April 10, 2017

Richard W. Murphy
Acting U.S. Attorney for the State of Maine
United States Attorney’s Office
100 Middle Street, East Tower, 6th Floor
Portland, ME 04101

The Honorable John F. Kelly
Secretary of Homeland Security
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
3801 Nebraska Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20528

RE: Immigration and Customs Enforcement Arrests at Maine Courthouses

Dear Sirs:

I respectfully request that Immigration and Customs Enforcement Agents refrain from making arrests of individuals within or in close vicinity to State of Maine Courthouses. In investigating matters of human trafficking, domestic violence and the like, it is critical to us that all individuals have free and open access to Maine courts, regardless of their immigration status. The recent action of ICE Agents at the Cumberland County Courthouse will have an unnecessary chilling effect on our efforts to obtain the cooperation of victims and our successful prosecution of crimes.

I respectfully request that you include our State Courthouses on the Department of Homeland Security’s list of sensitive locations.

Thank you for your immediate attention to this matter.

Very truly yours,

Janet T. Mills
Attorney General

JTM/mao