



State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
Office of the General Treasurer
State House – Room 102
Providence, Rhode Island 02903

Seth Magaziner
General Treasurer

January 29, 2020

Martin Flanagan, CEO
Invesco Global Headquarters
1555 Peachtree St NE, Suite 1800
Atlanta, GA 30309

Mr. Flanagan,

I write to express my concern with the situation at the Donald D. Wyatt Detention Facility in the City of Central Falls, Rhode Island.

With 19,000 residents occupying just 1.3 square miles, Central Falls is the smallest and most densely populated city in Rhode Island. Despite its small size, Central Falls maintains a strong community and a rich culture that is diverse and inclusive.

In recent years, members of the Central Falls community, including Mayor James Diossa and the City Council, have expressed growing concerns with policies and practices at the Wyatt that are contrary to the values of their community.

Wyatt began housing detainees for U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) in 2005. Concerns over operating conditions in the prison emerged in 2008 when an ICE detainee died in custody. ICE withdrew its remaining detainees later that year and the chair of the board that oversees the prison was fired after saying: "I'm looking at it like I'm running a Motel 6...I don't care if it's Guantanamo Bay. We want to fill the beds."

In 2019, the Wyatt began housing ICE detainees once again. Members of the community, remembering lessons learned a decade prior, gathered to protest the decision. Their advocacy was met with violence when a veteran Wyatt guard drove his pickup truck into a crowd of protestors.

City leaders and community members have asked the leadership of the Wyatt to cease housing ICE detainees and to reform its practices, but have been told that the possibility for such reforms is limited by the Wyatt's obligation to bondholders.

As you and I discussed over the phone on January 12, 2020, Invesco became the majority bondholder for the Wyatt Detention Facility following your merger with Oppenheimer in 2019. As one of Rhode Island's business partners, you know the importance of maintaining positive relationships with the populations we jointly serve. I ask you work with relevant stakeholders to take any measures available to address the concerns of community members in the Wyatt dispute.

Sincerely,

Seth Magaziner