



17 April 2012

Helaine G. Elderkin
Vice President and Senior Deputy General Counsel
Computer Sciences Corporation
3170, Fairview Park Drive
Falls Church
VA 22042
USA

By email to helderki@csc.com

Re: Zero Tolerance for Torture

Dear Ms Elderkin,

Many thanks for yesterday's response to my letter of 12 March 2012. I note your statement that CSC's Corporate Responsibility program serves to "foster CSC's growth by promoting and increasing the value of the company to our shareholders, clients, communities and employees."

Your commitment to your stakeholders is laudable and I'm sure you are aware that many of them take ethical considerations into account when evaluating their investments. I note below just a few of the statements made by some of CSC's prominent investors regarding the importance/value of ethics in their investments.

Guggenheim Partners have a reputation for "contributions to the advancement of humanity" and "believe corporate citizenship is our inherent responsibility".¹ The Bank of Ireland "recognise[s] the importance of wider social, ethical and environmental considerations and [...] factor[s] these into our business decisions."²

The Bank of New York Mellon Corporation "understand[s] our customers and shareholders expect the Company and its employees to conduct business activities not only in full compliance with all laws and regulations, but also in accordance with the highest possible standards of ethical conduct."³

The Norwegian Government are committed to "exclude companies from the investment universe of the Fund if there is an unacceptable risk that the company contributes to or is responsible for ... serious or systematic human rights violations, such as murder, torture, deprivation of liberty" or "other particularly serious violations of fundamental ethical norms."⁴

¹ <http://www.guggenheimpartners.com/citizenship>

² <http://www.bankofireland.com/about-boi-group/corporate-responsibility/>

³ <http://www.bnymellon.com/ethics/index.html>

⁴ http://www.regjeringen.no/en/sub/Styrer-rad-utvalg/ethics_council/Ethical-Guidelines.html?id=425277.

Reprieve, PO Box 52742
London UK, EC4P 4WS

T +44 (0)20 7353 4640
F +44 (0)20 7353 4641

info@reprieve.org.uk
www.reprieve.org.uk

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Richard Rogers, Ruth Rogers, Jon Snow, Marina Warner and Vivienne Westwood

For Prudential PLC, corporate responsibility “covers both the standards and attitudes that have been embedded in the way we conduct our business and customer relationships, and also the contribution we make to further the well-being of the communities in which we are present.”⁵

And, finally, one of Deutsche Bank’s stated priorities “is to earn money in a manner that is both socially and ecologically responsible.”⁶

Several other prominent investors in CSC have made similar statements. The implication of this is plain: profit derived from torture, secret detention and associated human rights abuses is of no conceivable benefit to your investors. In fact, it is directly opposed to the philosophies your investors espouse.

What is more, CSC has previously said “We recognise that being a decent, responsible business is critical to our success.”⁷ This is quite right, but the statement is difficult to square with contracting to fly prisoners around the world to be tortured.

The commitment we are seeking is minimal. No sensible investor would wish to be seen to condone the US’s torture programme. Signing our pledge never to be involved with torture again would not merely be an ethical move for CSC – it would be good business.

I understand that since June 2009 you have been developing a compliance and ethics programme.⁹ I would thus be grateful if you can outline what consideration CSC has given to the risk that its operations involve complicity in torture, secret detention and other serious human rights violations.

I would appreciate a reply within 14 days.

Very sincerely yours



Cori Crider
Legal Director
Repeive
cori@repeive.org.uk

Cc: cdepippo@csc.com

⁵ <http://www.prudential.co.uk/prudential-plc/cr/>

⁶ http://www.db.com/csr/en/about_csr.htm

⁷ <http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2011/dec/18/border-agency-deals-cia-rendition-firm>

⁹ http://media.complianceweek.com/documents/24/convergence_of_compliance_and_5797.pdf

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