Board

Karen Haas, ChairWilliam Luther, Co-ChairLynn WestmorelandLorraine MillerJody HiceCheryl Johnson

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# Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL CONDUCT

Washington, DC 20515

# SECOND QUARTER 2025 REPORT

April 2025 – June 2025

The Office of Congressional Conduct ("OCC"), formerly known as the Office of Congressional Ethics, is an independent, non-partisan entity charged with reviewing allegations of misconduct involving Members, officers and staff of the United States House of Representatives and, when appropriate, referring matters to the House Committee on Ethics. Additional information about the OCC is available on our website: <u>http://conduct.house.gov</u>.

The following is a report of the OCC's work in the second quarter of 2025 for the 119th Congress.

#### Key Takeaways

- On May 13, 2025, Ms. Karen L. Haas (Chair), Mr. William P. Luther (Co-chair), Mr. Leon A. Westmoreland, and Ms. Lorraine C. Miller were reappointed to serve on the Board of the OCC. Two new members were also appointed to the OCC Board: Mr. Jody B. Hice on June 11 and Ms. Cheryl Johnson on June 20.
- Following its release by the House Committee on Ethics, the OCC published a report involving Representative Sheila Cherfilus-McCormick.
- The OCC hired a new Investigative Counsel, Investigative Support Analyst, and Law Clerk.

### Scheduled Releases

The House Committee on Ethics will release the OCC's referral regarding Rep. Sheila Cherfilus-McCormick at the expiration of the 119<sup>th</sup> Congress, should the Investigative Subcommittee not conclude its review before then.

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## **Board Actions**

The following is a statistical summary of the Board's actions in the 119th Congress, including the second quarter of 2025 (highlighted in blue).

Date	Reviews				Transmittals		
	Commence Preliminary Review	Termination	Phase II Review	Phase II Review Extension	Further Review	Dismissal	Unresolved <sup>1</sup>
January	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
February	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
March	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
April	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
May 21	7	0	0	0	0	0	0
June 17	0	3	4	0	0	0	0
Total for Second Quarter	7	3	4	0	0	0	0
Total from Previous Quarters	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
119th Congress	7	3	4	0	0	0	0

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> In cases where the Board cannot resolve the matter due to a tie vote, the Board will transmit the referral to the Committee with a statement that the matter is unresolved.

### Staffing Update

During the second quarter of 2025, the OCC hired Annie Cho as an Investigative Counsel, Mikaela Aaland as an Investigative Support Analyst, and Grace Liberman as a law clerk.

Prior to joining OCC, Ms. Aaland was a Pre-law Fellow with a large international law firm, supporting the Investigations and White-Collar Criminal Defense practice group. Ms. Aaland earned her B.A. in History, Law and Society from the American University of Paris and her M.A. in Politics and Economics of the Middle East from King's College London.

Ms. Cho rejoins the OCC after nearly nine years serving as an analyst, senior investigator, and law clerk with the office. Most recently, Ms. Cho worked as an associate in the international department at Miller & Chevalier Chartered, where she focused on advising clients on sanctions and export controls. Ms. Cho's work also included representing clients before government enforcement agencies, assisting in internal and external investigations, and conducting risk assessments concerning sanctions, export controls, and anti-corruption law.

Ms. Cho received her J.D. *cum laude* from American University Washington College of Law and graduated from George Mason University *cum laude* with a B.S. in Criminology, Law & Society and a minor in Intelligence Analysis.

#### **Citizen Communications**

Any member of the public may bring a matter of suspected misconduct involving a Member, officer or staff of the House to the attention of the OCC. The OCC received approximately 4,844 communications from private citizens during the second quarter of 2025. These communications include requests for information about the OCC and its procedures, and submissions of information regarding allegations of misconduct.