



Rep. Tom Emmer on Just The News – January 13, 2026

Just the News

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JOHN SOLOMON:

Majority whip in the United States House of Representatives, one of the most cogent voices in Congress, and also a guy that's always trying to fix things. He not only highlights what's wrong, he's got solutions in place to stop it. And right now, his own home state of Minnesota, dealing with what may be one of the largest federal fraud cases we've ever seen in history. Joining me right now from the great state of Minnesota, a great hockey fan, an important voice in Congress, Tom Emmer. Sir, good to have you on the show.

REP. TOM EMMER:

Great to be with you, John. We should have done this long before now, but I'm glad to be here today.

JOHN SOLOMON:

I am greatly honored to have you on and I've been watching all the great work you're doing to make sure that now that we have the bullseye, we know what this fraud has been, who's been behind it, that we get it fixed. Give us your top line. What have you learned in the last couple weeks about how systemic this fraud is and how culpable the Democratic leaders of Minnesota may have been in it?

REP. TOM EMMER:

Well, I think you can start with last week. My friend Jamie Comer on the House Oversight Committee had a hearing where he brought in three of the legislators. And look, you can identify so many Minnesota legislators. I was one of them before I came to Congress who have been on this for years. So these three that came in are the latest over the last several years to really dig into this. And all of them, John, said that Tim Walz knew about the fraud as it was occurring and he chose to do nothing to stop it. Now, there are whistleblowers out there. Expect one or more of them to start going under oath or offering signed affidavits under oath that they not only told Tim Walz about the fraud while it was happening but that Tim Walz ignored them and in many cases retaliated against them and that retaliation was described by Marian Raric, a Minnesota legislator, as threatening to blackball you from any future employment, threatening to take away your health benefits, threatening to take away your retirement benefits, and the list goes on. These are real threats, and frankly, if those people are real, and I believe they are, and if they can document what they are claiming, I think Tim Walz and it starts with him, but it's going to be Tim Walz. It may be Keith Ellison. It should be our attorney general and many others. Look, our US attorney has estimated that the fraud could go as high as \$9 billion. John, you already have the largest pandemic fraud case in the country, \$250 million. By the way, they want to call us racist for calling out the Somali community for being involved in all this fraud. It just so happens that of the people who have been charged with the \$250 million fraud and over half of them have now been convicted, 90% of them, John, come from the Somali community. It's not racist to call out crime. And so it's \$250 million there. It's \$160 plus million in the housing stabilization program that they shut down last October. Very interesting. By the way, just before they shut it down, or when they were shutting it down, the person responsible for that program was scheduled to testify. And guess what? Tim Walz fired her before she could



testify. So, it's the only person, by the way, who has been held accountable or fired for anything with all this fraud. You got Medicaid fraud out the ears. Just yesterday, I'll do the new one. The HUD Secretary, Scott Turner, announced he's uncovered up to \$84 million in ineligible assistance during Biden's final year, including almost a half a billion in improper assistance to 59 dead tenants. You got food, nutrition, housing, autism, Medicaid programs have all been defrauded under Tim Walz and Keith Ellison's seven years in office. So again, what I learned in the last two weeks, which I suspected, it was confirmed by these legislators, and I fully expect the whistleblowers to confirm it further, that Tim Walz knew about the fraud and not only did not do anything about it, he retaliated against anyone who reported it. That, my friend, should be enough for criminal charges, the man should be in cuffs.

JOHN SOLOMON:

Yeah, that's a big deal. So you expect sworn affidavits or statements that would have confirmed that people talked directly to the governor and his team that that'll be a major advancement in the evidence that we've had. Correct?

REP. TOM EMMER:

That is correct. I mean that's the next step. And the problem that you've had with whistleblowers and I've been told there's over a thousand of them already, John. I mean there was a website where they were identified. The issue really is the threats that are against them. You know Minnesota is an interesting place. It's a microcosm of the Biden administration that turned itself into a weapon against Donald J. Trump. That Minnesota thuggery from Tim Walz and Keith Ellison, these guys are crooks. They're corrupt and they turn everything. I give you an example. The Treasury Secretary was in Minnesota last week. He wanted to visit a daycare. We have a daycare, I won't say where because this person would probably be attacked for it. We have a daycare that was a big Trump supporter, more than willing to have the Treasury Secretary there, but the daycare owner said, "I can't. They will destroy my business." We had all kinds of cafes that obviously in my district and others that are big Trump supporters and they would love to entertain the Treasury Secretary for a roundtable. Guess what, John? They didn't want to do it because they knew that Tim Walz and Company will send the Department of Health into their establishment next week and they'll have all kinds of problems. That is what's going on in Minnesota. And right now, these crooks, these crooks are doing what they did during the summer of love. They're literally fomenting violence in the Twin Cities. They'd rather have a fight with Donald Trump and take attention off their own fraud. But I got news for them. This isn't going away. And we're not going away.

JOHN SOLOMON:

No, there's a determination. I haven't seen in a long time to get to the bottom of this and to finally stop it. I want to ask you a little bit about one of the things that we see. Now, this is all Transportation Security Administration data. It comes originally, we learned about it from TSA whistleblowers, but the new TSA administrators acknowledge it's going on. They're on top of it. They're investigating \$700 million of money left in 24 and 25 from the Minneapolis airport in luggage, in suitcases headed overseas, predominately just a small number all Somali descendant cash couriers. Today the TSA is confirming to us that some of that money originated back in other Somali communities. So it comes in from Columbus where there's a large Somali community, Columbus, Ohio. It goes to Minnesota. It meets the new cash couriers in Minnesota and then it leaves out of the country. It seems as though there's a foreign ATM machine that this Somali community which had a significant amount of fraud going on in it is now moving the money out of the country. What do you think could be done to one investigate it and two to make sure that those transactions are lawful when they leave the country?

REP. TOM EMMER:



Well, first what I would like to emphasize is we keep talking about the Somali community. What we're really talking about is al-Shabaab, a known terrorist group, and literally they are in the Twin Cities and they've been there for a long time. A lot of this money that you're talking about can be traced. All of it can be traced, right? We've known for years that suitcases of cash were going through the Minneapolis-St. Paul airport. Why that was never investigated? Well, I suppose you got to ask Keith Ellison why the attorney general's office never looked into it. I suppose you got to ask the Democrats that control our legislature why they were not interested in investigating or holding anyone accountable. You literally have let a terrorist organization grow its roots in the Twin Cities area in Minnesota and this is the largest population of Somali outside of Somalia. So you point out correctly there's another population in Columbus, Ohio in and around Columbus. You're going to find other populations in other parts of the country. But remember, they perfected their thieving and stealing and fraud defrauding in Minnesota. And all that is that's showing you that this is much bigger perhaps than the \$9 billion estimated by the US attorney's office in Minnesota. Because if you got \$700 million and it's accelerated since 2023, the end of the Biden administration and now the beginning of the Trump administration, probably because they hear Donald J. Trump's footsteps coming quick behind them. It's accelerated. So, they're trying to get as much money out of here as possible. And keep in mind the fact that it went, a large part of it goes to Dubai and then gets laundered to other places. I would argue we're going to find out that it got laundered in many cases at the end of the rope was al-Shabaab in Somalia. Some of it went directly to Somalia. At least I know of \$5 million that has gone directly to al-Shabaab in Somalia from Minnesota. So, this whole thing is a powder keg that has been allowed to exist for years by Democrats who benefit off of corruption. That's what this is.

JOHN SOLOMON:

They are. It's extraordinary. Today, the president did something pretty dramatic, ended the temporary protected status of Somali immigrants. A lot of people applauding that. Wanted to just get your reaction about the importance that sends to the community and into the environment that we're in right now trying to get to the bottom of what happened here.

REP. TOM EMMER:

Well, you'll have our gal Ilhan probably do one of her arrogant statements about, you know, that only applies to about 300 people and, you know, we're American citizens. Look, John, I think we got to go farther. I think that if you come to this country and you gain admission illegally, you should already be deported. And by the way, that includes if you aid and abet an illegal act, an immigration act like marrying a family member to help them get into the country illegally, you should automatically be deported. You should be sent back to wherever you came from. Also, if you come to this country and you take advantage of, I'm talking Minnesota, but this is all Americans. If you take advantage of Minnesotans' goodwill and generosity and defraud them, you should have any citizenship that you've obtained taken away. You should be denaturalized and shipped back to where you came from because clearly you do not respect this country and the people that live in it. You don't belong here.

JOHN SOLOMON:

That's a big moment and a penalty that may create a great deterrence which we haven't had for a long time. So I know you support it. There's some legislation that's been introduced now. Do you think that can get through to make sure that fraud is a deportable offense in the immigration act and that denaturalization if you've committed fraud after getting your naturalization is a potential penalty?

REP. TOM EMMER:



You're going to need seven Democrats in the Senate. So, you know, it's whether or not Democrats want to be like Keith Ellison and Tim Walz. They want to sue the Trump administration and protect like horrific actions of illegal aliens or do you want to protect the taxpaying law-abiding America-loving Minnesotans and other Americans? If they do I think it gets through. If they don't, I think it's a strong message to the voters in this country that in fact Democrats do not care about Americans. They frankly it's kind of like the Biden administration with the southern border. They did not give a damn. And it showed in what they were doing to our community. So look, you just got to remember that al-Shabaab, Somalia, in order to live, in order to survive in that country, you have to lie, cheat, and steal. But if you come to this country, you need to be held accountable because lying, cheating, and stealing ain't going to cut it. And you should be sent home if that's what you're doing here.

JOHN SOLOMON:

Yeah. Most Americans nodding their head in agreement with you right now. One last quick question before we go. The Clintons today refused to comply with a subpoena with Chairman Comer and the House Oversight Committee. You in favor of contempt?

REP. TOM EMMER:

Yeah. Well, they absolutely should. I mean, if there was a legal basis for it, and again, I'm doing this without having the benefit of seeing what the basis of the denial is, but I know that at least Bill Clinton's deposition was scheduled for today. He could have, if there was a legal basis to object to appearing, John, he should have given that earlier. He should have given that and said, "Look, his lawyer should say X, Y, and Z. This is why he's not going to be there." Instead, you wait right up until the moment that you're supposed to appear for it and you say, "I'm not coming." No, they should hold them in contempt.

JOHN SOLOMON:

Yeah, no doubt about it. Sir, what a great honor to have you on the show. I know you've got a lot of work ahead, but I can tell the determination in your voice. You're going to get this fixed and Minnesota is going to be a shining example of how you fix it. Great to have you on the show today. What a great honor to talk to you.

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For questions or corrections: mn06watch@gmail.com