



**Via Electronic Mail**

October 24, 2017

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley  
Chairman  
Committee on the Judiciary  
United States Senate  
135 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington DC 20510

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein  
Ranking Member  
Committee on the Judiciary  
United States Senate  
331 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington DC 20510

Dear Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Feinstein:

I am writing to request that the Senate Judiciary Committee investigate the issue of how the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) prosecutes cases involving allegations of corruption of high-level elected officials from Mexico. Several governors of Mexican states are the subject of investigation and prosecution in both Mexico and the United States for bribery, money laundering, and other crimes.

It is clear that, historically, corrupt Mexican officials have parked some portion of their ill-gotten riches in the United States, a country they perceive to be a safe haven. The “investments” amount to tens of millions of dollars.

My staff has been researching a number of these cases, and we believe that there is a public policy issue that has been neglected by the Department of Justice.

The issue involves, in our view, the failure to fully prosecute the so-called “prestanombre” networks that corrupt Mexican politicians use to launder and invest their corrupt assets in the U.S. These are networks of people trusted by the corrupt officials, who then establish companies in the U.S. and launder the officials’ corrupt assets.

While it is true that some U.S. Attorney’s Offices have seized assets and obtained guilty pleas from some people in the networks in return for testimony against corrupt officials, we believe that a review of these cases will reveal that the legal risks to the “prestanombre” networks are not significant enough to deter others from committing crimes in the future.

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley  
and The Honorable Dianne Feinstein

October 24, 2017

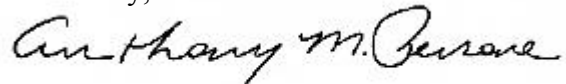
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We support the prosecution of high-profile corrupt politicians. However, it is also in both our and Mexico's public interest for members of the politicians' money laundering networks to be heavily sanctioned for their illegal activity. At this juncture, it does not appear that either the corrupt politicians or their networks view the United States as too risky a place to park some portion of their assets. For example, we have discovered that the network allegedly involved with laundering monies obtained by Javier Duarte, the former Governor of Veracruz recently extradited from Guatemala to Mexico, is still selling assets in Florida that are the subject of investigation in Mexico. Either our cooperation agreements with Mexico are ineffective or our laws are insufficient to prevent this. In either case we believe this a worthy subject of investigation by the Committee to determine if there is a legislative solution to this problem.

It has not escaped our attention that the political dynamics in Mexico hinder full cooperation between Mexico and the United States. The PRI currently controls the federal machinery of prosecution against corrupt state officials, yet all the governors currently under prosecution were elected as members of the PRI. Such potential conflicts of interest in Mexico adversely affect the ability of DOJ officials to fully pursue all prosecutorial avenues available to them when examining the "prestanoombre" networks. The biggest concern we have is whether Mexican authorities are fully sharing evidence with their counterparts in the United States.

Thanking you in advance for your attention to these matters.

Sincerely,



International President