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United States Senate
COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
WASHINGTON, DC 20510–6200

April 21, 2026

The Honorable Robert F. Kennedy, Jr.
Secretary
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20201

Dear Secretary Kennedy:

Journalist Olivia Nuzzi recently made claims concerning your recreational use of certain drugs prohibited by federal law. Ms. Nuzzi alleged that you told her you were actively using psychedelics and had smoked dimethyltryptamine (DMT), a Schedule 1 drug prohibited by federal law and known to induce near-death experiences.[1] Additionally, Ms. Nuzzi's ex-fiancé, journalist Ryan Lizza, alleged that she told him that your aides believed you were using drugs, and that you told her you were using ketamine.[2]

The U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services is the nation's top public health official, responsible for establishing policies that secure the health and safety of millions of Americans. Someone in this position engaging in illegal drug use demonstrates a severe lack of sound judgment that must be considered by policymakers, and further, engaging in this behavior carries with it the possibility of blackmail. The need for transparency here is clear.

To assist in this matter and deliver the "radical transparency" you promised the American people, please provide answers to the following questions by May 5, 2026:

1. Have you used psychedelics generally or dimethyltryptamine (DMT) specifically, any time between April 19, 2023, and the present?

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[1] Nuzzi, Olivia. *American Canto*, Avid Reader Press/Simon & Schuster (2025) p. 149; Jacob Bernstein, *Olivia Nuzzi Did It All for Love*, New York Times (Nov. 14, 2025) https://www.nytimes.com/2025/11/14/style/olivia-nuzzi-rfk-book-american-canto.html.

[2] William Vaillancourt, *RFK Jr. Made Bombshell Drugs Confession to Lover*, *Ex Claims*, Daily Beast via Yahoo (Dec. 1, 2025) https://www.yahoo.com/entertainment/celebrity/articles/rfk-jr-made-bombshell-drugs-004026239.html.

a. Ms. Nuzzi also wrote about another unidentified drug; you allegedly used while campaigning. Writing, "there were rumors it sometimes interfered with his ability to perform the work of campaigning for office."[3]
    i. Did you use any drugs prohibited by federal law or misuse any controlled substance while you were running for president, and if so, what were they and are you currently using them?

2. Have you used ketamine, and if so, when was the last time you used it?

3. Have you used any recreational drugs prohibited by federal law or misused any controlled substance, including but not limited to psychedelics generally and dimethyltryptamine (DMT) specifically, ketamine, or other drugs, since being nominated as HHS Secretary?
    a. Are any staff at HHS, or in the administration broadly, aware of this use? Explain.
    b. Explain how and where you obtained the drugs.

4. Have you ever used recreational drugs prohibited by federal law or misused any controlled substance, including but not limited to psychedelics generally and dimethyltryptamine (DMT) specifically, ketamine, or other drugs, on government property or during the course of official business?

5. Have you ever been under the influence of recreational drugs prohibited by federal law or misused any controlled substance, including but not limited to psychedelics generally and dimethyltryptamine (DMT) specifically, ketamine, or other drugs, in the presence of any member of congress or any Executive Branch official up to and including the President and Vice President?

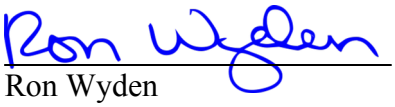
6. Are any current government employees, at HHS or otherwise, aware of your drug use? Explain.

7. Did you disclose any drug use as part of a background check in connection with your nomination or as part of the security clearance process?

8. Do you currently have, or did you ever have, a physician's prescription for any of the above referenced drugs?

Sincerely,

[3] Nuzzi, Olivia. *American Canto*, Avid Reader Press/Simon & Schuster (2025) p. 150; Sara Nathan, *Inside RFK Jr.'s needy love, drug use and cringe poetry, as Olivia Nuzzi book reveals how he hid bad behavior*, New York Post (Dec. 2, 2025) https://nypost.com/2025/12/02/us-news/olivia-nuzzi-book-reveals-how-rfk-jr-hid-bad-behavior/.



Ron Wyden
United States Senator
Ranking Member, Committee
on Finance