



MARK BRNOVICH  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
STATE OF ARIZONA

May 12, 2021

President Joe Biden  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue  
NW Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Biden,

The crisis at our southern border has been escalating since January and is now clearly a catastrophe and a tragedy in the making. Like many Americans, I was encouraged by your March 24th appointment of Vice President Kamala Harris to lead the efforts to stem the tidal wave of illegal migration into our country. However, to date, her response to the border crisis has been absolutely abysmal, so I am requesting that she be replaced as your "border czar."

We are now nearly 50 days into her appointment, and Vice President Harris has shown little interest in observing what is happening along the border and has failed to articulate any plan to deal with the devastating effects of this crisis. Instead, she has traveled to other states for unrelated and less-pressing matters. Mr. President, this is a slap in the face to Arizonans who helped elect you both to the highest offices in the land.

The truth is that our border officials are overwhelmed, law enforcement is understaffed, and local ranchers live in daily fear of threats from Cartel operatives. It is shameful that they are not receiving more federal support. The latest apprehension numbers from April show that things are getting worse, and we do not yet know the full extent of dangerous people and drugs crossing into our communities. I sent Vice President Harris a letter on April 2nd, personally inviting her to tour the border with me and to hear from the brave citizens on the ground. To date, I am very disappointed that I have not received a response from Vice President Harris or anyone in your administration.

Mr. President, we cannot afford another day, week, or month of apathy and inaction by any official in your administration charged with upholding our federal immigration laws and ensuring public safety. What is occurring now at the border and in our communities is reckless and dangerous -- to Arizonans, to migrants, and to the security of our great nation.

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I conclude by respectfully requesting that Vice President Harris be replaced as America's "border czar" with a federal official who is willing to see the crisis firsthand and to work with state partners to address it. I also request that your administration adopt new border policies that facilitate enhanced transparency with members of Congress, the media, and the American people throughout this crisis. I remain committed to working with anyone in your administration to secure the border and enforce the rule of law.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mark Brnovich". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mark Brnovich  
Arizona Attorney General