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United States Senate

CHARLES E. GRASSLEY

PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1501

REPLY TO:

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July 18, 2019

The Honorable Kevin McAleenan
Acting Secretary
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Washington, DC 20528

Dear Acting Secretary McAleenan:

I write to you today regarding the tragic murder of Des Moines, Iowa resident Rossibeth Flores Rodriguez and her two children by Marvin Oswaldo Esquivel Lopez, an illegal alien who had twice been removed from the United States. According to reports, Esquivel Lopez deliberately shot Ms. Rodriguez, her 11-year-old daughter, and her 5-year-old son after entering their home on the evening of July 16th.¹

Since then, Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) has confirmed that Esquivel Lopez was previously deported from the United States in 2010 and 2011 and has a prior federal conviction for illegally reentering the United States.² Esquivel Lopez is currently being held in the Polk County Jail on a \$3 million bond and ICE has filed an immigration detainer and administrative arrest warrant with the Polk County Jail.³

It is crucial we understand how someone who had been twice deported from this country was able to re-enter for at least a third time and commit such an act of senseless violence. This case demonstrates yet again the need for Congress to take action to more effectively secure our border and keep dangerous criminals from so easily entering the United States. Therefore, please provide any information on the suspect, including an Executive Summary from ICE on Esquivel Lopez, to my staff as soon as possible but no later than July 22, 2019.

¹ Sarah Beckman, *Court records: Man "deliberately" shot and killed Des Moines mother and children*, Local 5 – WeAreIowa.com (July 18, 2019), available at <https://www.weareiowa.com/news/local-news/court-records-man-deliberately-shot-and-killed-des-moines-mother-and-children/>

² Tyler J. Davis, *Man accused in Des Moines triple homicide returned to US twice after deportation, ICE says*, USA Today (July 18, 2019), available at <https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2019/07/18/des-moines-crime-iowa-triple-shooting-ice-deportation-homicide-murder-polk-county-crime/1766480001/>

³ Sarah Beckman, *ICE: Man arrested in Des Moines killings was deported twice from the U.S.*, Local 5 – WeAreIowa.com (July 18, 2019), available at <https://www.weareiowa.com/news/local-news/ice-man-arrested-in-des-moines-killings-was-deported-twice-from-the-u-s/>

Committee Assignments:

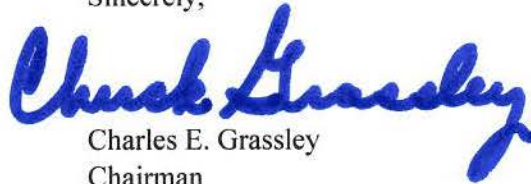
AGRICULTURE
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INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS
CONTROL CAUCUS

CHAIRMAN,
FINANCE

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Please contact Drew Robinson or DeLisa Ragsdale of my staff at (202) 224-4515 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Chuck Grassley". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style. The first name "Chuck" is written in a slightly larger, bolder script than the last name "Grassley". The signature is positioned above the printed name and title.

Charles E. Grassley

Chairman

U.S. Senate Committee on Finance