Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

April 18, 2025

The Honorable Donald J. Trump President of the United States The White House 1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Trump:

We write to you with grave concern about Kilmar Abrego Garcia of Beltsville, Maryland, who was wrongfully detained and deported to El Salvador last month. We respectfully request an immediate update on his wellbeing and detailed plans on how all relevant executive agencies plan to ensure his safe return to the United States.

As you know, on March 12, 2025, Mr. Abrego Garcia was arrested by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) with his 5-year-old son in the backseat of his car.¹ Mr. Abrego Garcia was then deported, along with alleged Venezuelan and Salvadoran gang members, to El Salvador. It is our understanding that he is currently being held in the Terrorism Confinement Center in El Salvador.

While Mr. Abrego Garcia is a citizen of El Salvador, he had legally been granted withholding of removal in 2019 by a United States immigration court based on his fear of persecution by gangs in El Salvador. He has no criminal record and has been residing in Maryland with his U.S. citizen wife and family.

Your administration has admitted that Mr. Abrego Garcia's removal was an "administrative error." ² As such, the Supreme Court of the United States ordered, in a unanimous ruling, that your administration must "facilitate" Mr. Abrego Garcia's "release from custody in El Salvador and to ensure that his case is handled as it would have been had he not been improperly sent to El Salvador." ³ This would mean his return to the United States. Despite these clear instructions, the federal district court judge overseeing Mr. Abrego Garcia's case has indicated your administration has made no effort to comply with the Supreme Court's order.⁴

As President, you have the authority to get Mr. Abrego Garcia back to the U.S. from El Salvador despite your administration's insistence otherwise. If there is evidence of any wrongdoing by Mr. Abrego Garcia, he is entitled to a chance to contest such allegations. Mistakenly removing a U.S. resident that has protection from deportation legally granted to him by an immigration court and then making no effort to get him back not only places Mr. Abrego Garcia's life in danger, but also violates the basic principles of due process and the rule of law.

The U.S. government must comply with the Supreme Court's ruling and do everything in its power to get Mr. Abrego Garcia back to his family in the United States as quickly as possible. We appreciate your urgent attention to this matter and we look forward to receiving your response.

³ Noem v. Abrego Garcia, No. 24A949 (U.S. Supreme Court 2025).

¹ Complaint, Kilmar Armando Abrego Garcia et al v. Kristi Noem, Civil No.: 8:25-cv-00951-PX (March 24, 2025).

² Defendants' Memorandum of Law in Opposition to Plaintiffs' Emergency Motion For Temporary Restraining Order, *Kilmar Armando Abrego Garcia et al v. Kristi Noem*, Civil No.: 8:25-cv-00951-PX (March 31, 2025).

⁴ Devan Cole, *Judge in Abrego Garcia case says there's no evidence Trump administration is following her orders*, CNN (April 15, 2025), <u>https://www.cnn.com/2025/04/15/politics/abrego-garcia-case-hearing-xinis-discovery/index.html</u>.

Sincerely,

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