November 1, 2019 Eric Babson babson@math.ucdavis.edu 1094 Cragmont Avenue Berkeley CA, 94708

Dear Mr President:

I am concerned about justice. Even in Homer's day when litigants might finance a trial there was stock put in experience and competence. Recently you have worked to fill not only the executive but the judiciary with incompetent political hacks and the Senate majority leader has essentially stopped legislating to help out. Lacking a police force the judiciary has long staked its effectiveness on an often deserved reputation for unbiased professionalism. Recently the norms of bipartisan confirmation through a filibuster process, of local support through a blue slip process and of basic competence through an ABA vetting process have all been cast aside. A violent rapist is now on the supreme court and Judges Grasz, Goodwin, Teeter, Kobes, and soon VanDyke will have begun their judicial careers with unqualified ratings and lifetime District Court appointments. Court reporters now indicate if you appointed a judge to help explain erratic political decisions.

Please assure me that you will nominate competent jurists.

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

Sincerely, Eric Babson