TELL BIDEN TO FREE PEOPLE IN ICE DETENTION AND END RESTRICTIONS ON IMMIGRANTS AND ASYLUM-SEEKERS

Dear President Biden and Secretary Mayorkas:

I write with deep concern about policies endangering the safety and wellbeing of immigrants and people seeking protection in the United States. I urge you to deliver on your promise to build an immigration system based on humanity, compassion, fairness, and respect. Such systemic reform to respect human rights means explicitly addressing the racism underlying the current system.

As initial steps, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) should:

- End the use of arbitrary, mass detention. Incorporate a presumption of liberty in custody decisions, and allow asylum-seekers and immigrants to live in the community, supported by sponsors and community-based programs operated by non-profits to assist them in navigating the immigration process;
- Release people in immigration detention through an affirmative file review with a presumption of liberty
- Phase out Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) contracts with private prison companies and county jails;
- End family detention and close all three family detention centers;
- Immediately stop expelling individuals and families under Title 42; and
- Rescind the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) order and accompanying Health and Human Services final rule.

This administration has had ample time to end the cruel and unjust components of our current immigration system. You have the opportunity to turn away from harsh practices that criminalize asylum-seekers and immigrants and perpetuate the harms of systemic racism, and immediately begin to build a more just, compassionate, and humane immigration system. I urge you to act.

PRINT NAME:	SIGNATURE:	CITY, STATE	EMAIL*

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