



Rep. Tom Emmer on America Reports – January 8, 2026

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SANDRA SMITH:

Spring House Majority Whit Tom Emory, a Minnesota Republican. Welcome to you, sir. Okay, so where does all of this go next?

REP. TOM EMMER:

Well, hopefully where it's been headed. Ever since President Trump Sandra did a Friday night truth posting about the fraud in Minnesota and the Somali theft. We've been trying to sound the alarm in this fraud for years. There was an oversight committee hearing yesterday where the witnesses confirmed that this has been out there for more than a decade. A lot of us have been sending letters and requests and trying to get the media to report on it. It wasn't until Donald Trump actually made it an issue that it started to move. And the assistant US attorney, the US attorney in Minnesota estimates the fraud under the Walz administration, Sandra, could top \$9 billion. I mean, there's daycare fraud, there's autism center fraud, there's housing stabilization fraud. There's the largest pandemic fraud case in the country, \$250 million. And by the way, of the 86 people charged, 90% of them come from the Somali community. So this is a huge problem in Minnesota. We do not believe that it's isolated in Minnesota, but very grateful for the administration making this a top priority because Minnesotans deserve better.

JOHN ROBERTS:

We were talking to the oversight committee chairman James CR just a short time ago. He thought that the \$9 billion that appears to have been identified thus far could just be the tip of the iceberg and that it could go a lot deeper than this. The vice president, you probably saw he had a briefing just a short time ago. He was asked about Governor Walz. Here's his characterization of the governor.

CLIP JD VANCE:

Look, Tim Walz is a joke. His entire administration has been a joke. The idea that he's some sort of freedom fighter, he's not. He's a guy who has enabled fraud and maybe in fact has participated in fraud, that's what this new assistant attorney general position is going to find out. I don't care what Tim Waltz says. I care about getting to the bottom of this fraud for the American people.

JOHN ROBERTS:

So, he thinks that, Governor Wall should resign and resign now, not wait until his time in office is up. What do you think?

REP. TOM EMMER:

Totally agree. I mean, this you could try to argue that this is just gross incompetence, John. But you're talking billions of dollars going out in the seven years you've been governor. And yesterday, by the way, the witnesses



in that oversight committee hearing all said that Tim Walz knew about the fraud while it was happening. Literally was told by whistleblowers about the fraud and he not only ignored them, John, he retaliated against them. So, I agree with the vice president completely. Tim Walz is a buffoon. He's got to accept responsibility. Stop being a coward. he should resign and he'll likely if he doesn't leave the office with cuffs on his hands on his wrists because there should be criminal charges based on what has happened.

SANDRA SMITH:

Got it. Okay, interesting. The White House meanwhile has created this new role to fight taxpayer fraud. Do you think it's going to help?

REP. TOM EMMER:

I do. I think this is a problem all across the country. Like we know Minnesota it happens to be a priority for a lot of reasons because it's just so rampant. But get ready. I mean once they see what's been happening in Minnesota, they're going to see the same pattern in other states. It's time that the American taxpayers be respected that people understand these dollars are intended for the children, for disabled, for single mothers. We can't let fraudsters, and in my state, Somali fraudsters come in and literally rip off the public and send the money back to terrorists like Al-Shabaab in Somalia, which by the way, Senator, that's why I'm going to be dropping legislation that provides that anyone who commits fraud, comes to this country and takes advantage of our generosity and refuses to assimilate, they can be denaturalized and returned to their country of origin. Any type of fraud, by the way, Sandra.

JOHN ROBERTS:

So, we're looking forward to another hearing of the oversight committee next month at which we will see, but it's expected that Tim Walz and Keith Ellison, the attorney general, may attend. Some fireworks yesterday during that hearing, most of them, it would seem between the chairman and Congresswoman Summer Lee of Pennsylvania. Listen to this exchange between the two here.

CLIP:

Miss Lee, the IG's are hired to identify fraud. They haven't identified fraud. The IG's have failed. But anyway, you all have failed. You all continue to fail. We've done nothing. You have the gavel, Mr. Comer. We barely do hearings on anything that actually affects. YOU HAVE POWER HERE AND YET YOU DON'T DO ANYTHING.

JOHN ROBERTS:

I mean, she was incensed over the firing of 17 inspectors general, which the chairman said hadn't been uncovering fraud, so why should they get to keep their jobs? But, I mean, it wasn't really so much an investigation on the Democratic side into the root of fraud in Minnesota. It was just yelling at the Republicans.

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For questions or corrections: mn06watch@gmail.com