Good afternoon my name is Miriam [full name redacted]. A:[redacted]

May the peace of God be with you, The reason for my letter is the following:

I was separated from my son June 1st 2018. His name is Kennet [full name redacted], he is 10 years old, he was born [date redacted]. I come fleeing my country of El Salvador in fear of threats and sexual assault from the gangs. This group, Mara 18, found me at a dead end street and for fear of them I had to emigrate here to this country with the faith and hope that here I would find protection. And although we put ourselves at risk because it is a very dangerous road, thanks to God we arrived safely. My country does nothing to protect its people, and many people there die in gang violence. El Salvador is infested with these gangs like MS and 18. I'm a mother and father for my son and I couldn't find another way out, so I fled with my son to the US because in El Salvador they will look for you until they find you. I did not know about the new law that would separate children from their mothers and as a mother I can tell you this is the hardest and most cruel thing a mother can feel. On June 1st, 2018 they took him away and ever since then, as of today June 28th, I have not seen him again. After 14 days they let me talk to him. That day I talked to him he was sick with a fever and a sore throat and after that day, the 14th, it was until yesterday, June 27th, that they let me have another call with him. 14 days of anguish of knowing nothing about how my son was doing and yesterday the 27th when I talked to him from the beginning of the call to the end of the call he could not stop crying begging me to please get him out of that place and bring him to be with me because he was not feeling good and he did not want to stay there. It has been almost a month that I have not seen him. As a desperate mother with my heart in my hand, I ask you, I beg of you in the name of compassion that you help to return my son to me because it gives me great anguish, pain and desperation to not be able to see him and have him next to me. June 24th I had an interview and the 25th they gave me the answer, the answer was <u>negative</u> and I fear for my son's life and for mine if I return to El Salvador but if you send me back to my country, well what can I do, that is the will of God, but I ask you in the name of compassion, for the love of God, have mercy and return my son. He is my only child, a beautiful gift that God has given me. I beg of those that read my letter, if you have children, that you understand my pain and suffering, my son suffers where he is and he begs me to let him know when he will be returned to me and to get him out of that place and how can I console him if I am here locked up unable to do anything. It is a huge anguish to not be able to answer my son or bring him here and have him with me. I beg of you I plead that you help me to reunite with my son soon please. Now my anguish is bigger because yesterday the 27th of June my aunt who will receive me told me that the social worker that was working on my son's case will not continue with the case, that it was transferred to another person and I do not know who that is. I do not know why he left the case. The name of the person who had the case is Gerardo Tel:[redacted]. I do not know who is handling the case now. Please I ask for your help, thank you so much, may God bless you and may the peace of God be with you.