

January 31, 2018
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Dear Mr President:

I am concerned about the Guantnamo Bay military prison. The United States has one of the worlds finest legal systems. This is a result of many decades of improvement, governmental deference to the courts in legal matters, a strong right of habeas corpus, rational evidential rules, professional jurists and careful boundaries between state and federal systems and between trial and appeals courts. Accordingly escapes and bribery are rare, cases are heard promptly and faith in the system is strong. The Guantnamo prison fiasco has been an attempt to circumvent this system for purely political reasons. At this point the laws around it which restrict transfers, refer to war powers and mandate a nonexistent trial process make it very difficult to use for anything and certainly useless for justice. At the same time it serves as a symbol of the failure of our system and a potent recruitment tool for terrorists.

Please assure me that you will close Guantnamo.

I am very proud to be a US citizen and a large part of that derives from the rule of law.

Sincerely,
Eric Babson