market.⁷ But your statements and actions suggest it is instead a pattern of abuse of your power and authority as FHFA Director to help target and harass individuals perceived as political opponents of President Trump. Indeed, though you claim to have “criminally referred people of each political parties [sic.]” for mortgage fraud, the only officials you appear to have publicly and repeatedly accused are prominent Democrats.⁸ In one recent interview, when pressed on whether or not you planned to investigate the alleged mortgage fraud of Ken Paxton, a Republican and the Attorney General of Texas, you refused to comment.⁹ It is also unclear whether you have engaged in any effort to investigate Trump Administration cabinet members—Labor Secretary Lori Chavez-DeRemer, Transportation Secretary Sean Duffy, Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Lee Zeldin, and Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent—for alleged mortgage fraud after public reporting revealed that all may have engaged in activities similar to those you have accused Democratic officials of.¹⁰ These actions raise questions about the standards your office is applying in determining which allegations to pursue and announce publicly.

To clarify our understanding of your use of public authority and resources to this effect, we request the following documents and information no later than October 10, 2025:

1. Provide copies of all email communications sent or received by you (on government and personal email accounts) since March 13, 2025, that include the following terms (whether in the subject line, body of the text, or relevant email attachments). Preserve all relevant records and documents.
 - a. “Letitia James”
 - b. “Letitia”

⁴ See Letter from Senator Elizabeth Warren to Director William J. Pulte, July 20, 2025, <https://www.banking.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/Pulte%20letter%207.20.25.pdf>.

⁵ New York Times, “Trump Has Draft of Letter to Fire Fed Chair. He Asked Republicans if He Should Send It.” Maggie Haberman and Colby Smith, July 16, 2025, <https://www.nytimes.com/2025/07/16/us/politics/trump-powell-firing-letter.html>.

⁶ *Id.*

⁷ Post on X from @pulte, August 26, 2025, <https://x.com/pulte/status/1960481279318618127>.

⁸ *Id.*

⁹ CNBC, “Pulte refuses to say where he got mortgage fraud ‘tip,’” Kevin Breuninger, September 4, 2025, <https://www.cnbc.com/2025/09/04/pulte-fed-cook-mortgage-powell.html>.

¹⁰ ProPublica, “Trump is Accusing Foes with Multiple Mortgages of Fraud. Records Show 3 of His Cabinet Members Have Them.” Robert Faturechi, Justin Elliot, and Alex Mierjeski, September 4, 2025, <https://www.propublica.org/article/trump-cabinet-mortgage-fraud>; Reuters, “U.S. Treasury’s Bessent made contradictory mortgage pledges, Bloomberg reports,” September 17, 2025, <https://www.reuters.com/business/finance/us-treasurys-bessent-made-contradictory-mortgage-pledges-bloomberg-reports-2025-09-17/>.

- c. "Tish"
- d. "James"
- e. "Adam Schiff"
- f. "Senator Schiff"
- g. "Senator Adam Schiff"
- h. "Schiff"
- i. "Jerome Powell"
- j. "Powell"
- k. "Chair Jerome Powell"
- l. "Chair Powell"
- m. "Fed Chair"
- n. "Lisa Cook"
- o. "Cook"
- p. "Governor Lisa Cook"
- q. "Governor Cook"
- r. "Ken Paxton"
- s. "Attorney General Paxton"
- t. "Paxton"
- u. "Lori Chavez-DeRemer"
- v. "Secretary Lori Chavez-DeRemer"
- w. "Secretary Chavez-DeRemer"
- x. "Chavez-DeRemer"
- y. "Sean Duffy"
- z. "Secretary Sean Duffy"
- aa. "Secretary Duffy"
- bb. "Duffy"
- cc. "Lee Zeldin"
- dd. "Administrator Lee Zeldin"
- ee. "Administrator Zeldin"
- ff. "Zeldin"
- gg. "Scott Bessent"
- hh. "Secretary Scott Bessent"
- ii. "Secretary Bessent"
- jj. "Bessent"
- kk. "Fraud"
- ll. "Occupancy fraud"
- mm. "Mortgage fraud"
- nn. "Palantir"
- oo. "Safety and Soundness Act"
- pp. "18 U.S.C. § 1014"
- qq. "Bondi"
- rr. "Blanche"
- ss. "Ed Martin"
- tt. "Martin"
- uu. "Special Attorney for Mortgage Fraud"
- vv. "Weaponization Working Group"

ww. "Jared L. Wise"
xx. "Wise"
yy. "John Roscoe"
zz. "Roscoe"
aaa. "Primary residence"
bbb. "Personal residence"
ccc. "Principal residence"
ddd. "Second home"

2. Provide copies of all documents and communications involving official government communications platforms (such as but not limited to Microsoft Teams, Slack, or Zoom) sent or received by you since March 13, 2025, that include the following terms. Preserve all relevant records and documents.
 - a. "Letitia James"
 - b. "Letitia"
 - c. "Tish"
 - d. "James"
 - e. "Adam Schiff"
 - f. "Senator Schiff"
 - g. "Senator Adam Schiff"
 - h. "Schiff"
 - i. "Jerome Powell"
 - j. "Powell"
 - k. "Chair Jerome Powell"
 - l. "Chair Powell"
 - m. "Fed Chair"
 - n. "Lisa Cook"
 - o. "Cook"
 - p. "Governor Lisa Cook"
 - q. "Governor Cook"
 - r. "Ken Paxton"
 - s. "Attorney General Paxton"
 - t. "Paxton"
 - u. "Lori Chavez-DeRemer"
 - v. "Secretary Lori Chavez-DeRemer"
 - w. "Secretary Chavez-DeRemer"
 - x. "Chavez-DeRemer"
 - y. "Sean Duffy"
 - z. "Secretary Sean Duffy"
 - aa. "Secretary Duffy"
 - bb. "Duffy"
 - cc. "Lee Zeldin"
 - dd. "Administrator Lee Zeldin"
 - ee. "Administrator Zeldin"
 - ff. "Zeldin"
 - gg. "Scott Bessent"

- hh. "Secretary Scott Bessent"
- ii. "Secretary Bessent"
- jj. "Bessent"
- kk. "Fraud"
- ll. "Occupancy fraud"
- mm. "Mortgage fraud"
- nn. "Palantir"
- oo. "Safety and Soundness Act"
- pp. "18 U.S.C. § 1014"
- qq. "Bondi"
- rr. "Blanche"
- ss. "Ed Martin"
- tt. "Martin"
- uu. "Special Attorney for Mortgage Fraud"
- vv. "Weaponization Working Group"
- ww. "Jared L. Wise"
- xx. "Wise"
- yy. "John Roscoe"
- zz. "Roscoe"
- aaa. "Primary residence"
- bbb. "Personal residence"
- ccc. "Principal residence"
- ddd. "Second home"

3. Provide copies of all communications via text (including messages on encrypted services such as Signal, on government and personal accounts) sent or received by you since March 13, 2025, that include the following terms. Preserve all relevant records and documents.
 - a. "Letitia James"
 - b. "Letitia"
 - c. "Tish"
 - d. "James"
 - e. "Adam Schiff"
 - f. "Senator Schiff"
 - g. "Senator Adam Schiff"
 - h. "Schiff"
 - i. "Jerome Powell"
 - j. "Powell"
 - k. "Chair Jerome Powell"
 - l. "Chair Powell"
 - m. "Fed Chair"
 - n. "Lisa Cook"
 - o. "Cook"
 - p. "Governor Lisa Cook"
 - q. "Governor Cook"
 - r. "Ken Paxton"
 - s. "Attorney General Paxton"

- t. "Paxton"
- u. "Lori Chavez-DeRemer"
- v. "Secretary Lori Chavez-DeRemer"
- w. "Secretary Chavez-DeRemer"
- x. "Chavez-DeRemer"
- y. "Sean Duffy"
- z. "Secretary Sean Duffy"
- aa. "Secretary Duffy"
- bb. "Duffy"
- cc. "Lee Zeldin"
- dd. "Administrator Lee Zeldin"
- ee. "Administrator Zeldin"
- ff. "Zeldin"
- gg. "Scott Bessent"
- hh. "Secretary Scott Bessent"
- ii. "Secretary Bessent"
- jj. "Bessent"
- kk. "Fraud"
- ll. "Occupancy fraud"
- mm. "Mortgage fraud"
- nn. "Palantir"
- oo. "Safety and Soundness Act"
- pp. "18 U.S.C. § 1014"
- qq. "Bondi"
- rr. "Blanche"
- ss. "Ed Martin"
- tt. "Martin"
- uu. "Special Attorney for Mortgage Fraud"
- vv. "Weaponization Working Group"
- ww. "Jared L. Wise"
- xx. "Wise"
- yy. "John Roscoe"
- zz. "Roscoe"
- aaa. "Primary residence"
- bbb. "Personal residence"
- ccc. "Principal residence"
- ddd. "Second home"

4. Provide copies of all public and private posts, messages, and other communications on social media platforms (including X and Truth Social, on government and personal accounts) generated, sent, or received by you since March 13, 2025, that include the following terms. Preserve all relevant records and documents.
 - a. "Letitia James"
 - b. "Letitia"
 - c. "Tish"
 - d. "James"

- e. "Adam Schiff"
- f. "Senator Schiff"
- g. "Senator Adam Schiff"
- h. "Schiff"
- i. "Jerome Powell"
- j. "Powell"
- k. "Chair Jerome Powell"
- l. "Chair Powell"
- m. "Fed Chair"
- n. "Lisa Cook"
- o. "Cook"
- p. "Governor Lisa Cook"
- q. "Governor Cook"
- r. "Ken Paxton"
- s. "Attorney General Paxton"
- t. "Paxton"
- u. "Lori Chavez-DeRemer"
- v. "Secretary Lori Chavez-DeRemer"
- w. "Secretary Chavez-DeRemer"
- x. "Chavez-DeRemer"
- y. "Sean Duffy"
- z. "Secretary Sean Duffy"
- aa. "Secretary Duffy"
- bb. "Duffy"
- cc. "Lee Zeldin"
- dd. "Administrator Lee Zeldin"
- ee. "Administrator Zeldin"
- ff. "Zeldin"
- gg. "Scott Bessent"
- hh. "Secretary Scott Bessent"
- ii. "Secretary Bessent"
- jj. "Bessent"
- kk. "Fraud"
- ll. "Occupancy fraud"
- mm. "Mortgage fraud"
- nn. "Palantir"
- oo. "Safety and Soundness Act"
- pp. "18 U.S.C. § 1014"
- qq. "Bondi"
- rr. "Blanche"
- ss. "Ed Martin"
- tt. "Martin"
- uu. "Special Attorney for Mortgage Fraud"
- vv. "Weaponization Working Group"
- ww. "Jared L. Wise"
- xx. "Wise"

yy. "John Roscoe"
zz. "Roscoe"
aaa. "Primary residence"
bbb. "Personal residence"
ccc. "Principal residence"
ddd. "Second home"

5. Provide copies of all documents, communications, phone records (including on official government communications platforms, text platforms, and encrypted messaging platforms such as Signal, and including on both government and personal devices and accounts), and social media interactions between you and any official employed by the White House since March 13, 2025, regarding the identification, review, investigation, and referral for criminal prosecution of cases of alleged mortgage fraud. Preserve all relevant records and documents.
6. Provide copies all documents, communications, phone records (including on official government communications platforms, text platforms, and encrypted messaging platforms such as Signal, and including on both government and personal devices and accounts), and social media interactions between you and any member of President Trump's immediate or extended family since March 14, 2025. Preserve all relevant records and documents.
7. On August 26, 2025, you stated that "FHFA has criminally referred people of each political parties [sic.] and various ethnicities as we are focused on prosecuting mortgage fraud out of our system."¹¹ Provide a list of each individual or entity that FHFA has criminally referred for mortgage fraud since March 13, 2025. Preserve all relevant records and documents.
8. Provide copies of your official schedule in your capacity as FHFA Director for each business day since March 14, 2025. Preserve all relevant records and documents.
9. Provide copies of your official schedule in your capacity as Chair of the Board of Fannie Mae for each business day since March 17, 2025. Preserve all relevant records and documents.
10. Provide copies of your official schedule in your capacity as Chair of the Board of Freddie Mac for each business day since March 17, 2025. Preserve all relevant records and documents.
11. According to recent reporting, you are "in frequent communication with" Edward Martin, who has been designated as a "Special Attorney for Mortgage Fraud" at the Department of Justice. Martin, in turn, is "in frequent communication with" President Trump regarding mortgage fraud; meanwhile, "Trump is also understood to have lines of communication" open with you.¹² Please describe your relationship with Mr. Martin and

¹¹ Post on X from @pulte, August 26, 2025, <https://x.com/pulte/status/1960481279318618127>.

President Trump as it relates to the identification, review, investigation, and referral for criminal prosecution of cases of alleged mortgage fraud.

12. Provide a description and copy of documents describing the processes employed by FHFA to identify, investigate, and criminally refer allegations of mortgage fraud.

- a. What changes, if any, have you made to those processes at FHFA, Fannie Mae, and/or Freddie Mac since your confirmation on March 13, 2025? Preserve all relevant records and documents.
- b. Please describe the role that the FHFA OIG plays in the FHFA's processes to identify, investigate, and criminally refer mortgage fraud.
- c. Provide a list of all individuals employed at FHFA, Fannie Mae, and/or Freddie Mac who have access to information and documents (including but not limited to nonpublic information, sensitive personal information such as addresses and social security numbers, and financial information) regarding Enterprise-backed mortgages.
 - i. Have you personally or indirectly requested or received mortgage loan files or other documents or information, including related to mortgage fraud, from John Roscoe, Fannie Mae's Executive Vice President of Operations and Public Relations, or from his team?
- d. Provide a list of all third-party entities, such as but not limited to Palantir, with the ability to access information and documents (including but not limited to nonpublic information, sensitive personal information such as addresses and social security numbers, and financial information) involving Enterprise-backed mortgages.
- e. Provide a summary of the federal laws and regulations that govern the public and private use of mortgage documents, and the personal and financial information contained therein, by employees of FHFA, Fannie Mae, and Freddie Mac. Provide copies of, and preserve all relevant records and documents regarding, any internal FHFA, Fannie Mae, and Freddie Mac policies and procedures describing the applicability of these laws and regulations to mortgage fraud detection, prevention, investigation, and referral efforts, including any advice you may have received on these matters from agency Counsel or other officials.
- f. Provide a copy of all internal policies and procedures that govern the public and private use of mortgage documents, and the personal and financial information contained therein, by employees of FHFA, Fannie Mae, and Freddie Mac. Provide copies of, and preserve all relevant records and documents regarding, any internal FHFA, Fannie Mae, and Freddie Mac policies and procedures describing the

¹² Andrew Feinberg, "Trump ally probing rivals 'mortgage fraud' speaks directly with the president—and skips typical DOJ hierarchy," The Independent, August 29, 2025, <https://www.the-independent.com/news/world/americas/us-politics/trump-doj-mortgage-fraud-martin-b2816228.html>.

applicability of these policies, norms, and procedures to mortgage fraud detection, prevention, investigation, and criminal referral efforts, including any advice you may have received on these matters from agency Counsel or other officials.

- i. Summarize the policies and procedures that govern the sharing of mortgage documents, and the personal and financial information contained therein, between employees of FHFA, Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac, and other federal, state, and local agencies and law enforcement officials.
- ii. Summarize the policies and procedures that govern the sharing of mortgage documents, and the personal and financial information contained therein, between employees of FHFA, Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac, and White House officials.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth Warren
Ranking Member
Committee on Banking,
Housing, and Urban Affairs



Richard J. Durbin
United States Senator



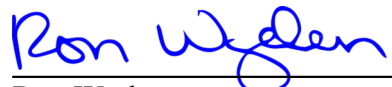
Sheldon Whitehouse
United States Senator



Richard Blumenthal
United States Senator



Gary C. Peters
United States Senator



Ron Wyden
United States Senator