

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1013

February 5, 2026

The Honorable Kristi Noem
Secretary
Department of Homeland Security
Washington, D.C. 20528

Mr. Todd M. Lyons
Acting Director
U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement
Washington, D.C. 20024

Dear Secretary Noem and Acting Director Lyons:

I write to respectfully request that the Department of Homeland Security give prompt and fair consideration to exercising your lawful discretion to ensure that Godfrey Oliver Wade (Alien Number A034-154-344), a United States Army veteran and longtime lawful permanent resident, is afforded the opportunity to have his immigration case heard in court before removal occurs.

Mr. Wade served honorably on active duty in the U.S. Army from 1983 to 1987, assigned to the 1st Battalion, 7th Infantry Regiment. He entered the United States in 1975 with his mother and was a longtime lawful permanent resident. Mr. Wade has raised six U.S. citizen children, has grandchildren, and describes himself as a family man and person of faith. He is currently detained at the Richwood Correctional Center in Monroe, Louisiana, and faces removal.

Based on information provided to my office, I understand that Mr. Wade is subject to an in absentia removal order entered in 2014. That order arose from proceedings in which Mr. Wade did not appear. Critically, however, Mr. Wade's attorney attests that the government's own Record of Proceedings reflects repeated failures of notice, raising serious concerns that Mr. Wade never received actual notice of the hearings that led to his removal order.

I have been informed that Mr. Wade's case is currently pending before the Board of Immigration Appeals and that interim relief has been denied. I respectfully request that the Department give due and fair consideration to using its broad discretionary authority to ensure that Mr. Wade, who served this country honorably in uniform, is afforded a day in court, so that an Immigration Judge may evaluate his case based on a complete record before removal occurs.

Thank you for your attention and consideration of this important matter.

Sincerely,

