

OFFICERS

ANDREW J. GINTHER
Columbus, OH
President

DAVID HOLT
Oklahoma City, OK
Vice President

TODD GLORIA
San Diego, CA
Second Vice President

PAST PRESIDENTS

HILLARY SCHIEVE
Reno, NV

FRANCIS X. SUAREZ
Miami, FL

BRYAN K. BARNETT
Rochester Hills, MI

ELIZABETH B. KAUTZ
Burnsville, MN

TRUSTEES

LEIRION GAYLOR BAIRD
Lincoln, NE

JUSTIN BIBB
Cleveland, OH

J. CHRISTIAN BOLLWAGE
Elizabeth, NJ

LaTOYA CANTRELL
New Orleans, LA

JANE CASTOR
Tampa, FL

JOY COOPER
Hallandale Beach, FL

JERRY DYER
Fresno, CA

KATE GALLEGO
Phoenix, AZ

JON MITCHELL
New Bedford, MA

AFTAB PUREVAL
Cincinnati, OH

STEVEN REED
Montgomery, AL

JIM ROSS
Arlington, TX

ACQUANETTA WARREN
Fontana, CA

ADVISORY BOARD

ARUNAN ARULAMPALAM
Hartford, CT

ETHAN BAKER
Troy, MI

CHRIS BARNETT
Orion Township, MI

KAREN BASS
Los Angeles, CA

LACEY BEATY
Beaverton, OR

MURIEL BOWSER
Washington, DC

BARBARA BUFFALO
Columbia, MO

PAIGE G. COGNETTI
Scranton, PA

BUDDY DYER
Orlando, FL

JOSEPH P. GANIM
Bridgeport, CT

ABDULLAH HAMMOUD
Dearborn, MI

QUENTIN HART
Waterloo, IA

GERARD HUDSPETH
Denton, TX

CHRIS JENSEN
Noblesville, IN

TIM KELLER
Albuquerque, NM

HEIDI LUEB
Tigard, OR

CHRISTINA MURYN
Findlay, OH

RON NIRENBERG
San Antonio, TX

MATTIE PARKER
Fort Worth, TX

D.C. REEVES
Pensacola, FL

REX RICHARDSON
Long Beach, CA

DANIEL J. RICKENMANN
Columbia, SC

ANDY SCHOR
Lansing, MI

SCOTT SINGER
Boca Raton, FL

BRETT SMILEY
Providence, RI

MATT TUERK
Allentown, PA

BRIAN C. WAHLER
Piscataway, NJ

VICTORIA WOODARDS
Tacoma, WA

CEO AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
TOM COCHRAN



THE UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF MAYORS

June 2, 2025

The Honorable Pam Bondi
Attorney General of the United States
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530-0001

The Honorable Kristi Noem
Secretary of Homeland Security
2801 Nebraska Avenue NW,
Washington, DC 20528

Dear General Bondi and Secretary Noem,

I write on behalf of cities large and small across the nation that you have deemed sanctuary jurisdictions. The announcement posted on the Department of Homeland Security website claims that these cities “are deliberately and shamefully obstructing the enforcement of federal immigration laws endangering American communities. Sanctuary cities protect dangerous criminal aliens from facing consequences and put law enforcement in peril.”

Many of these cities were surprised to find themselves among the 188 cities on your list. They comply with federal law enforcement and often provide backup to federal authorities when they are notified in advance that there will be an action in their cities and their help is needed. They do not restrict the sharing of information with federal authorities. They do not harbor undocumented people. They collaborate with state and federal law enforcement partners on a daily basis. If an individual has a judicial criminal warrant, regardless of their immigration status, our police departments enforce that warrant and assist state and federal law enforcement in holding that person accountable through the criminal justice process. They want to get serious criminals off the streets as much as you do.

For mayors, public safety is job one. They work hard every day to make sure their cities and their residents are as safe as possible. Through a concerted effort by mayors and their police chiefs, crime has been plummeting in our cities. Any forced effort to divert scarce resources and break trust with immigrant communities is a threat to public safety and to the great progress we have made.

We urge you to publish the specific criteria the Administration used to determine that an individual jurisdiction belongs on your list. When you formally notify these jurisdictions, as you have said you will do, we ask that

you identify the specific laws, policies, and actions that led to their inclusion on the list and the specific instances of non-compliance with federal statutes. And we ask that you set up an appeals process that jurisdictions can use to challenge the Administration's interpretation of those local laws, policies and actions and that the appeals process provide a way for officials of each jurisdiction to speak or meet with officials of your agencies to discuss the charges you have levied against them. Finally, we urge you not to withhold any federal funds to these jurisdictions until after the completion of the appeals process.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. The United States Conference of Mayors stands ready to work with you to make sure that our cities are treated fairly and respectfully through this process and have an opportunity to defend their policies and practices and be heard by the Administration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tom Cochran". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly stylized font.

Tom Cochran
CEO and Executive Director