

December 2, 2018
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Dear Mr President:

I am concerned about brutality by border patrol agents. CBP has grown rapidly and dealt with changing mandates in answering to political appointees with little court oversight. Recent incidents point to serious abuse problems. HRW has reported medical neglect at detention facilities for years making the rapid expansion in vulnerable child detainees alarming. Incidents such as ignoring a child's ruptured appendix and Mr Romero's death from meningitis both at the McAllen facility seem much too frequent. The culture of abuse is also documented in interviews with ex agents and such antics as firing tear gas at children without medical support and causing an accident with a spike strip which left three people dead and several more seriously injured. Taken together this suggests an agency using rules of engagement for minor incidents which are only appropriate for cases of imminent danger and bespeaks a dehumanization of immigrants. This leaves agents in danger of becoming sociopaths, immigrants in danger of horrific violence and society in danger of moral collapse.

Please assure me that you will stop CBP abuses.

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

Sincerely,
Eric Babson