



Written by [R. Cort Kirkwood](#) on January 8, 2026

## Walz Faces Legal Perils Over National Guard Comment, Somali Fraud Scandal

Minnesota's far-left Democratic Governor Tim Walz faces potential legal trouble on two counts.

He not only presided over the burgeoning Somali fraud scandal in Minneapolis, but also threatened to dispatch the state's National Guard to fight Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) after an agent's fatal shooting of a woman [who tried](#) to run over him during an enforcement operation.

Angry Republicans want Walz charged under the Insurrection Act, and Representative Anna Paulina Luna of Florida has referred him and far-left Democratic Attorney General Keith Ellison to the Justice Department for prosecution in connection with the fraud scandals.



AP Images  
Tim Walz

### Walz War Threat

As [The New American reported](#) earlier today, after the shooting, Walz twice claimed the state was at war with the federal government, and strongly suggested that Guardsmen will fight ICE agents.

"I don't think any governor in history has had to fight a war against the federal government," he said, apparently forgetting the War Between the States. "We've never been at war with our federal government."

And "rogue" ICE agents, he said, might face a fight with the Guard:

My primary responsibility as governor is the protection of the people of Minnesota, and you can be assured whether it's the State Patrol, or whether it's the National Guard, their deployment is there to protect Minnesotans from whatever it is — if it's an act of nature, if it's a global pandemic, or in this case, if it is a rogue federal agent.

Yesterday, Tim Walz declared Minnesota is at "war against the federal government."

Again today, he called it "war with our federal government."

This lunatic is SICK and DANGEROUS! [pic.twitter.com/1WRBs1pBxI](https://pic.twitter.com/1WRBs1pBxI)

— Rapid Response 47 (@RapidResponse47) [January 7, 2026](#)



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BREAKING: Tim Walz announces that he issued a warning order to prepare the Minnesota National Guard to "protect Minnesotans" from "rogue Ice Agents."

Wow. [pic.twitter.com/6L2EqIJxd1](https://pic.twitter.com/6L2EqIJxd1)

— Andrew Kolvet (@AndrewKolvet) [January 7, 2026](#)

## **GOP Responses**

The sound bites didn't go over well.

"A sitting governor threatening to deploy the National Guard against federal law enforcement is an open act of defiance," Representative Mary Miller of Illinois wrote over a screenshot of a Fox News story:

The Insurrection Act exists for moments exactly like this.

Arrest Tim Walz.

Yesterday, Miller urged President Trump to "invoke the Insurrection Act."

A sitting governor threatening to deploy the National Guard against federal law enforcement is an open act of defiance.

The Insurrection Act exists for moments exactly like this.

Arrest Tim Walz. [pic.twitter.com/lqz9zaVKtv](https://pic.twitter.com/lqz9zaVKtv)

— Rep. Mary Miller (@RepMaryMiller) [January 8, 2026](#)

Invoke the Insurrection Act.

Arrest Tim Walz. <https://t.co/r7i7MnlWrT>

— Rep. Mary Miller (@RepMaryMiller) [January 8, 2026](#)

Tim Walz is preparing to deploy the Minnesota National Guard against federal agents.

Someone remind him: Donald Trump is Commander in Chief. And federal authority supersedes state authority. That's not opinion, that's the Constitution.

What Walz is threatening has a name:...

— Rep. Nancy Mace (@RepNancyMace) [January 8, 2026](#)

Representative Nancy Mace of South Carolina agreed:

Tim Walz is preparing to deploy the Minnesota National Guard against federal agents.



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Someone remind him: Donald Trump is Commander in Chief. And federal authority supersedes state authority. That's not opinion, that's the Constitution.

What Walz is threatening has a name: insurrection.

Mr. President, the law is on your side. Use it.

[18 U.S. Code 2383 is clear](#): Those who incite insurrection against the federal government face 10 years in prison:

Whoever incites, sets on foot, assists, or engages in any rebellion or insurrection against the authority of the United States or the laws thereof, or gives aid or comfort thereto, shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than ten years, or both; and shall be incapable of holding any office under the United States.

[10 U.S. Code 253 says](#) the president "shall take such measures as he considers necessary to suppress, in a State, any insurrection, domestic violence, unlawful combination, or conspiracy, if it ... opposes or obstructs the execution of the laws of the United States."

[The law also permits](#) the president to federalize the Guard.

## Fraud Referral

Luna's referral of Walz and Ellison to DOJ for prosecution followed [hearings of the House Oversight Committee](#) about the [myriad Somali fraud scandals](#) in Minnesota. Elected officials testified that Walz and Ellison knew about the fraud and did nothing about it. [Ellison is](#) on tape with convicted Somali fraudsters who sought his help, in exchange for campaign donations, to collect government handouts.

"I have enough evidence to believe both @GovTimWalz and @keithellison were knowingly complicit in a Somali fraud scheme in Minnesota," Luna wrote on X yesterday.

Based on testimony today, I have enough evidence to believe both [@GovTimWalz](#) and [@keithellison](#) were knowingly complicit in a Somali fraud scheme in Minnesota.

Therefore I have referred them BOTH to the DOJ for criminal charges. May justice be swift. The American people are tired... [pic.twitter.com/aEWM89vTj4](#)

— Rep. Anna Paulina Luna (@RepLuna) [January 7, 2026](#)

cc: [@GovTimWalz](#) [pic.twitter.com/kkyKy1GHgi](#)

— Rep. Anna Paulina Luna (@RepLuna) [January 8, 2026](#)

In a letter to U.S. Attorney General Pam Bondi, Luna accused Walz and Ellison of conspiracy to defraud the federal government.

Quoting Walz, [who said](#) the fraud occurred "on my watch" and "I'm accountable for this," Luna alleged that "state agencies or affiliated actors may have engaged in coordinated conduct that impaired federal oversight and allowed misuse of federal resources to persist."



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As well, Luna continued, “there are indications that senior leadership within the state government was aware of these issues and nevertheless permitted the conduct to continue without meaningful intervention.”

If those allegations are true, the actions would “constitute an agreement to obstruct or defeat lawful federal functions, as well as knowing facilitation or willful disregard of federal offenses committed by subordinates,” she continued:

Where a chief executive knowingly enables, directs, or permits conduct that interferes with federal oversight or deliberately ignores clear warning signs of misconduct involving federal funds criminal liability may attach under federal law.

Luna’s letter appears below. In it, she cited two federal laws, [18 U.S. Code 371](#), which criminalizes conspiracy against the United States, and [18 U.S. Code 2](#), which criminalizes aiding and abetting.

## Out of the Race

Whatever the outcome of Luna’s referral, and however “accountable” [Walz claims](#) to be, he won’t be the “one that will fix it.”

The fraud scandal [forced Walz](#) to drop out of the 2026 race for governor. The top contender is far-left Democratic Senator Amy Klobuchar, who, if victorious, might appoint Walz to her vacant senate seat.

Though Walz admitted that an “organized gang of criminals” committed the fraud right under his nose, he still blamed bad Republicans who are “playing politics with the future of our state.”

Minnesota has to come first – always.

Today, I’m proud of the work we’ve done to make Minnesota the best place to live and raise kids.

I’ve decided to step out of the race and let others worry about the election while I focus on the work. [pic.twitter.com/AYbvcOzyPI](https://pic.twitter.com/AYbvcOzyPI)

— Governor Tim Walz (@GovTimWalz) [January 5, 2026](#)



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ANNA PAULINA LUNA  
13TH DISTRICT, FLORIDA

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND  
GOVERNMENT REFORM  
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS

226 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-0913  
(202) 225-5961

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
Washington, DC 20515-0913

January 7, 2026

The Honorable Pam Bondi  
Attorney General of the United States  
U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20530

Attorney General Bondi:

Pursuant to my constitutional oversight responsibilities I am writing to formally refer Minnesota Governor Tim Walz to the Department of Justice for criminal investigation and prosecution for violations of **18 U.S.C. § 371** and **18 U.S.C. § 2**, which govern conspiracy to defraud the United States and aiding and abetting federal offenses.

Information brought to congressional attention raises serious concerns regarding the administration of federally funded programs under Governor Walz's authority and whether actions taken by state officials obstructed lawful federal functions, including federal oversight, auditing, and enforcement mechanisms tied to the use of federal funds.

As Governor of Minnesota, Walz serves as the State's chief executive and bears ultimate responsibility for the conduct of executive agencies operating under his administration. In public remarks addressing misconduct occurring within his government, Governor Walz stated, *"This is on my watch, I am accountable for this..."* This acknowledgment of executive responsibility is significant where federal programs and taxpayer funds are implicated.

Available information suggests that state agencies or affiliated actors may have engaged in coordinated conduct that impaired federal oversight and allowed misuse of federal resources to persist. Further, there are indications that senior leadership within the state government was aware of these issues and nevertheless permitted the conduct to continue without meaningful intervention. If substantiated, such actions could constitute an agreement to obstruct or defeat lawful federal functions, as well as knowing facilitation or willful disregard of federal offenses committed by subordinates.

Where a chief executive knowingly enables, directs, or permits conduct that interferes with federal oversight—or deliberately ignores clear warning signs of misconduct involving federal funds—criminal liability may attach under federal law.



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Specifically:

- **18 U.S.C. § 371** criminalizes conspiracies to defraud the United States or to impair, obstruct, or defeat lawful federal functions through deceitful or dishonest means, provided that an overt act is taken in furtherance of the conspiracy.
- **18 U.S.C. § 2** establishes liability for individuals who knowingly aid, abet, counsel, command, induce, or procure the commission of a federal offense, including through willful blindness or deliberate inaction where a duty to act exists.

The seriousness of these concerns warrants careful and impartial review. Federal funds must be protected, federal oversight must not be obstructed, and no public official is exempt from accountability under the law.

I respectfully request that the Department of Justice review this matter. Please confirm receipt of this referral and advise whether your office intends to take further action consistent with Department policy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Anna Paulina Luna".

Anna Paulina Luna  
Member of Congress



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