

August 26, 2022

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

The Honorable Cindy Long Administrator U.S. Department of Agriculture Food and Nutrition Service 1320 Braddock Place Alexandria, VA 22314

Dear Administrator Long:

I write regarding the safety and security of FNS employees, which I know is a matter of utmost importance to both FNS and NTEU. I am sure you are aware of the recent dangerous and false rhetoric by some politicians and others. NTEU is increasingly worried about the safety of FNS employees, and we ask that you immediately take steps to enhance security at FNS facilities and take measures to minimize placing employees in settings where they are at risk.

Too many times in the past, we have seen anti-government, anti-worker statements fuel violent attacks on innocent federal employees. I was sickened to read a report of one political candidate who condoned shooting federal employees "on sight." These public servants are doing the job that Congress asked of them, and they deserve to be protected.

I request that FNS undertake a comprehensive review of safety and security measures at all FNS facilities. The review should consider whether each facility has, among other things: sufficient entry control systems, including guards and magnetometers; sufficient perimeter security; exterior lighting; proper designation of restricted areas; and operable security equipment.

I appreciate your urgent attention to this matter. Thank you for your efforts on behalf of the dedicated employees of FNS.

Sincerely,

M. Bearlow

Anthony M. Reardon National President

cc: Michelle Sandoval, FNS Calvin Srock, FNS Ken Moffett, NTEU Frank Barczykowski, NTEU Michael Robinson, NTEU

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