

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 14, 2016

The Honorable Jeh Johnson
Secretary
Department of Homeland Security
Washington, DC 20528

Dear Secretary Johnson:

Pablo Antonio Serrano-Vitorino, an alien illegally present in the United States, allegedly murdered five people on or about March 8, 2016, in Kansas City, Kansas and Montgomery County, Missouri. According to information provided to our committees by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), Serrano-Vitorino entered the country illegally in 1993, committed a series of crimes, and was removed in April 2004. The same month he was removed, he illegally reentered, but was voluntarily returned by the Border Patrol. Serrano-Vitorino illegally reentered the United States again sometime before June 2007 and resumed his criminal activity.

According to ICE, Serrano-Vitorino has been arrested and charged with numerous crimes, including: communicating a threat with intent to terrorize; battery of a spouse; several driving without a license offenses; a subsequent a felony conviction for communicating a threat with intent to terrorize, reportedly based on his threat to kill his wife with a rifle, for which he was sentenced to incarceration for two years; two arrests for driving under the influence, which resulted in one conviction; and a conviction for domestic battery.

On at least two occasions, ICE was notified of Serrano-Vitorino's arrests, but for various reasons, did not take custody of him. It appears that there was a systemic failure to effectively communicate between ICE and local law enforcement entities, allowing Serrano-Vitorino to evade removal by taking advantage of at least one sanctuary jurisdiction and weak immigration enforcement policies. As a result, five people in Missouri and Kansas were murdered, allegedly by Serrano-Vitorino, an alien who had illegally entered the United States on multiple occasions and consistently demonstrated his utter disregard for our laws.

For a more thorough understanding of how this violent offender evaded immigration authorities and removal from the United States for many years and was allowed to allegedly murder five people in two states, please provide the following information not later than March 28, 2016:

1. The alien registration number for Serrano-Vitorino, his complete alien file (A-file), and all reports or notifications generated by DHS or in its possession about him, whether currently in written or electronic form, including, but not limited to, the Enforcement and Removal Operations (ERO) Executive Summary, criminal history, immigration history, immigration benefits applications, detainers or requests for notification, I-213(s), and Notice(s) to Appear or other charging documents created to seek his removal from the United States.
2. Please identify each and every date on which Serrano-Vitorino was encountered by a law enforcement agency in the United States, to include criminal and civil arrests, the nature of the charge, the jurisdiction where the arrest occurred, the disposition of that charge, the

date(s) on which he was released from the custody of that law enforcement agency, and the reason(s) for the release. Please provide the arrest and disposition documentation for each encounter.

3. How and when did Serrano-Vitorino enter the United States? Was he ever issued a Notice to Appear? Please explain.
4. Did Serrano-Vitorino ever apply for any immigration benefits, including deferred action? If so, was any application approved? Please provide copies of any applications that he may have submitted.
5. How many times has Serrano-Vitorino been removed previously? When?
6. When and to whom did ICE issue a detainer on Serrano-Vitorino, or request that it be notified of his release from custody? Please explain.
7. Was Serrano-Vitorino a member of, or associated with any criminal gang? Please explain.
8. If Serrano-Vitorino had been encountered by DHS enforcement officials prior to his arrest in connection with the murders on March 8, would he have met the requirements to be considered a priority for removal under the Administration's new Priority Enforcement Program? If so, please provide the exact reason for such consideration. If not, why not?

As you know, the Privacy Act authorizes disclosure of information to Committees of Congress. If you cannot fully respond to each and every request for documents or information set forth above, please identify the specific item requested to which you cannot fully respond and explain why you cannot respond.

Should you have any questions, please contact Tracy Short at (202) 225-3926 or Kathy Nuebel Kovarik at (202) 224-5225. Thank you for your cooperation.



Bob Goodlatte
Chairman
House Committee on the Judiciary



Charles E. Grassley
Chairman
Senate Committee on the Judiciary