

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

January 9, 2004

President George W. Bush
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Bush:

In June of 2002, thirty-seven Members of the California Congressional Delegation wrote to you expressing their concern about Mexico's refusal to unconditionally extradite Mexican nationals, who have committed murder, to the United States for prosecution. On the eve of your trip to Mexico to attend the Summit of the Americas, we write to urge you to bring this problem to the attention of Mexican President Vicente Fox.

Mexico's policy of non-extradition inhibits our ability to pursue justice. As you know, the Mexican government continues to refuse to extradite Mexican nationals who have committed crimes in the United States unless American prosecutors agree not to pursue the death penalty or a "life" sentence.

This refusal has led prosecutors either to seek lesser charges, to seek justice under Article IV prosecution – where there would be no guarantee of aggressive adjudication – or not seek extradition at all. We are sure you would agree that none of these options assures the safety of our communities or the most equitable application of justice.

We believe that state governments, in addition to the federal government, should have a sovereign right to prosecute and punish according to their respective laws. The current refusal by the Mexican government to extradite its nationals who have committed crimes against Americans takes away that right.

As you are aware, on April 29, 2002, a Los Angeles County Deputy Sheriff, David March, was murdered, execution-style, during a routine traffic stop. The suspect Armando Garcia, is now believed to be in Mexico. Because Garcia is a Mexican national, the Mexican government is likely to refuse extradition unless the prosecutors agree not to pursue the death penalty or even life in prison. Mr. President, the family of Deputy March and the people of the United States deserve justice in this case and many others like it. Mexico's extradition refusals have denied us all that justice.

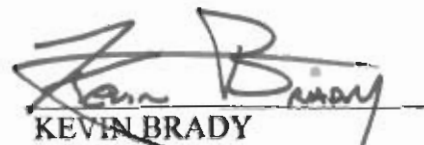
Therefore, we urge you to address this issue aggressively by seeking the cooperation of Mexican President Fox. Such action will ensure that our justice system is not relegated to the hands of a foreign nation and will assure the just administration of law.

Sincerely,

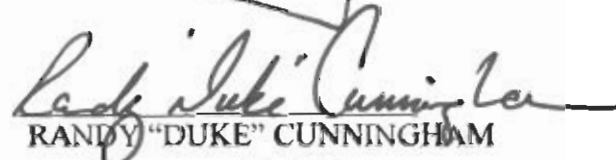

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HOWARD BERMAN


KEVIN BRADY


KEN CALVERT


RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM


NATHAN DEAL


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