



U.S. Immigration  
and Customs  
Enforcement

DEC 04 2018

The Honorable Joaquin Castro  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Castro:

Thank you for your September 5, 2018 letter. Secretary Nielsen asked that I respond on her behalf.

The safety, rights, and health of detainees in U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement's (ICE) care are of paramount concern. All ICE detention facilities are subject to stringent, regular inspections.

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Office of the Inspector General (OIG) reviews all allegations of misconduct involving ICE employees and reserves the right to take the lead in investigations. DHS OIG is the lead investigative agency on this matter, and inquiries should be directed to the DHS OIG office for a direct response:

Office of Inspector General/MAIL STOP 0305  
Department of Homeland Security  
245 Murray Lane SW  
Washington, DC 20528-0305

The ICE Alternatives to Detention program (ATD) is effective in ensuring individuals and families attend court hearings and that they comply with release conditions; however, it is not an effective tool for removal nor is it an appropriate substitute for detention.

Thank you again for your interest in this important matter. The co-signers of your letter will receive separate, identical responses.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ronald D. Vitiello". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "R" and "V".

Ronald D. Vitiello  
Deputy Director and  
Senior Official Performing the Duties of the Director