

KENNEDY FOR PRESIDENT 2024

October 25th, 2023

The Honorable Alejandro Mayorkas
Secretary of Homeland Security
Department of Homeland Security
Washington, DC 20032-0525

As a follow-up to the attached letter, the presidential campaign of Robert F Kennedy Jr. herein makes our third formal request for Secret Service protection, in addition to the many requests that have been made by others. Former Congressman Kucinich also made a written request to you, to President Biden, and to Congressional leaders. This letter contains new information.

In addition to the many threats and threat content provided to your office in Gavin de Becker's 67-page declaration, your office and Secret Service have also been made aware of a mentally ill intruder who reached the 2nd floor of Mr. Kennedy's home before being apprehended and arrested.

Most significantly, your office and Secret Service are aware of man named Adrian Aispuro, who recently showed up at a side door to a Kennedy campaign event, *identified himself as a US Marshal*, and demanded to be brought to the candidate immediately. The man was carrying *a loaded handgun*, and arresting LAPD officers found he had *a second loaded gun* (with laser sight) in his backpack, along with extra ammunition.

These are the items Aispuro brought with him to the presidential campaign appearance:



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KENNEDY FOR PRESIDENT 2024

Page Two

LAPD served a search warrant on Aispuro's home and confiscated more weapons, including rifles with long-range scopes:



The LAPD Detective investigating the Aispuro matter provided testimony to the Court:

“Based on the totality of my investigation, I believe respondent Adrian Aispuro poses a *significant danger in the near future of causing personal injury to others* by having access to firearms, magazines and ammunition”

Please also consider the conclusion provided to you by the Secret Service after their own risk assessment:

“Kennedy's family history, perceived controversial stance on vaccines, and his status as a challenger to President Biden for the Democratic presidential nomination *elevates his risk for adverse attention.*”

Just this morning, *another* delusional intruder was arrested after climbing the fence and entering Mr. Kennedy's property. This time, the candidate was home. Secret Service has been informed about this man several times in recent months. Secret Service is aware that he has sent hundreds of emails to the candidate, and believes he is being followed by people who intend to kill him. His obsession with RFK Jr leads him to be at times hostile and angry.

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Page Three

The intruder is currently in LAPD custody, but will likely have been released by the time you receive this letter. That will mean three people --all of whom have made dangerous approaches to the candidate, and all known to Secret Service-- will be at large and able to continue their efforts to encounter the candidate.

These and other events occur with the backdrop of the recent assassination of presidential candidate Fernando Villavicencio in Ecuador, an event that elevates risk for all political figures because widely publicized acts of violence tend to cluster.

During that assassination, *nine other people were injured, including two police officers.*

As Gavin de Becker affirmed in his declaration to your office, nearly all attacks on American politicians caused injury to bystanders:

“Members of the public and others in the vicinity of the candidate are also at increased risk of being injured or killed in the absence of Secret Service protection.”

Many media reports have incorrectly reported that Secret Service protection is afforded to presidential candidates only at 120-days prior to the election. This is not accurate, as you know. As you reconsider your denial of protection to candidate Kennedy, we add this insight to set the record straight:

- In 1979, the Carter Administration afforded early Secret Service protection for many candidates (Ronald Reagan, John Connally, George Bush, Philip M. Crane, Howard Baker) long before the 1980 election.
- In September 1979, the Carter Administration afforded Secret Service protection for Senator Edward Kennedy 441 days before the 1980 presidential election, even though Kennedy hadn't formally announced his candidacy. Two other administrations had previously afforded early Secret Service protection to Edward Kennedy: In 1968, after his brother Robert was assassinated while campaigning for president, and again in 1972, after candidate George Wallace was shot at a campaign event. (Note that Secret

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Page Four

- Service protection was provided to Edward Kennedy even though he was not a declared candidate for the presidency.)
- In November 1983, **362** days before the election, the Reagan Administration afforded early Secret Service protection to Jesse Jackson.
- In January of 1984, the Reagan Administration afforded early Secret Service protection to Walter Mondale, John Glenn, Reubin Askew, Senator Gary Hart, Ernest Hollings, George McGovern, all about **297** days before the election.
- Again in November of 1987, the Reagan Administration afforded early Secret Service protection to Jesse Jackson, **351** days before the election.
- That year, the Reagan Administration afforded early Secret Service protection to Pat Robertson, **343** days before the election.
- In May of 1988, the Reagan Administration afforded early Secret Service protection to Michael Dukakis.
- In February of 1992, the Bush Administration afforded early Secret Service protection to Bill Clinton, about **249** days before the election.
- In February of 1996, the Clinton Administration afforded early Secret Service protection to Pat Buchanan, about **250** days before the election.
- In March of that year, the Clinton Administration afforded early Secret Service protection to Robert Dole, more than **200** days before the election.
- March 2000, the Clinton Administration afforded early Secret Service protection to George W. Bush, more than **200** days before the election.
- In February 2004, the Bush Administration afforded early Secret Service protection to John Kerry, more than **250** days before the election. John Edwards also received Secret Service protection around this time.
- In May 2007 the Bush Administration afforded early Secret Service protection to Barack Obama, **551** days before the election, despite not having received “any specific, credible threat,” according to CNN.
- In April 2008, the Bush Administration afforded early Secret Service protection John McCain, nearly **200** days before the election.

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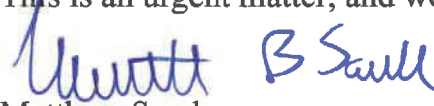
Page Five

- In November 2011, the Obama Administration afforded early Secret Service protection to Herman Cain, *almost a year* before the election.
- Around March 2012, the Obama Administration afforded early Secret Service protection to Newt Gingrich, **245** days before the election.
- In 2012, the Obama Administration afforded early Secret Service protection to Mitt Romney, **279** days before Election Day.
- That same month, the Obama Administration afforded early Secret Service protection to Rick Santorum, **254** days before the election.
- In November 2015, the Obama Administration afforded early Secret Service protection to candidates Donald Trump and Ben Carson, *more than a year* before the election.
- A few months later, the Obama Administration afforded early Secret Service protection to Bernie Sanders, **279** days before the election.
- Finally, in March 2020, the Trump Administration afforded early Secret Service protection to candidate Joe Biden, about **231** days before the election.

Every administration for 55-years afforded early Secret Service protection to candidates who requested protection. *Your refusal is the sole outlier, making the Biden Administration the only one to refuse a protection request.*

Given all that is known, please reconsider your decision to refuse Secret Service protection to presidential candidate Robert F Kennedy Jr, and allow protection to commence as soon as possible. As the law intends, the Secret Service can help protect the candidate and the electoral process, while also reducing risk to others in the candidate's environment, including members of the general public.

This is an urgent matter, and we request an expedited response.


Matthew Sanders