

**DARRELL E. ISSA**  
49TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

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February 2, 2004

Ms. Carol C. Lam  
United States Attorney  
880 Front Street, Room 6293  
San Diego, California 92101

Dear Ms. Lam:

I write to request information concerning an incident that reportedly occurred on November 20, 2003. According to news reports, Antonio Amparo-Lopez was arrested on suspicion of alien smuggling and held at the Temecula, California, interior checkpoint while border patrol agents contacted your office for guidance.

According to recent reports, Mr. Amparo-Lopez (Alien #A76266395), a known alien smuggler with a long criminal record, was released after your office declined to prosecute.

I respectfully request that your office provide me with information about the facts surrounding the alleged incident of November 20, 2003, and, if applicable, the rationale behind any decision made by your office to decline or delay prosecution of Mr. Amparo-Lopez or any other action that may have contributed to his release.

I look forward to your response. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or my Legislative Assistant Josh Brown at (202)-225-3906. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Darrell Issa", written over a horizontal line.

Darrell Issa  
Member of Congress