



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
PENNSYLVANIA STATE POLICE
1800 ELMERTON AVENUE
HARRISBURG, PA. 17110

OFFICE OF COMMISSIONER

May 13, 2026

The Honorable Joanna E. McClinton, Speaker of the House
Pennsylvania House of Representatives
139 Main Capitol Building
Post Office Box 202191
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120-2191

The Honorable Kim L. Ward, President Pro Tempore
Pennsylvania State Senate
292 Main Capitol
Senate Box 203039
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120-3039

Via email to all parties copied.

Dear Pennsylvania House and Senate Leadership,

On the afternoon of Thursday, April 30, 2026, the Pennsylvania Criminal Intelligence Center (PaCIC) was notified by the U.S. Capitol Police of a possible threat against the Pennsylvania Speaker of the House and three other members of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives.

PaCIC immediately notified the Pennsylvania State Police's (PSP) Tactical Intelligence Unit (TIU) to initiate an investigation. Over the course of the next several hours, an individual (Adam Berryhill of Lebanon County) was identified as the person making the threatening posts. With that information, notification was made to the PSP Executive Services Office. The Executive Services Office, in turn, notified the Pennsylvania Capitol Police, the House Sergeant-at-Arms (SAA), and the Chief of Staff for the Speaker of the House. Our understanding at this time was that the House SAA then notified the Senate SAA.

Throughout the day on Friday, May 1, 2026, the TIU located additional posts, that contained the names of several Pennsylvania Senators, and additional State Representatives. The investigation progressed with investigators obtaining search warrants for Berryhill's residence, which ultimately resulted in the filing of charges against Berryhill for terroristic threats. Berryhill was subsequently arrested and incarcerated on those charges. Letters were generated by Lebanon County to each of the named victims in the case and were mailed to their respective legislators.

While the investigation and threat mitigation were handled properly by PSP, a review of this matter reveals a breakdown in the notification process that should have occurred to the affected legislators. Original notification was made by the PSP Executive Services Office, which did not have ongoing real-time access to the additional victim information generated by the TIU through this investigation. TIU members did not realize that an updated notice had not been made to the Capitol Police, or the Sergeant-at-Arms.

Effective immediately, we are implementing significant changes in the process which will ensure that appropriate notifications will occur when future threats transpire.

That process is as follows:

- All threat information, regardless of source, will be directed through PaCIC.
- PaCIC analysts will make immediate contact with TIU members, advising them to initiate an investigation.

The TIU investigators will now immediately notify the following:

- Sergeant-at-Arms (SAA) for both the House and Senate
- The Capitol Police
- PSP's Executive Services Office
- PSP's Policy and Legislative Affairs Office

Those notifications will include a primary point of contact for any additional questions elected officials or their staff may have. This notification will occur, regardless of whether charges are filed. The SAA will be asked to make notifications to specific legislators if any are named in the threat; to their respective House and Senate leadership; and to subsequently notify TIU when that notice has occurred. The SAA will also be asked to notify the Police Department with primary jurisdiction where the legislator resides.

A new political violence threat unit is being created within the PSP's Bureau of Criminal Investigation, solely for the purpose of investigating threats against elected officials. Members of this unit will be experienced investigators, who will work hand in hand with the TIU to ensure complete continuity in the flow of information throughout the investigation and notifications process. As the investigation progresses, TIU will be responsible for updating all affected parties.

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Please know that your safety is of the utmost concern of the PSP. I am confident that these changes will address shortcomings we have identified in this recent occurrence. I am available to discuss should you have any additional questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

LT. COL. George L. Bivens

Lieutenant Colonel George L. Bivens
Acting Commissioner

cc: The Honorable Matthew D. Bradford, House Majority Leader
The Honorable Jesse Topper, House Minority Leader
The Honorable Joe Pittman, Senate Majority Leader
The Honorable Jay Costa, Senate Minority Leader