

July , 2016

DHS/ICE/ERO/POCRU

MS-5204

ATTN: HUMANITARIAN PAROLE

500 12th St SW

Washington, DC 20536-5098

**Re: Humanitarian Parole Application of Jose Luis Alvarez-Sandoval,
A# 92 812 968**

To Whom It May Concern:

I write to support the humanitarian parole application of Mr. Jose Alvarez. Mr. Alvarez was deported to Mexico in February of this year, following a traffic stop by the Cal State Long Beach Police Department. His deportation has received widespread public attention, leading to calls for policy reforms at the local, state and national level. I believe Mr. Alvarez has an essential role to play in the policy debate sparked by his deportation. His personal participation in discussions that will be taking place over the next several months with the public and elected officials would provide a significant public benefit to the community.

At the local level, Mr. Alvarez's deportation has prompted a review of the Cal State Long Beach Police Department's policy regarding collaboration with immigration officials. At the state level, Mr. Alvarez's story has been influential in legislative proceedings to enact the TRUTH Act, a pending bill that would regulate collaboration between local law enforcement and immigration officials. And, at the national level, Mr. Alvarez's story has also opened up a discussion about the long-lasting consequences of the 1996 Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act, which rendered lawful permanent residents deportable for a wide range of crimes. Mr. Alvarez has a unique voice to contribute to all of these ongoing policy discussions; a grant of humanitarian parole, which would allow him to make that unique contribution, would provide a significant public benefit.

A grant of humanitarian parole for Mr. Alvarez would also serve urgent humanitarian concerns. Mr. Alvarez was deported as a result of a 21-year-old drug conviction and a 17-year-old prior removal order. Since that time, he has not been convicted of any offense. He is the father of six U.S. citizen children, including four who have graduated from or are currently attending college and one former United States Marine. While in the United States, he ran his own business, and was the primary economic provider for his family. They are now struggling to get by without him, and his 20-year-old son, a student at Long Beach City College, is facing the prospect of having to drop out of college to help provide for the family. Granting Mr. Alvarez's application would serve the humanitarian and public interest in reunifying this family, which was so abruptly torn apart this February.

Thank you for your attention to this letter and to Mr. Alvarez's application.

Sincerely,