

TOM MARINO

10TH DISTRICT, PENNSYLVANIA

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY

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July 10, 2014

His Excellency Eduardo Medina Mora
Ambassador of Mexico to the United States of America
The Embassy of Mexico
1911 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20006

Dear Ambassador Medina Mora:

I am writing regarding the status of Andrew Tahmooressi, a U.S. Marine Corps veteran who was arrested in Mexico on March 31, 2014.

It is my understanding that yesterday, in his first court appearance after more than 100 days in detention, Mr. Tahmooressi was sent back to prison by a Mexican federal judge in a hearing closed to the public. According to news accounts, the next hearing in this case will not occur before August 4.

As a former United States Attorney, I believe in the rule of law. And as a member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, I have the utmost respect for the right of a sovereign state to enforce its laws. However, like many other Members of Congress, I have asked that the circumstances surrounding this case be taken into account and that Tahmooressi be allowed to return home to the United States. A fair and speedy resolution to this matter is critical to the future of U.S.-Mexico cooperation.

When I visited Mexico City recently with other members of the House Judiciary Committee, we met with many Mexican government officials who pledged to nurture a productive partnership, but actions speak louder than words and current actions are no indication of that promise. As we both know well, the United States and Mexico work together as neighbors to not only fight violent crime and drug trafficking, but also to strengthen Mexican democratic institutions, combat corruption, and improve justice systems and civil organizations. The questions raised by Mr. Tahmooressi's case forces us to seriously reconsider the relative success of these efforts and investments and question our nations' partnership.

I hope that you understand the seriousness of this case and troubling questions it raises. I will look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tom".

Tom Marino
Member of Congress