

EXHIBIT F

Jan Schakowsky
9th District
Illinois



Member of Congress
Washington, D.C.
202-225-2111

September 18, 2017

Mony Ruiz-Velasco, Esq., Executive Director
PASO
3415 W North Avenue, Suite D
Melrose Park, IL 60160

Dear Ms. Ruiz-Velasco:

On August 31, 2017, I accompanied your client, Genoveva Ramirez Laguna, to her check-in at the Immigration & Customs Enforcement (ICE) Office in Chicago. Ms. Ramirez was requesting that ICE reconsider the denial of her stay of removal given her extraordinary circumstances.

Ms. Ramirez is a 67-year-old grandmother who has lived in the United States for more than sixteen years. She has nine grandchildren, one great-grandchild, and four children. She is one of the primary caretakers of her grandson, Mariano. Ms. Ramirez has a U visa application that has been pending for nearly two years. Ms. Ramirez is also an activist who works to empower immigrants in the United States. She is strongly supported by community members, organizations, faith institutions, political leaders and her union, Service Employees International Union.

I was joined at Ms. Ramirez's check-in by several political officials including Illinois State Representatives Lisa Hernandez and Emanuel "Chris" Welch, Cook County Commissioner Jesus "Chuy" Garcia, Aldermen Carlos Ramirez Rosa and Rick Muñoz, and staff from the Office of Congressman Luis Gutiérrez and the Mexican Consulate. We were there to support Genoveva's request that ICE reconsider the denial of her stay of removal.

ICE personnel clearly did not appreciate our presence. They complained about crowding in the room space but did not respond to our suggestion that we could move to a conference room instead. During our wait, I also observed that ICE personnel failed to accommodate other individuals not with our group, including those who needed an interpreter.

After a period of waiting for a decision for Genoveva and a conversation with an ICE officer, I requested to speak to a supervisor. When my request was declined, I asked to speak to the Field Office Director. My request to speak to the Field Office Director was initially ignored and was only honored after my staff communicated directly with the ICE Office of Congressional Relations.

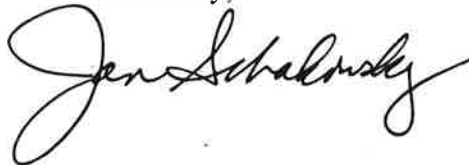
After two hours in the waiting room, ICE officers would not allow Genoveva's State Representative Lisa Hernandez to be present during Ms. Ramirez's interview – even though she provided a signed privacy release form indicating Ms. Ramirez's desire to have us present. At this point, The Field Office Director came out to talk to us. He made it clear that ICE guidance had changed with the new President and that everyone was a priority for removal. He also stated that, if he wanted to, he could detain Ms. Ramirez at that very moment.

Members of our community coming into the ICE office already feel nervous, intimidated, and afraid. Refusing to allow them to bring individuals to accompany them throughout the process and making threats of detention against them is inappropriate and cruel.

ICE officers and staff did not show courtesy toward Ms. Ramirez, those accompanying her, or others in the office. And unfortunately, they refused to exercise favorable discretion towards Ms. Ramirez, who has lived in the U.S. for sixteen years, has strong ties to our community, and has an outpouring of support.

As I said to the media afterward, the United States and the City of Chicago are no better off if ICE separates Ms. Ramirez from her family.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Jan Schakowsky". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "J".

Jan Schakowsky
Member of Congress