

JIM BANKS
THIRD DISTRICT, INDIANA



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1403

COMMITTEE ON
ARMED SERVICES
COMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION AND THE WORKFORCE
SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE
STRATEGIC COMPETITION
BETWEEN THE U.S. AND THE
CHINESE COMMUNIST PARTY

August 24, 2023

LTG Steven W. Gilland
Superintendent
United States Military Academy
West Point, NY 10996

Dear General Gilland,

Thank you for appearing before the House Armed Services Committee's (HASC) Subcommittee on Military Personnel on July 19, 2023. Your testimony was helpful for the committee's understanding of the issues facing West Point, particularly in the area of admissions.

As Chairmen of the Subcommittees on Military Personnel and on Readiness, respectively, we have determined that it is necessary to more carefully examine the admissions function at West Point. The U.S. Military Academy's (USMA) admissions process must only supply the best qualified candidates to be Army officers.

To accomplish that goal, Academy admissions must maximize the quality of all candidates admitted. Unfortunately, West Point has failed to be sufficiently transparent in its admissions process. The revelation at the July 19 hearing that West Point's Admissions Office has been classifying and setting goals for applicant categories in admissions on the basis of race for several years reinforces this concern. West Point has employed this concerning practice for years without notifying congressional oversight committees.

Given these concerns, we are commencing a review of USMA admissions policies and practices from the last several years. As a part of this review, please find attached our offices' initial request for information and documents. We seek USMA admissions data from 2017 to the present that is maintained by your Office of Institutional Research, as well as various other documents that may have been created during the admissions process.

We appreciate West Point's full cooperation with this review and expect the academy to provide us with the requested data and documents in a timely fashion. We ask that you provide these materials soon after they are identified and copied, or, in the case of data requests, that you provide this data soon after the spreadsheets are created.

The points of contact for this request to whom your staff can direct any questions or responses are Adam Lemon and Thomas Boodry, who can be reached at Adam.Lemon@mail.house.gov and Thomas.Boodry@mail.house.gov. We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Jim Banks
Member of Congress

Mike Waltz
Member of Congress

Field Code Changed