August 1, 2018 Eric Babson babson@math.ucdavis.edu 1094 Cragmont Avenue Berkeley CA, 94708

Dear Senator Harris:

I am concerned about abusive detention. The rise of private prisons such as Core Civic and GEO was quickly found to be an unsatisfactory solution to our shocking incarceration rate, being motivated by profit and hence prone to minimal staffing and staff training along with abuses such as forced labor, extensive solitary confinement, poor food and little health care. General Sessions has ignored this and is rapidly expanding with little oversight and a broad mix of both administrative and criminal inmate populations. The situation with children at private facilities such as Cayuga Centers is similar, though the children are even more vulnerable. The obvious solution would clearly involve a dramatic reduction in sentencing, elimination of administrative detention (a truly repugnant euphemism) and keeping as many children as possible with families but as long as the government is holding people you must take responsibility for maintaining humane conditions.

Thank you for demanding an investigation of abuse in private prisons.

I am very proud to be a US resident and a large part of that derives from our respect for human rights.

Sincerely, Eric Babson