

Hi, Rob. After our conversation, I've been thinking a lot about Mike Drescher's nomination. Living here in Vermont, it is hard to appreciate the horror of what is going on in Minneapolis and in many other parts of the country. We are not heading for a fascist police state; we are in one. It is not an exaggeration by a deranged liberal, it is fact. It is past time for people to have the courage to stand up for the rule of law, for democracy and for Due Process. When you hear the Secretary of Homeland Security use a Nazi slogan and have it emblazoned on her podium (One of Ours, All of Yours) and the Department of Labor posts on its website the Nazi slogan, "One Homeland. One People. One Heritage", it is way past time to sound the alarm—fascism is here. Mike Drescher, someone whom I know and used to respect, decided to do the Trump administration's bidding, even though it was unconstitutional and fascistic. He did not have the courage or the character to refuse to carry out orders---illegal orders. And "I was just following orders" is not an excuse we permitted the Nazis during their war crimes trial. Someone who wants the highest judicial office in this state must show the courage and character to uphold the democratic principles and rule of law on which this country is founded. We need leaders in every branch of government to be willing to stand up for what is right, even if it means sacrifice or hardship. By his willingness to defend the illegal detention of the detainees, and not just that case but his prosecution of immigrants in general, Mike Drescher has demonstrated he is unfit for the highest judicial position in this state.