



# Rep. Tom Emmer on HOT TALK WITH THE OX – JANUARY 16, 2026

**KNSI Local Radio**

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## **HOST (STEVE GOTWALD):**

We have sixth district congressman and house majority whip Tom Emmer joining us live on hot talk. Good morning, Congressman.

## **REP. TOM EMMER:**

Hey, good morning, Steve. Happy New Year to you and the great Gotwalt family.

## **HOST (STEVE GOTWALD):**

And to you and Jackie and your gang, too.

## **REP. TOM EMMER:**

We're trying to catch you, man. We got seven grandkids now. We're [laughter] trying to catch the Gotwalds.

## **HOST (STEVE GOTWALD):**

Well, it's good. Somebody's got to do it, right? I mean, on average in this country, we're having what, one to two kids. We got to start having more kids, I think. That is the definition of joy and happiness, my friend.

## **\*\*REP. TOM EMMER:**

\*\* Amen. Amen. My friend, so much going on in DC right now. Obviously, the issue of the moment is all the crap going on here in Minnesota and in Minneapolis and even here in St. Cloud and the potential that President Trump might use the insurrection act to bring federal troops to bear on all this. What's your take on that? Well, first off, we should talk about how we got here

## **\*\*HOST (STEVE GOTWALD):**

\*\* exactly.

## **\*\*REP. TOM EMMER:**

\*\* You've got federal law enforcement, Steve, as you know. Federal law enforcement is resided in all 50 states in the union, right?

## **\*\*HOST (STEVE GOTWALD):**

\*\* Yes.

## **\*\*REP. TOM EMMER:**



\*\* You've got immigration, customs enforcement officers in our communities. These are our neighbors. These are people we go to church with. Their kids play with ours. They're human beings, right? and they have a job to do. And their job is to enforce federal law. You've got a guy in the governor's office, Tim Walz, who just refuses to put down his hatred for Donald J. Trump for even one minute. And because of that, literally he sounds like Jefferson Davis. He's it's almost like he wants to secede from the union. He's calling for people to not only confront with federal law enforcement officers, but to fight them,

**HOST (STEVE GOTWALD):**

fight them. And

**REP. TOM EMMER:**

by the way, this tragic incident with the gal who tried to ram or did ram the law enforcement officer and ultimately

**HOST (STEVE GOTWALD):**

actually hurt.

**REP. TOM EMMER:**

Well, she did, but she is no longer with us. That didn't have to happen. Tim Walz is either ignorant or he's lying. I think it's probably the lying because that's been his history when he says there's no cooperation, nothing. Yes, there is. Local law enforcement are supposed to secure the perimeter while federal law enforcement does its job. And for people that are out there, I'm sure and you Steve are making it clear, they are taking out some of the worst of the worst, right? murderers, rapists, and a lot of these people when you look at the list have deportation orders that have been outstanding for years. Exactly. Murder

**HOST (STEVE GOTWALD):**

Exactly. These are violent criminals.

**\*\*REP. TOM EMMER:**

\*\* Well, there's one murderer that was picked up convicted and had a deportation order since 2002. Steve has been allowed to walk the streets of Minneapolis and St. Paul until now. And that person was picked up and is going to be gone. These are the people that they're pulling out and instead of cooperating, you know, instead of allowing the federal law enforcement, local law enforcement to execute lawful detainer orders, and what that means for your listeners is if you pick up one of these people, the worst of the worst, local law enforcement engages them all the time, you can hold them in your local jail until a federal law enforcement officer arrives and retrieves them. Because Tim Walz and Keith Goen have threatened to sue and have in fact sued local county sheriff's departments for executing lawful detainer orders. Guess what? They're not holding them. And so this is why they're out on the streets and it's when the president is understand his frustration. We've got a governor who literally is talking like he's the leader of the 21st century Confederacy. It's Tim Jefferson Davis Walz. And you know what? This would all settle down immediately, I believe, if Tim Walz would shelve his hatred for Donald Trump for just a bit, put Minnesota citizens first, allow local law enforcement to work cooperatively with federal law enforcement to actually identify and remove the worst of the worst, this whole thing will settle down. And I'll just finish it with this, Steve. Think about this. There are immigration and customs enforcement officers in every state in the union. And there's no surge of resources going to Virginia where this is happening. There's no surge of resources going to Florida or Texas or Utah. It's only Minnesota. And for motans who are saying



how, you know, the federal government's got to stop it. What are you talking about? How much of this illegal activity is okay? How many of these murderers should we allow to continue to walk through our streets? And the sex abusers I mean there are so many just disgusting convicted sex offenders amongst this group. Steve what is [clears throat] enough? I mean those of us and by the way I'll stop because the vast majority of people I'm hearing from they are happy that federal law enforcement is doing this job. It is a small group that are being amplified by and I think it includes professional agitators.

**\*\*HOST (STEVE GOTWALD):**

\*\* Absolutely. It does. Absolutely.

**\*\*REP. TOM EMMER:**

\*\* And others that it's a small group that's being amplified by the left-wing Marxist media in the Twin Cities. It's got to stop.

**\*\*HOST (STEVE GOTWALD):**

\*\* Well, and when did we suspend the notion of rule of law in this country? I thought we were a country where we respected the rule of law. Unless I missed something.

**\*\*REP. TOM EMMER:**

\*\* Not in Minnesota. I mean, Tim Walz and company, they apparently don't respect any of it. And you know, one of the reasons that he and Keith Ellison want to see this spin up so big is because he was circling the drain two weeks ago, the potentially \$9 billion of fraud that has occurred on his watch over the last seven years. You know, housing fraud, autism center fraud, child care center fraud. You saw Scott Turner from Housing and Urban Development identify almost 89 84 million in fraudulent payments to the state of Minnesota, including almost a half a million in rents that went to 509 dead people.

**HOST (STEVE GOTWALD):**

It's insane. It's absolutely insane. I just it every time I hear the numbers or see the list of the kind of crap we're putting up with here in Minnesota that is destroying our state and ripping us apart, my mind just my head just spins. It's crazy.

**REP. TOM EMMER:**

I'm with you, Stephen. And I mean, it's actually sad to me that this is why our great state is in the news. But the good news is I think the vast majority of Minnesota that is tired of this kind of thing. Not the paid agitators, not the young people that believe all this nonsense that they're being triggered with by Tim Walz and his TikTok nonsense, but common sense Minnesotans who are rational are looking at this saying, you know, we are so sick and tired of this stuff. It's time that people not only be held accountable. By the way, you saw a change in the US attorney's office the other day.

**HOST (STEVE GOTWALD):**

Yeah, I compliment Joe Thompson, but it was time for Joe to leave because the approach, even though he did a great job prosecuting, for instance, the Feeding Our Future scandal, right? What he indicted 86 people, 90% of which are from the Somali community, and they've convicted like 60 of them. That's great, but that is too slow and too cumbersome. We got a great US attorney, Dan Rosen, that Donald Trump has put in there. I understand Dan is going to be commencing a grand jury and doing this the right way. That's how you get to the



bottom of public corruption. And that's how you hold corrupt public officials accountable. You do it behind closed doors. You do it under oath and you get your case built and then you indict the snot out of all these corrupt politicians and you prosecute them. And that's the way it should have been done. But you know, Joe had a different approach and that's fine. It's just that if you've got up to \$9 billion in fraud, which Joe is the one who blew the whistle on and so far you've only outed about a billion of it, we're moving too slow. This process can go much faster. And it's the public officials that need to be held accountable. Steve, you got the fraudsters, the people who took the money have been held accountable, but you got to ask yourself, you know, who in the Walz government knew about it. I mean, the legislators, I hats off to Kristen Robbins, to Walter Hudson and Marion Rarick, the three legislators that testified before the House Oversight Committee a couple weeks ago. Each one of them said based on their intimate knowledge with the whistleblowers and the actual departments, they have no doubt that Tim Walz knew about the fraud when it was happening, that he chose not only to ignore them, but to retaliate against most of them. If that's true, this guy should not just resign, he should leave the office in handcuffs.

**\*\*HOST (STEVE GOTWALD):**

\*\* Exactly. An orange jumpsuit would be just right for our governor, Tim Walz. You ran for governor once, Tom, and I can't help but think things would be a whole lot different with a governor Emmer, but what is it going to take to turn this around? And can we win back the governor's office?

**\*\*REP. TOM EMMER:**

\*\* Oh, Republicans can certainly do that. But I would say this that God's got a plan. There's a reason why we all have to go through this because maybe we have to look ourselves in the mirror as Minnesotans and say, you know what, I agree in a limited government approach. I'm somewhere left of center, right of center. I believe in free markets. I believe in the opportunity of the human being to self-determine and achieve their greatest dreams. But I've been sitting on the sidelines because I've been letting someone else do this for me. I thought they were going to believe in the same things. And literally what you have is a far-left now that would side with Maduro in Venezuela. You've got a far left that is more Marxist than it is mainstream America. And that's because we have sat on the sidelines.

**\*\*HOST (STEVE GOTWALD):**

\*\* Republicans in my experience like to talk, but now it's time to walk the walk, Steve. We got to step up and everybody's got to get involved.

**\*\*REP. TOM EMMER:**

\*\* Absolutely is true. Congressman Tom Emmer, our sixth district congressman and the House majority whip joining us live on Hot Talk with the Ox. Congressman, thank you so much.

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