



COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

THE JOHN A. WILSON BUILDING
1350 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20004

July 9, 2026

The Honorable Gretchen Whitmer
Governor, State of Michigan
State Capitol
Lansing, Michigan 48909

Dear Governor Whitmer:

We write as elected officials representing the District of Columbia to thank the members of the Michigan National Guard for their service in helping protect residents and visitors during the July 4th and America 250 celebrations in Washington, D.C., and to respectfully request your assistance in recalling all Michigan National Guard personnel currently deployed to the District now that those celebrations have concluded.

We particularly appreciate your public direction that Michigan personnel were deployed to support these specific events and were not to participate in the Trump administration's broader "D.C. Safe and Beautiful" mission or general law enforcement operations. That distinction is important. Temporary assistance for a defined national celebration is fundamentally different from participation in an open-ended federal operation involving military patrols and law enforcement support in District neighborhoods.

The July 4th and America 250 celebrations presented significant public safety and logistical challenges and required coordination across multiple jurisdictions. We are grateful to the Michigan Guard members who left their homes and families to support the nation's capital during this exceptionally busy period.

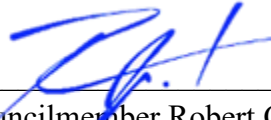
Now that the event-specific mission for which Michigan personnel were deployed has concluded, we respectfully ask that you recall all Michigan National Guard personnel as soon as practicable and decline any extension of their current deployment. We also ask that your office confirm the anticipated date of their departure, the current number of Michigan personnel remaining in the District, and that they have not been reassigned to neighborhood patrols, general law enforcement support, immigration enforcement activities, or other components of the broader federal operation.

D.C. residents pay federal taxes, serve in the military, and host our nation's democratic institutions, yet are denied full voting representation in Congress and full control over our own local affairs. The deployment of military personnel from other jurisdictions into District

communities therefore raises particularly serious questions of democratic accountability and local control.

We again thank the members of the Michigan National Guard for their service during the July 4th and America 250 celebrations, and we appreciate your recognition that Michigan personnel should not be used to support an open-ended federal law enforcement operation in the District. Now that the defined mission has concluded, we respectfully ask for your assistance in bringing them home.

Sincerely,



Councilmember Robert C. White, Jr.



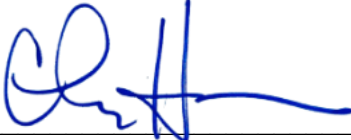
Chairman Phil Mendelson



Councilmember Janeese Lewis George



Councilmember Matthew Frumin



Councilmember Christina Henderson



Councilmember Anita Bonds



Councilmember Brianne Nadeau



Councilmember Brooke Pinto



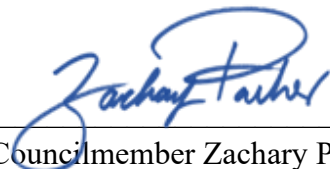
Councilmember Charles Allen



Councilmember Doni Crawford



Councilmember Wendell Felder



Councilmember Zachary Parker



Councilmember Trayon White, Sr.