



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515–3222

June 3, 2026

The Honorable Todd Blanche
Acting Attorney General of the United States
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20530

Re: Status of Criminal Referral — Former New York Governor Andrew M. Cuomo (18 U.S.C. § 1001)

Dear Acting Attorney General Blanche:

I write to request a status update on the criminal referral transmitted to the Department of Justice (DOJ) on October 30, 2024, and resubmitted to the Department by House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform Chairman James Comer, recommending that former New York Governor Andrew M. Cuomo be charged with making false statements to Congress in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1001.¹² The referral arises from Mr. Cuomo’s testimony before the House Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Pandemic on June 11, 2024, in connection with the Subcommittee’s investigation into the Cuomo Administration’s March 25, 2020 nursing home directive and the subsequent effort to suppress accurate nursing home fatality data.

New York’s 24th Congressional District is home to numerous rural nursing facilities and the families of residents who were among those placed at risk by the Cuomo Administration’s policies. The evidence developed by the Select Subcommittee is substantial, the legal theory is well-grounded, and the public interest in accountability is beyond question. I respectfully urge the Department to act on this referral without further delay.

¹ Referral of Andrew M. Cuomo, Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Pandemic, H. Comm. on Oversight & Accountability, 118th Cong. (Oct. 30, 2024).

² Letter from Hon. James Comer, Chairman, Comm. on Oversight and Government Reform, to Hon. Pam Bondi, Att’y Gen., U.S. Dep’t of Justice (Apr. 21, 2025).

More than 9,000 COVID-positive patients were sent into New York nursing homes under the March 25 directive. The New York State Attorney General's January 2021 report found that the Cuomo Administration had undercounted nursing home deaths by as much as 50 percent.³ Former Governor Andrew Cuomo falsely told Congress that he had no involvement in drafting or reviewing a New York State Department of Health report that was designed to deflect blame for his Administration's disastrous nursing home policy, a claim directly contradicted by documented evidence of direct involvement by Cuomo and his aides and corroborated by the sworn testimony of multiple former Administration officials who worked directly on the report. Lying to Congress, even in an unsworn transcribed interview, is a federal crime under 18 U.S.C. § 1001, which prohibits any person from knowingly and willfully making a materially false statement in a matter within the jurisdiction of the legislative branch.

Families across New York, including in the communities of NY-24 that I represent, have never received a full and honest accounting of what happened to their loved ones, or why. The families of nursing home residents in New York who lost loved ones during the pandemic deserve accountability. I am committed to pursuing that accountability through every available legislative and oversight channel. Thank you for the Department's attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Claudia Tenney". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long, sweeping tail on the final letter.

Claudia Tenney
Member of Congress

³ Office of the N.Y. Att'y Gen., *Nursing Home Response to COVID-19 Pandemic* (Jan. 28, 2021), at 12