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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

July 18, 2007

The Honorable George W. Bush  
President  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

I write today to urge you to commute the sentences of former United States Border Patrol agents Ignacio Ramos and Jose Alonso Compean. In October 2006, Mr. Ramos and Mr. Compean were sentenced to 11 and 12 years in federal prison, respectively, stemming from a February 2005 shooting incident in Fabens, Texas. The sentences were administered in response to the jury convictions given to the agents on charges of assault with serious bodily injury, assault with a deadly weapon, discharge of a firearm in relation to a crime of violence, violation of civil rights, and obstruction of justice.

With a career spanning 26 ½ years in the U.S. Border Patrol, I am the strongest advocate for the Border Patrol and its agents in Congress. I remain disheartened that the professionalism of an entire agency can be called into question by this situation. The vast majority of the leadership and agents of the U.S. Border Patrol are outstanding law enforcement officers who should be recognized for the exceptional service that they provide to this nation.

While I do not condone the actions of Mr. Ramos and Mr. Compean, I do believe they received excessive sentences due to mandatory sentencing guidelines. I once again encourage you to consider commutation of their sentences.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Silvestre Reyes", written over a horizontal line.

Silvestre Reyes  
Member of Congress