MATT GAETZ 1<sup>ST</sup> DISTRICT, FLORIDA

ARMED SERVICES

COMMITTEE ON THE

## Congress of the United States House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

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January 3, 2023

The Honorable J. Brett Blanton 12th Architect of the Capitol Architect of the Capitol U.S. Capitol Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Blanton,

I write to inform you that the Speaker of the House Office located in the U.S. Capitol Building is currently occupied by Rep. Kevin McCarthy. As of this morning, the 117th Congress adjourned sine die, and a Speaker from the 118th Congress has not been elected. After three undeciding votes, no member can lay claim to this office.

What is the basis in law, House rule, or precedent to allow someone who has placed second in three successive speaker elections to occupy the Speaker of the House Office? How long will be remain there before he is considered a squatter?

Please write back promptly as it seems Mr. McCarthy can no longer be considered Speaker-Designate following today's balloting.

Sincerely,

Matt Gaetz

Member of Congress