RANDY WEBER
MEMBER OF CONGRESS
FOURTEENTH DISTRICT, TEXAS

May 2, 2022

The Honorable Michael Carvajal
Director
Federal Bureau of Prisons
320 First Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20534

Dear Director Carvajal:

I am extremely disheartened to learn of a second incident, in 2022 alone, at United States Penitentiary (USP) Beaumont that involved the killing of inmates. This May 1 incident, compounded with the January 31, 2022, killing of an inmate, only highlights deficiencies within the Bureau of Prisons (BOP).

These deadly altercations between inmates threaten everyone in the room—inmates and correctional officers (COs) alike—and heighten already dangerous working conditions. The staff at Federal Correctional Complex (FCC) Beaumont are overworked, underpaid, and the BOP is not providing the resources necessary to create a safe environment. I, along with my colleagues in the BOP Reform Caucus and others in Congress, have been working to understand and address many of the issues plaguing the BOP. Of special concern is the chronic understaffing at FCC Beaumont and throughout other facilities across the nation.

While I work to improve conditions across all BOP facilities, I am particularly dismayed that, time and time again, the especially dire situation at FCC Beaumont remains neglected by the BOP. While my legislation, the Pay Our Correctional Officers Fairly Act (H.R. 5761), would address the matter of locality pay for several BOP facilities, the BOP itself needs to address the specific problems that FCC Beaumont faces. I have been informed by COs at USP Beaumont that BOP has used the emergency recall system several times to fill vacant posts. Actions like this only serve as a band-aid to the underlying problems.

I urge you to work with me and my colleagues in Congress, to swiftly address these issues across the BOP. I want to be part of the solution, especially at FCC Beaumont, but first, these problems need to be acknowledged soberly by BOP leadership.

Sincerely,

RANDY K. WEBER
Member of Congress