April 25, 2019 Eric Babson babson@math.ucdavis.edu 1094 Cragmont Avenue Berkeley CA, 94708

Dear Mr President:

I am concerned about vigilantes. Hate groups in this country have waxed and waned over the years with decades of terror promulgated by the KKK and most recently an increase in militia movements. These have been tied to white nationalist groups which have been growing in number and violence. There is a video of a dangerous mass kidnapping by such a group last week which was particularly chilling in that US Border Patrol appeared to cooperate - arresting not the vigilantes but those they had kidnapped. Fortunately the FBI has since arrested the head of this group. Since militias are not answerable to anyone they are well suited to authoritarian ends with the Nazis' brown shirts, the mobs of the cultural revolution and the paramilitary groups enforcing South African apartheid coming quickly to mind.

Please assure me that you will end vigilante militias.

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

Sincerely, Eric Babson