

October 30, 2018
Eric Babson
babson@math.ucdavis.edu
1094 Cragmont Avenue
Berkeley CA, 94708

Dear Mr President:

I am concerned about militarized policing. Your fondness for military parades and domestic deployments is expensive, dangerous and damaging to both military morale and public trust. You have shown a misunderstanding of the politics of a show of force by canceling exercises with South Korea and the danger of using military units for crowd control by partying in Jerusalem while civilians were murdered at the Gaza border. Your order of 15,000 new ICE and Border agents last year resulted in dangerously weakening their vetting and training. Your order of national guard to help with border patrol resulted in many useless make-work assignments. Your latest move to shift military units to the border appears likely to again put people in positions for which they are not trained. If those positions are clearing out horse stalls this will only demoralize our military but if they involve using military hardware around civilians it will sacrifice public trust and may result in horrible violence.

Please assure me that you will use the military only for disasters and war.

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

Sincerely,
Eric Babson