

January 13, 2019
Eric Babson
babson@math.ucdavis.edu
1094 Cragmont Avenue
Berkeley CA, 94708

Dear Mr President:

I remain concerned about corruption. Corrupt officials are a common problem with fledgling and faltering governments but not one I ever expected to worry about here. Open corruption is a drag on the economy, warps policy decisions, encourages graft throughout society and erodes trust in the government. The appearance of corruption now starts at the top with a recent analysis revealing political committees spending at Mar-a-Lago every other day, Saudi Arabia spending lavishly at your NY hotel, T-mobile's bookings at your DC hotel and China granting suspiciously timed favors to your family members. Corruption extends to a pattern of hiring people with obvious conflicts of interest. Acting Secretary Bernhardt's recent action around delta smelt is the latest example but Director Wheeler, Acting Director Shanahan and Mr Wehrum are also obvious. The pattern makes one wonder whether whenever there are suspicious moves to help the few at the expense of many, such as Director Kraninger's recent gutting of pay day loan regulations if someone in your administration is getting kickbacks.

Please assure me that you will root out corruption.

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

Sincerely,
Eric Babson