

Exhibit E

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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

July 15, 2019

The Honorable Kenneth Cuccinelli
Acting Director
United States Citizenship and Immigration Services
Washington, D.C. 20529

The Honorable Mark A. Morgan
Acting Director
U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement
Washington, DC 20536

Dear Acting Directors Cuccinelli and Morgan:

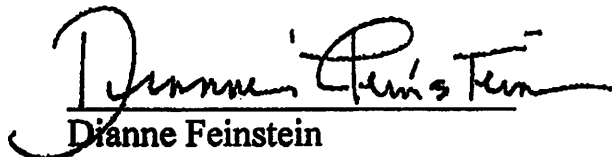
We write to express our concern regarding recent reports of increased denial rates for visas for victims of human trafficking. To help us understand the reason for these denials, we request that you provide additional information about DHS's adjudication of T visa applications.

In 2000, Congress passed the Trafficking Victims Protection Act, authored by Senator Feinstein. This bill created the "T visa" for victims of trafficking. In December 2016, only 19 percent of applications for T visas were denied. From January 2017 to March 2019, the T visa denial rate more than doubled, to 46 percent. The Trump administration has been particularly quick to deny T visas to applicants from Mexico and Central America. Denial rates for trafficking victims from these countries increased by 10 percent in a single year, from 2016 to 2017.

Given this rapid increase, please provide: (1) the total number of T visa applications and appeals that prompted a request for further evidence from 2015 through the present; and (2) the breakdown of T visa applications and denials by nationality, by quarter, from 2017 through the present. Additionally, please provide copies of all written ICE policies regarding smuggling and trafficking investigations, including policies on victims and family members. Please also provide a copy of any USCIS policy guidance regarding T visa cases involving smugglers, unaccompanied minors, and applicants from Central America.

We must ensure that families and children are afforded proper humanitarian protections under the law, including T visas. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,


Dianne Feinstein
United States Senator


Catherine Cortez Masto
United States Senator