

November 29, 2019
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Dear Mr President:

I am concerned about building safety. Visiting Nepal after the 2015 earthquake which killed thousands and left many buildings damaged brought home the need for effective regulation. Unlike in Nepal running from a shaking building here is a mistake. Our system relies on good codes (which Nepal also has) a regulatory agency (OSHA) and workers able to safely report violations. Both statistics and some frightful anecdotes point to reduced enforcement and undermined reporting. OSHA staffing and inspections are down and your 2017 executive order for ICE to prioritize terrorizing immigrants over morality or public safety makes whistle-blowing dangerous for many in construction. Now we have a record number of workplace deaths and such events as several 2018 amputations at Peco Foods in Arkansas not even meriting an inspection and last months deadly collapse of the Hard Rock Hotel in New Orleans resulting in ICE retaliation against the whistle-blower.

Please assure me that you will protect immigrants from retaliatory deportation.

I am very proud to be a US resident and a large part of that derives from our effective government.

Sincerely,
Eric Babson