CITY OF ATLANTA

SHIRLEY FRANKLIN
MAYOR

55 TRINITY AVENUE, S.W.
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30335-0300
TEL (404) 330-6100

April 18, 2006

Mr. John Mata
Field Office Director
Department of Homeland Security
U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement
77 Forsyth Street, SW
Atlanta, GA 30303

Re: Immigration and Customs Enforcement's Use of City Detention Center

Dear Director Mata:

Thank you for your recent meeting with Chief Tom Pocock, Linda DiSantis, and David Edwards to discuss the utilization of the City's Detention Facility by the Immigration and Customs Enforcement Service (ICE). I respect the relationship that the City of Atlanta has with ICE and greatly appreciate the cooperative efforts we undertake in addressing public safety in the City and the region. Our longstanding relationship and cooperative efforts are critical to reducing crime and enhancing the quality of life for our citizens.

We know from our meeting with you that ICE has a continuing need for beds in the City Detention Center and have confirmed that understanding in a recent letter to you. As you are aware, Fulton County is in need of additional beds and has requested that the City determine how much of its bed space we could provide to the County. The County has requested that we ask ICE to consider whether it has any alternatives to its use of our jail. After serious consideration of the County's request, I am writing to ask you to consider a review of ICE's needs and the possibility of finding alternate space for some or all its allocation within the City Detention Center. I would appreciate it if you would consider this request, and let me know if you have any flexibility.

I appreciate your willingness to consider such a review. I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours for Atlanta,

Shirley Franklin