MORGAN LUTTRELL
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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
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March 19, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chair
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rose DeLauro
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations,
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro,

I am requesting funding for the Houston Police Department's (HPD) Drone as First Responder (DFR) – Real-Time Command & Operations Platform for fiscal year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is located at 1200 Travis St., Houston, TX 77002.

This project is designed to modernize HPD's public safety response through coordinated, technology-driven oversight of drone deployments. By consolidating drone operations into a centralized command layer, HPD will ensure DFR missions are strategically aligned with patrol and tactical response, compliant with Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) airspace requirements and department policy, and are prioritized according to incident severity and community impact. Supervisors will have the ability to assess situations unfolding in real time, dynamically deploy resources, and adjust tactics based on live, aerial intelligence. The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized under, and consistent with, section 501 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. § 10152).

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,

Morgan Luttrell
Member of Congress