



MARK BRNOVICH
ATTORNEY GENERAL

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
STATE OF ARIZONA

February 16, 2022

The Honorable Alejandro Mayorkas
Secretary of Homeland Security
Washington, D.C. 20528
Alejandro.mayorkas@hq.dhs.gov

Dear Secretary Mayorkas,

Last summer, I wrote regarding an Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) contractor that had subcontracted with the owners of a hotel at North Scottsdale Road and East Mountain View Road in Scottsdale, Arizona (the "Hotel Property") to operate a 1,200-person ICE detention facility. As noted in the correspondence, this location is next to a residential neighborhood and school.

It recently came to my attention that the Hotel Property may have been repurposed to house Afghanistan refugees. As with the ICE detention news, my office was not advised of this new designation and only learned of the change after being contacted by concerned Arizonans.

Our state and nation have a long history of welcoming immigrants and refugees to start their quest for the American Dream. However, under this Administration, we are alarmed by the callousness of federal officials in placing unvetted individuals who may have criminal records directly into our communities, especially with no prior notice or coordination with local law enforcement.

I request your Department provide answers to the following questions:

1. How many Afghani refugees are being resettled into the Hotel Property in Scottsdale?
2. What is the vetting process for these refugees before they are transported to the Hotel Property?
3. What is the timeline for housing Afghani refugees at this Hotel Property?
4. Is there security at the Hotel Property?
5. Are the Afghani refugees restricted to the Hotel Property?

Please provide answers to these questions by Friday, February 25, 2022. Furthermore, I request that in the future your Department provide reasonable notification to my office and local law enforcement in the event that other properties housing refugees or migrants in the country illegally will be repurposed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mark Brnovich". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Mark Brnovich