

October 19, 2006

Via Facsimile and U.S. Mail

The Honorable Alberto Gonzales
Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Attorney General Gonzales:

We write to join our fellow members of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights in expressing deep concern over allegations of voter intimidation of Hispanic-surnamed individuals in Orange County, California. We likewise request that the Department of Justice undertake a full and vigorous investigation of these allegations. In the meantime, the Department should address any misapprehensions of the electorate's right to vote free of discrimination and intimidation. Voters there and elsewhere must know of their lawful right to vote free of any coercion or intimidation to enable their full participation in the political process on November 7.

Very truly yours,

ABIGAIL N. THERNSTROM
Vice Chair

ARLAN D. MELENDEZ
Commissioner

Greetings Carolina Monroy,

You are being sent this letter because you were recently registered to vote. If you are a citizen of the United States, we ask that you participate in the democratic process of voting.

You are advised that if your residence in this country is illegal or you are an immigrant, voting in a federal election is a crime that could result in jail time, and you will be deported for voting without having a right to do so.

At the same time, you are advised that the government of the United States is installing a new computer system to verify the names of all new registered voters that vote in the October and November elections. Anti-immigration organizations can ask for information from this new computer system.

Unlike Mexico, here there is no incentive to vote. There is not a voter registration card in the United States. Therefore, it is useless and dangerous to vote in any election if you are not a citizen of the United States.

Do not listen to any politician that tells you the opposite. They are only looking out for their own interests. They only want to win elections without any regard to what happens to you.

Sincerely,

Sergio Ramirez



California Coalition for Immigration Reform

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ALLIANCE FOR BORDER ENFORCEMENT (Imperial Beach, CA)

AMERICAN CITIZENS TOGETHER (Alhambra, CA)

AMERICAN CIVIL RESPONSIBILITIES UNION (Anaheim, CA)

AMERICAN NATL. COUNCIL for IMMIGRATION REFORM (Washington, D.C.)

ANTI-CRIME TASK FORCE (Anaheim, CA)

ARIZONIANS for IMMIGRATION REFORM (Tucson, AZ)

ASIAN-AMERICANS for BORDER CONTROL (Daly City, CA)

BAY AREA COALITION for IMMIGRATION REFORM (San Francisco, CA)

BLACK AMERICANS for FAMILY VALUES (Huntington Beach, CA)

BORDERS (Austin, TX)

CALIFORNIANS for IMMIGRATION CONTROL (Anderson, CA)

CCIR I - VENTURA CO. (Thousand Oaks, CA)

CITIZENS for ACTION NOW (Orange County, CA)

FLA-187 COMMITTEE (Pompano Beach, FL)

FLORIDIANS for IMMIGRATION CONTROL (Daytona Beach, FL)

IMMIGRATION CONTROL ADVOCATES OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA (San Rafael, CA)

IMMIGRATION RFM NETWORK OF SILICON VALLEY (Los Gatos, CA)

LATINO-AMERICANS for IMMIGRATION CONTROL (Salinas, CA)

MID-CITIES IMMIGRATION REFORM ADVOCATES (Phoenix, AZ)

MONTEREY BAY ACTION COMMITTEE I (Belmont, CA)

MONTEREY BAY ACTION COMMITTEE II (Salinas, CA)

OHIO COALITION for IMMIGRATION REFORM (Columbus, OH)

PATRIOT CITIZENS (Warren, PA)

SAN DIEGO COUNTY TAXPAYERS (Alpine, CA)

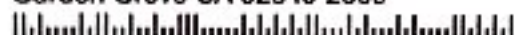
TAXPAYER ACTION NETWORK (Fountain Valley, CA)

TEXANS for FAIR IMMIGRATION (Austin, TX)

TEXANS for IMMIGRATION REFORM (Houston, TX)

WE STAND READY (Huntington Beach, CA)

Nellie Diaz
11951 Candy Ln
Garden Grove CA 92840-2509



Saludos Nellie Diaz,

Se le envía esta carta debido a que recientemente ud. fue registrado para votar. Si ud. es ciudadano de los Estados Unidos, se le ruega a que participe en el proceso democrático de la votación.

Se le avisa que si su residencia en este país es ilegal o si es emigrado, votar en una elección federal es un delito que podrá resultar en encarcelamiento, y si será deportado por votar sin tener derecho a ello.

De la misma manera, se le avisa que el gobierno de los Estados Unidos está instalando un nuevo sistema computarizado para verificar los nombres de todos los nuevos registrados que voten en las elecciones de octubre y noviembre. Organizaciones en contra de la emigración podrán pedir información de este nuevo sistema computarizado.

No cómo en México, aquí no se aporta ningún incentivo para votar. En los Estados Unidos no hay tarjeta de registro para votar. Por lo tanto, es inútil y peligroso votar en cualquier elección si ud. No es ciudadano de los Estados Unidos.

No le haga caso a ningún político que le diga lo contrario. Éstos sólo velan por sus propios intereses. Sólo quieren ganar las elecciones, sin importarles en lo más mínimo qué le pase a ud.

Atte.

Sergio Ramirez