

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

June 12, 2025

Lieutenant General Gregory J. Brady
Inspector General
1700 Army Pentagon
Washington, D.C. 20310

Dear Lieutenant General Brady:

We write to request that you swiftly open an investigation into the U.S. Army's actions prior to and following the January 29, 2025 midair collision between American Airlines Flight 5342 and a U.S. Army Black Hawk helicopter. The crash claimed 67 lives, making it the deadliest U.S. aviation accident since 2001.

An investigation should review any factors that did or could have contributed to the incident, including:

1. TAAB training activities and operations in the National Capital Region, including whether training standards, operational planning decisions, risk identification, or compliance with routes or equipment contributed to operational risk;
2. Army and TAAB policy and practice on aircraft collision-avoidance systems, including the rationale for and coordination around the August 2024 ADS-B Out directive, and whether longstanding near-miss patterns were adequately identified, escalated, and addressed;
3. Army, federal law enforcement, and Federal Aviation Administration interagency communication; and
4. Army actions taken in response to the January 29, 2025 crash, including any policy changes, coordination efforts, transparency with oversight bodies, and measures to prevent further incidents.

While the National Transportation Safety Board is investigating the immediate actual and proximate causes of the January 29, 2025 DCA aviation incident, the Department of the Army Inspector General has the authority to uncover the deeper institutional failures that enabled this tragedy. Emerging evidence points to longstanding lapses in internal accountability, safety oversight, safety culture, and interagency coordination. These failures fall within your jurisdiction and merit impartial review. They may also reflect broader institutional gaps that require sustained attention.

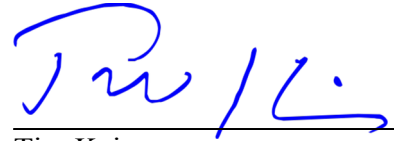
We also encourage your office to make the results of any investigation available to the public to the extent possible, in order to help restore trust and ensure transparency for all stakeholders.

Thank you in advance for your prompt attention to this important issue.

Sincerely,



Mark R. Warner
United States Senator



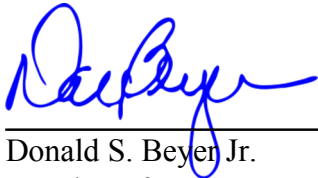
Tim Kaine
United States Senator



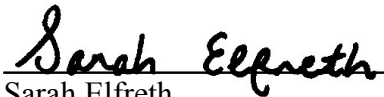
Chris Van Hollen
United States Senator



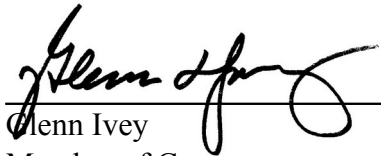
Angela Alsobrooks
United States Senator



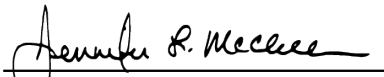
Donald S. Beyer Jr.
Member of Congress



Sarah Elfreth
Member of Congress



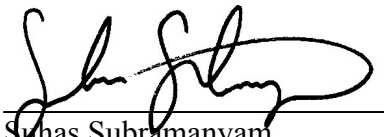
Glenn Ivey
Member of Congress



Jennifer L. McClellan
Member of Congress



Eleanor Holmes Norton
Member of Congress



Suhas Subramanyam
Member of Congress