

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

July 31, 2008

The Honorable George W. Bush  
President of the United States  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We write this letter asking for your personal intervention to use your exclusive authority given to you under Article II, Section 2 of the Constitution and commute the sentences of U.S. Border Patrol agents Jose Compean and Ignacio Ramos.


As you know, these two agents were prosecuted and convicted for shooting an illegal alien drug smuggler near the U.S. – Mexico border in Texas and were sentenced to over ten years in prison. They have been imprisoned now for almost two years.

Yesterday, the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit rendered its decision on the two agents' appeals and upheld the most serious yet the most unjustified charge; one that carries a mandatory 10 year minimum sentence for the use of a firearm. Clearly, we feel the law was misapplied and law enforcement officers who are on duty and during the pursuit or apprehension of an individual who they believed had committed a crime should be an exception. The severity of the charges and the harshness of the punishment is totally disproportionate to the violation in question.

Further, this decision and the national attention given this case has had a demoralizing effect on the men and women who defend America at our border while at the same time sends the right message to the criminals seeking to do our nation harm. Our border agents must not have hesitation before using their weapons in defense of our laws and borders from dangerous criminals. The results of this incident are unfortunate yet the unintended consequences stemming from it are far reaching and one that warrants your immediate intervention to restore safety and security at the border.

We therefore again and respectfully ask, especially as you near the end of your administration, to correct this injustice that has occurred during your presidency and commute the sentences of U.S. Border Patrol agents Jose Compean and Ignacio Ramos.

Sincerely,



Ted Poe  
Member of Congress



William Delahunt  
Member of Congress

Walter B. Jones

Walter Jones  
Member of Congress

Dana Rohrabacher

Dana Rohrabacher  
Member of Congress

Sam Johnson

Sam Johnson  
Member of Congress

Ed Royce

Ed Royce  
Member of Congress

Michael T. McCaul

Michael McCaul  
Member of Congress

Duncan Hunter

Duncan Hunter  
Member of Congress

Peter Roskam

Peter Roskam  
Member of Congress

Gene Green

Gene Green  
Member of Congress

Lincoln Davis

Lincoln Davis  
Member of Congress

Tom Cole

Tom Cole  
Member of Congress

Ginny Brown-Waite

Ginny Brown-Waite  
Member of Congress

Jeff Miller

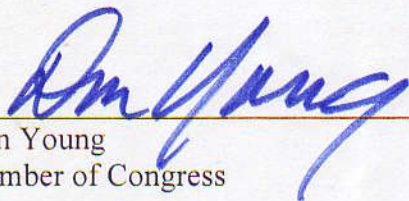
Jeff Miller  
Member of Congress

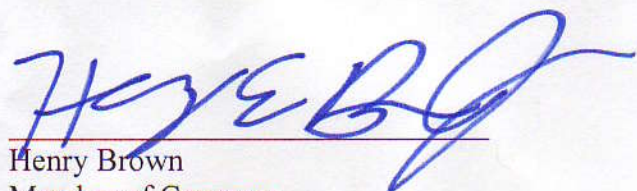
Brian P. Bilbray


Brian Bilbray  
Member of Congress

Sue Myrick

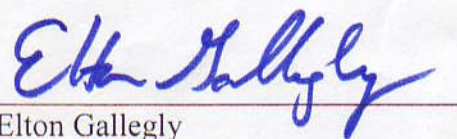
Sue Myrick  
Member of Congress

  
Don Young  
Member of Congress

  
Henry Brown  
Member of Congress

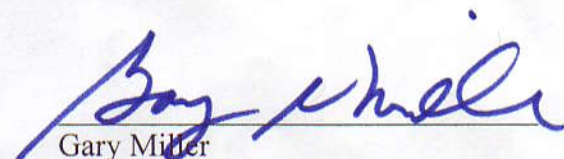
  
Frank Lucas  
Member of Congress

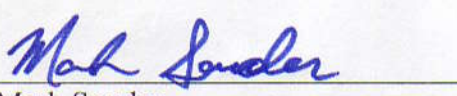
  
David Dreier  
Member of Congress

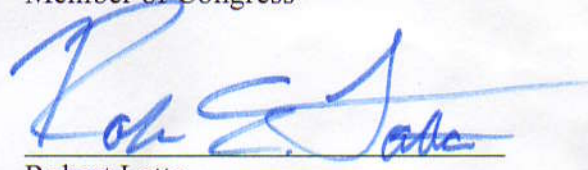
  
Elton Gallegly  
Member of Congress

  
Tim Walberg  
Member of Congress

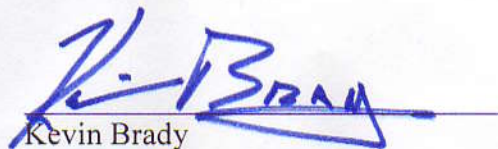
  
Darrell Issa  
Member of Congress

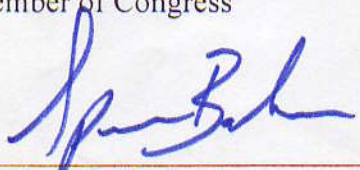
  
Gary Miller  
Member of Congress

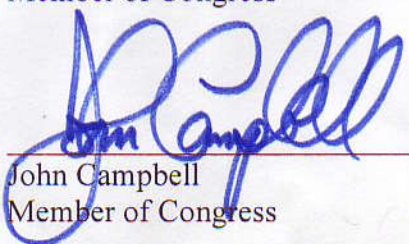
  
Mark Souder  
Member of Congress

  
Robert Latta  
Member of Congress

  
Kenny Marchant  
Member of Congress

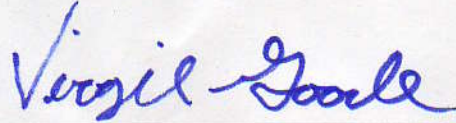
  
Kevin Brady  
Member of Congress

  
Spencer Bachus  
Member of Congress

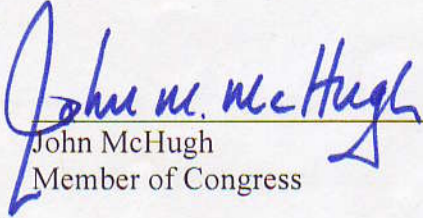
  
John Campbell  
Member of Congress



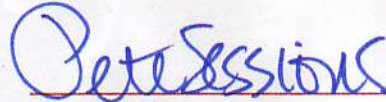
Geoff Davis  
Member of Congress



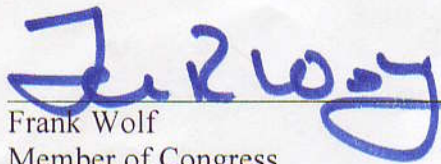
Virgil Goode  
Member of Congress



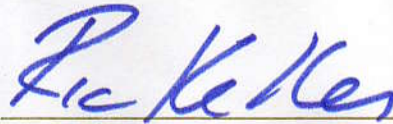
John McHugh  
Member of Congress



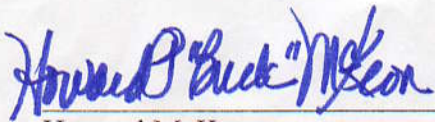
Pete Sessions  
Member of Congress



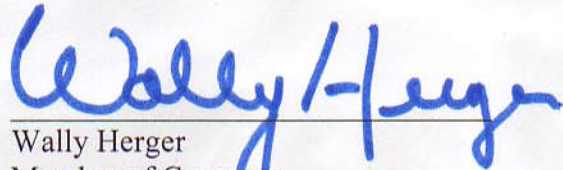
Frank Wolf  
Member of Congress



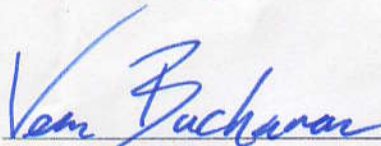
Ric Keller  
Member of Congress



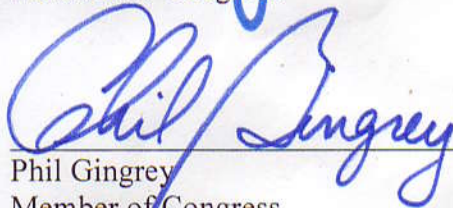
Howard McKeon  
Member of Congress



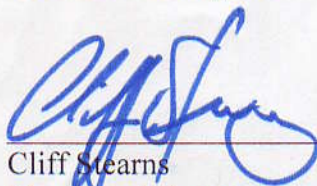
Wally Herger  
Member of Congress



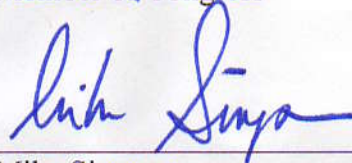
Vern Buchanan  
Member of Congress



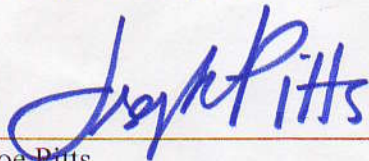
Phil Gingrey  
Member of Congress



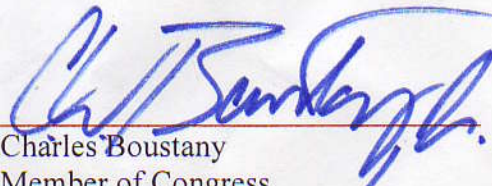
Cliff Stearns  
Member of Congress



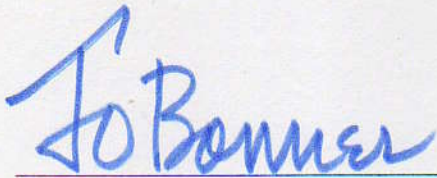
Mike Simpson  
Member of Congress



Joe Pitts  
Member of Congress



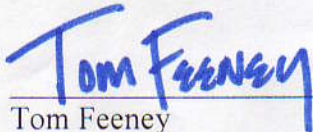
Charles Boustany  
Member of Congress



Jo Bonner  
Member of Congress



Gus Bilirakis  
Member of Congress



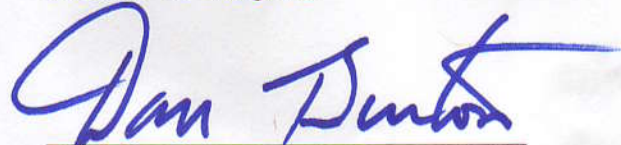
Tom Feeney  
Member of Congress



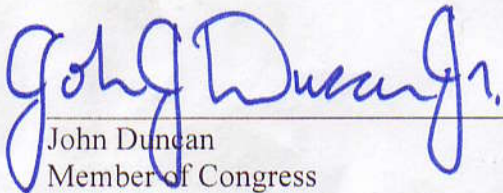
Jerry Moran  
Member of Congress



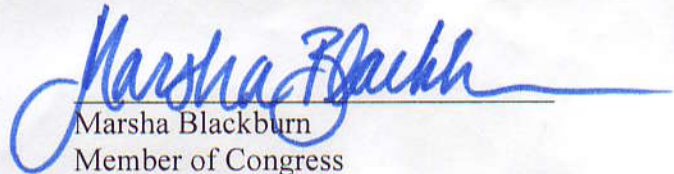
Howard Coble  
Member of Congress



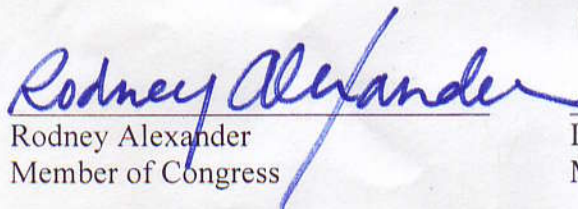
Dan Burton  
Member of Congress



John Duncan  
Member of Congress



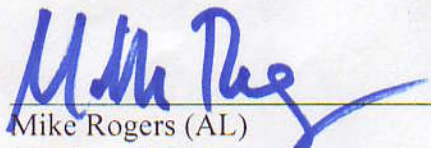
Marsha Blackburn  
Member of Congress



Rodney Alexander  
Member of Congress



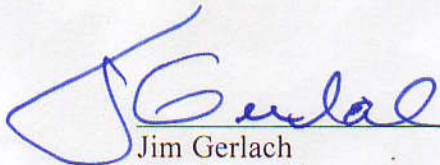
Louie Gohmert  
Member of Congress



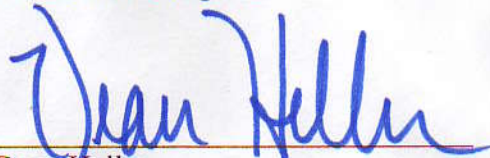
Mike Rogers (AL)  
Member of Congress



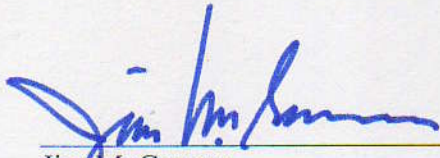
Mike Ross  
Member of Congress



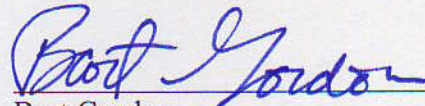
Jim Gerlach  
Member of Congress



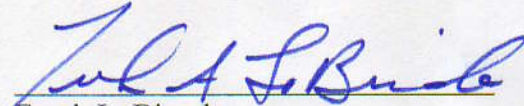
Dean Heller  
Member of Congress



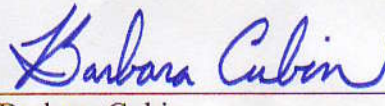
Jim McGovern  
Member of Congress



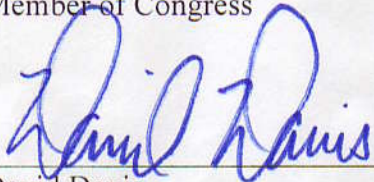
Bart Gordon  
Member of Congress



Frank LoBiondo  
Member of Congress



Barbara Cubin  
Member of Congress



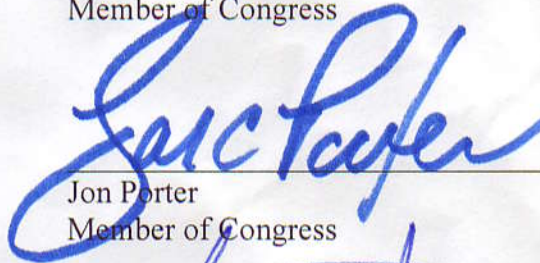
David Davis  
Member of Congress



Tom Tancredo  
Member of Congress



Thaddeus McCotter  
Member of Congress



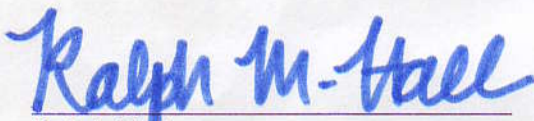
Jon Porter  
Member of Congress




Robert Aderholt  
Member of Congress



Sam Graves  
Member of Congress



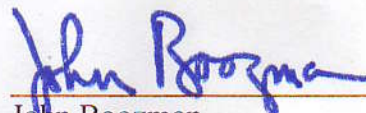
Ralph Hall  
Member of Congress



John Culberson  
Member of Congress



John Doolittle  
Member of Congress



John Boozman  
Member of Congress

*Shelley Moore Capito*

Shelley Moore Capito  
Member of Congress

*Peter King*

Peter King  
Member of Congress

*Ken Calvert*

Ken Calvert  
Member of Congress