

HARRY E. MITCHELL
5TH DISTRICT, ARIZONA

1410 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
PH: 202-225-2190

7201 EAST CAMELBACK ROAD, SUITE 335
SCOTTSDALE, AZ 85251
PH: 480-946-2411
FX: 480-946-2446

mitchell.house.gov



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

March 30, 2010

**COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION
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SUBCOMMITTEE ON
TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION

VIA FACSIMILE

The Honorable Barack Obama
President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

In the wake of yet another senseless tragedy along the Arizona-Mexico border, I once again urge you to deploy National Guard troops to the border.

As you know, Arizona rancher Robert Krentz was killed this week on his own ranch, allegedly by an illegal immigrant, who appears to have then fled back to Mexico. According to local sheriff's deputies, foot tracks were identified and followed 20 miles south to the Mexico border.

Krentz's family has ranched this land, located approximately 35 miles northeast of Douglas, Arizona, since 1907.

The violence along the border, and the security threat posed by smugglers is unacceptable, and the federal government has a responsibility to secure our border.

Operation Jump Start, which concluded its mission in 2008, proved remarkably effective. According to the U.S. Customs and Border Patrol, the Yuma Sector experienced a 68 percent decrease in apprehensions between October 1, 2006, and July 31, 2007, compared with the previous year. Border-wide, the National Guard helped seize more than 1080 vehicles used to transport drugs and/or illegal immigrants, more than 300,600 pounds of marijuana, and 5060 pounds of cocaine.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Harry E. Mitchell
Member of Congress