

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF RHODE ISLAND**

STATE OF ILLINOIS, *et al.*,  
*Plaintiffs,*

v.

KRISTI NOEM, in her official capacity as  
Secretary of the Department of Homeland  
Security, *et al.*,  
*Defendants.*

No. 1:25-cv-00495

**NOTICE OF APPEAL**

All Defendants in this action—Kristi Noem, in her official capacity as Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security; the U.S. Department of Homeland Security; Karen Evans,<sup>1</sup> in her official capacity as the Senior Official Performing the Duties of the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (“FEMA”); and the Federal Emergency Management Agency—respectfully provide notice that they hereby appeal to the United States Court of Appeals for the First Circuit the Court’s December 22, 2025 final judgment, ECF No. 54, and all prior orders and opinions merged into the final judgment, including but not limited to the December 22, 2025 memorandum and order, ECF No. 53, which granted Plaintiffs’ motion for summary judgment, ECF No. 39.

Dated: February 20, 2026

Respectfully submitted,

BRETT A. SHUMATE  
Assistant Attorney General

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<sup>1</sup> Pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 25(d), Karen Evans is substituted for David Richardson, as Ms. Evans became the Senior Official Performing the Duties of the Administrator of FEMA on December 1, 2026.

Civil Division

ERIC J. HAMILTON  
Deputy Assistant Attorney General  
Federal Programs Branch

Andrew Warden  
Assistant Branch Director  
Federal Programs Branch

/s/ Alexandra L. Yeatts  
ALEXANDRA YEATTS  
(CA Bar No. 358762)  
*Trial Attorney*  
U.S. Department of Justice,  
Civil Division, Federal Programs  
1100 L Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20005  
Tel: (202) 353-5677  
Email: alexandra.yeatts@usdoj.gov

*Attorneys for Defendants*