

October 8, 2018
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Dear Ms Lee:

I am concerned about tax evasion. The American dream is belied by the growing wealth gap which the current government appears bent on trying to increase both by enriching the rich and by impoverishing the poor. At the wealthy end there is the budget reconciliation bill which handed hundreds of billions of dollars annually to the wealthiest even when they pay their taxes in full. The President also proposed large cuts to the IRS so that failing to pay those taxes will be even less risky. A recent analysis by Zucman et. al. of the 2016 Panama papers release suggests that while middle income people tend to underpay taxes by about five percent, those worth over a hundred million pay on average only three quarters of what they owe at a cost to the government of a hundred billion dollars a year. This week the NYT released a story detailing that the President and his father didn't bother to pay even three quarters of what they owed. New York state claims to be pursuing this criminality but the federal government should be acting as well. Penalizing tax evasion at the top would begin to pay for the Republican tax boondoggle.

Please assure me that you will act to collect taxes from the wealthy.

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

Sincerely,
Eric Babson