

Board

Karen Haas, Chair William Luther, Co-Chair
Lynn Westmoreland Lorraine Miller
Jody Hice Cheryl Johnson

Omar S. Ashmawy, Staff Director & Chief Counsel

conduct.house.gov
conduct@mail.house.gov

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL CONDUCT

Washington, DC 20515

Office Address:
425 3rd Street SW
Suite 1110
Washington, DC 20024

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 895
Washington, DC 20515-0895
(202) 225-9739
(202) 226-0997 (FAX)

THIRD QUARTER 2026 REPORT

July 2026 – September 2026

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: <http://conduct.house.gov>.

The following is a report of the OCC’s work in the third quarter of 2026 for the 119th Congress.

Key Takeaways

- During the third quarter of 2026, the OCC transmitted three matters to the House Committee on Ethics with recommendations for dismissal, including two that the Board voted to refer in the previous quarter but did not transmit until this quarter due to election-related restrictions.
- This quarter, the OCC welcomed three international delegations interested in learning about the office’s work and its role in promoting accountability and transparency in the U.S. House of Representatives.
- Consistent with the 60-day pre-election blackout period established under House Rule XI, clause 3(b)(8)(D), the OCC Board did not initiate any new preliminary reviews during the third quarter of 2026.
- The OCC Board continues to monitor an investigation referred to the House Committee on Ethics pursuant to Rule 12.
- The OCC received and reviewed approximately 3,467 citizen communications containing allegations of misconduct or requests for information about the OCC and its procedures.

Scheduled Releases

On July 27, 2026, the House Committee on Ethics announced an extension of its review of a matter concerning Representative Lance Gooden, which the OCC referred to the Committee on June 10, 2026. The Committee stated that it would announce its next steps on or before November 9, 2026. The Committee will make the referral public in accordance with the time frame established under Rule 17A of the Committee's rules.

Rule 12 Requests (Cease and Refer)

On November 19, 2025, the Committee requested that the OCC Board cease and refer a matter pursuant to House Rule XI, clause 3(r), and Committee Rule 17A(k)(1). On December 16, 2025, pursuant to OCC Rule 12 of the OCC Rules for the Conduct of Investigation, the Board voted to grant the request and to make monthly inquiries regarding the status of the Committee's investigation.

On May 11, 2026, the Committee issued a status update acknowledging the Committee's continued work on the investigation.

Pursuant to its rules, the OCC Board will continue to monitor this investigation.

Board Actions

The following is a statistical summary of the Board's actions in the 119th Congress, including the third quarter of 2026 (highlighted in blue).

Date	Reviews				Transmittals		
	Commence Preliminary Review	Termination	Phase II Review	Phase II Review Extension	Further Review	Dismissal	Unresolved ¹
<i>January 28</i>	3	0	0	0	1	0	0
<i>February 25</i>	2	1	2	0	0	0	0
<i>March 25</i>	0	0	2	2	0	0	0
<i>April 22</i>	2	0	0	1	0	0	0
<i>May 27</i>	0	1	1	0	1	1	0
<i>June 24</i>	0	0	0	1	0	1	0
<i>July 22</i>	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
<i>August</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<i>September</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total for Third Quarter	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Total from 2026	7	2	5	4	2	3	0
Total from 2025	13	5	8	6	3	3	1
119th Congress	20	7	13	10	5	6	1

¹ 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.

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 3,467 communications from private citizens during the third quarter of 2026. These communications included requests for information about the OCC and its procedures and submissions of information regarding allegations of misconduct.