MARY GAY SCANLON

5TH DISTRICT, PENNSYLVANIA

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

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Brian McShane
Field Office Director
U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement
Enforcement and Removal Operations

August 27, 2025

Mr. McShane:

I am visiting Moshannon Valley Processing Center today to conduct oversight pursuant to statutory authority as a Member of Congress under Section 527 of the Further Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2024 (Public Law 118-47).

Last year, a federal complaint filed by the American Civil Liberties Union of Pennsylvania, Legal Services of New Jersey, and the Transnational Legal Clinic documented inhumane conditions at this facility. Particularly, the complaint describes how ICE and GEO staff repeatedly and systematically deny access to interpretive, medical, legal, and other services to persons held in ICE custody at Moshannon. That complaint has never been resolved, allegedly due to drastic and unplanned reductions in force at the Office of Civil Rights, which was tasked with its investigation.

Concerns about the conditions documented at Moshannon are ongoing. As the number of people in immigration detention in the United States reaches a new modern record, we know that most individuals arrested in the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic regions are sent to this facility. We have received persistent reports that ICE and GEO officials routinely fail to provide comprehensive and appropriate medical services to those in custody here, including mental health care and medical and gynecological care for women detainees. I am aware of at least one constituent from my district currently in custody at Moshannon who has been unable to access proper medical care. Earlier this month, a Chinese national allegedly committed suicide while detained here, raising concerns about the supervision of detainees and the availability of mental health resources. We have also received multiple reports of inadequate nutrition, with detainees either going hungry or being forced to purchase their own food from the detention center commissary.

As a Member of Congress, I have the duty to conduct oversight of government functions, including whether ICE facilities are spending billions of taxpayer dollars wisely. As a representative for my constituents and a member of the Judiciary Committee's Subcommittee on Immigration, I have the duty to investigate allegations of abuse or civil rights violations of my constituents and others.

In furtherance of my oversight duty, I am here to observe the general conditions of this facility and to inquire about the population currently detained at this facility — including, in particular, any U.S. citizens. I am also requesting information about Moshannon's policies, including, but not limited to, issues around access to medical and mental health care, access to legal services and legal status of detainees, language access services, disciplinary practices, and segregation practices.

Sincerely,

Mary Gay Scanlon

Member of Congress, PA-05

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