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November 8, 2019

Ms. Mona Miyasato Chief Executive Officer Santa Barbara County 105 East Anapamu Street Santa Barbara 93101

Dear Ms. Miyasato:

On behalf of refugee resettlement agencies in the Los Angeles region, I write to you today about the future of refugee resettlement in Santa Barbara County and to seek your written consent to continue our partnership, as is now required under a new Executive Order (EO). On September 26, 2019, President Trump issued EO 13888,* which requires your formal consent for continued refugee resettlement in Santa Barbara County. Given the life-saving nature of this program, I ask that you provide written consent by December 20, 2019.

This year, President Trump has proposed setting refugee admissions at 18,000 refugees. As you know, the refugee resettlement program has a long history in Santa Barbara County thanks to widespread community support. Over the past 40 years, refugees have enriched our region economically and culturally and have brought substantial value through a public-private partnership. Nationally, as the Department of Health and Human Services recently noted, refugees contributed \$63 billion dollars in revenue over the past decade.

For your convenience, I have enclosed a template for consent that is consistent with the Department of State's requirements. I have also enclosed additional background information on refugee resettlement and the EO. I would be grateful if you would issue consent as soon as possible, so as not to leave people in harm's way or negatively affect existing services in our community. While the consent template is addressed to Secretary of State Pompeo, please return a copy to me in the enclosed self-addressed stamped envelope so that we may include your consent in our submissions to the State Department.

If you have any questions about this request, I would be happy to schedule a meeting to discuss

^{*}Although I am communicating with you about the implementation of the EO, communication about or participation in the implementation of Executive Order 13888 is not in any way an endorsement of the legality of the EO.

it further. If you have questions about the EO, I recommend you contact the Department of State. Thank you for your consideration and support.

Respectfully submitted,

Martin Zogg

Executive Director

The International Rescue Committee in Los Angeles

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On behalf of:

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cc: Lilian Alba Meghan Taylor