

TO: Interested Parties
FROM: ACLU
DATE: April 14, 2026
RE: New polling finds broad, cross-ideological support for federal law enforcement accountability

TOPLINES

Voters across the ideological spectrum—including majorities from every party, ideology, and 2024 voting group—believe federal law enforcement must be subject to clear limits, see accountability as essential to public safety, and view unchecked government power as a threat to a free society.

- **93% of voters agree that no one should be above the law—including federal agents**—and that government officials who violate people’s rights must be held accountable. This message earned agreement from **87%** of Republicans, **98%** of Democrats, **90%** of independents, and **89%** of Trump voters.
- **90% of voters agree that no one should have to fear their own government** and that unchecked power is a threat to everyone’s freedom—including **82%** of Republicans, **97%** of Democrats, and **84%** of Trump voters.
- **91% of voters agree that we need to make sure everyone can live free from threats and violence**, whether from individuals, federal agents, or local law enforcement— including **86%** of Republicans, **98%** of Democrats, and **86%** of Trump voters.
- **85% of voters agree that a system with no checks on law enforcement can be turned against anyone**, and that real freedom depends on preventing government power from being used to silence, target, or intimidate people—including **78%** of Republicans, **75%** of independents, **93%** of Democrats, and **78%** of Trump voters.
- **79% of voters agree that no one should be singled out or treated differently because of who they are or what they look like**, and that federal agents targeting certain communities without accountability violates the basic promise of equal justice—including **62%** of Republicans, **82%** of independents, **96%** of Democrats, **93%** of Black voters, and **92%** of Hispanic voters.

KEY FINDINGS

By more than a 4:1 margin, Americans across party lines want police accountability.

The strongest-performing message in the battery— “In America, no one should be above the law—including federal agents. When government officials violate people’s rights, there must be a clear way to hold them accountable, just as any of us would be”—earned agreement from 93% of voters overall, with virtually no meaningful difference across party, ideology, income, gender, or education. **Republicans (87%), conservatives (87%), and Trump voters (89%) all agree with this message.**

Messages framing accountability in terms of unchecked power threatening “everyone’s freedom” performed similarly. The full message—“Americans should never have to fear their own government. When federal officials overstep the law, there must be a way to hold them accountable because unchecked power is a threat to everyone’s freedom” earned support from **82% of Republicans and conservatives, and 84% of Trump voters.**

Leaning into the value of safety earns wide agreement.

Framing accountability as an extension of a universal desire for safety generates exceptional agreement in a polarized time. The message that “Everyone wants to feel safe in their communities, and we need to make sure everyone can live free from threats and violence whether from individuals, federal agents, or local law enforcement,” **earned 91% overall agreement, including 86% of Republicans and 86% of Trump voters, only 11 points under Harris voter support. Strong agreement is also notable among voters 65 and older (69%) and Black voters (80%).**

Equal justice messaging is a majority position across the electorate—and resonates especially strongly with Black, Hispanic, and younger voters.

The message that “No one should be singled out or treated differently because of who they are or what they look like. When federal agents can target certain communities more than others without accountability, it violates the basic promise of equal justice and weakens trust in the system for everyone,” earned **79% overall agreement, including 93% among Black voters, 92% among Hispanic voters, and 93% among voters ages 18–29.** While this message shows more partisan variation (96% of Democrats vs. 62% of Republicans), it remains a majority position across every subgroup.

METHODOLOGY

On behalf of the ACLU, YouGov conducted an online survey of 1,001 registered voters from March 18–20, 2026. The margin of error is +/- 3.7 percentage points.