

United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510-1304

July 17, 2018

The Honorable Daniel R. Levinson  
Office of Inspector General  
Department of Health and Human Services  
330 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20201

Dear Inspector General Levinson:

On June 27, 2018, I co-led a letter—along with 40 other Democratic Senators—asking that the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) Office of Inspector General (OIG) open an investigation into HHS' implementation of President Trump's "zero tolerance" family separation policy. I am pleased that your office has announced it will conduct such an investigation.

As part of our original request, we specifically asked that the OIG investigation look into concerning allegations of abuse of children in HHS-contracted facilities. In light of recent articles in *The Washington Post* and *The New York Times* detailing such claims,<sup>1</sup> I request that the HHS OIG investigation look into allegations of abuse at Casa Guadalupe, a Chicago shelter run by the Heartland Alliance.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about this request.

Sincerely,

Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator

<sup>1</sup> Immigrant kids held in shelters: 'They told us to behave, or we'd be there forever', *The Washington Post*, July 15 2018, [https://www.washingtonpost.com/local/immigrant-children-held-in-shelters-they-told-us-to-behave-or-wed-be-here-forever/2018/07/14/635f4cee-86b4-11e8-8f6c-46cb43e3f306\\_story.html?utm\\_term=.151661044267](https://www.washingtonpost.com/local/immigrant-children-held-in-shelters-they-told-us-to-behave-or-wed-be-here-forever/2018/07/14/635f4cee-86b4-11e8-8f6c-46cb43e3f306_story.html?utm_term=.151661044267); Cleaning Toilets, Following Rules: A Migrant Child's Days in Detention, *The New York Times*, July 14, 2018, <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/07/14/us/migrant-children-shelters.html>.