



Law Enforcement Officers Advocates Council

A Nonprofit Law Enforcement Advocacy Corporation
Supporting Officers Defending America

NEWS RELEASE

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ICE Informant Released, LEOAC Calls for Investigation

Chino, CA—With the release late last week by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) of Guillermo “Lalo” Ramirez-Peyro, the Law Enforcement Officers Advocates Council (LEOAC) is calling for an investigation into the House of Death case, as well as why ICE unlawfully incarcerated “Lalo” for six years in solitary confinement.

Mr. Ramirez-Peyro, a former paid government informant, is a **material witness** in an alleged conspiracy involving numerous murders which occurred in Juarez, Mexico circa 2003-2004, and a subsequent U.S. government cover-up that took place with the alleged knowledge of top level officials within ICE, DOJ, DEA, and the Office of the U.S. Attorney for the Western District of Texas, led at the time by then U.S. Attorney Johnny Sutton.

Top Bush Administration officials had full knowledge as to what took place during this case, including former DHS Secretary Tom Ridge, former Undersecretary Asa Hutchinson, former ICE Assistant Secretary Michael J. Garcia and their counterparts at the Justice Department including former Attorney General John Ashcroft, former Deputy AG James Comey, former DEA Administrator Karen Tandy, and current Acting/Deputy Administrator Michele Leonhart, who was nominated by President Obama to be DEA Administrator earlier this year.

Official reporting to date indicates that the informant allegedly participated in, and facilitated numerous murders which took place with the alleged knowledge and acquiescence of U.S. officials. It must be noted that Ramirez-Peyro has claimed he risked his life in order to inform his U.S. ICE contacts about the impending murders prior to the murders, in expectation of an intervention by U.S. agents that never occurred. He also documented and reported back to ICE after each murder took place.

This sordid affair was exposed in January 2004 when a DEA agent and his family were nearly kidnapped in Juarez, Mexico by corrupt police officials. The principal violator, Heriberto Santillan-Tabares, was arrested in the United States and offered a plea deal by U.S. Attorney Sutton which kept the case out of the courtroom and the public eye. Shortly thereafter ICE placed its informant and key witness (Ramirez-Peyro), in custody and solitary confinement for six years while attempting unsuccessfully to deport him to Mexico knowing that if deported, he would be killed by his former associates.

As this case involves alleged governmental misconduct in two Executive Branch departments, we believe both an independent prosecutor and the U.S. Congress should formally interview the informant and other witnesses forthwith.

The Law Enforcement Officers Advocates Council is a non-profit organization dedicated to the support of law enforcement officers. LEOAC is comprised of civilian experts, retired senior managerial federal law enforcement officers, and defense counsels. Our highly experienced team advocates, educates, and investigates, and report our findings back to the American people.

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