



Friends Of The Border Patrol

A 501(c)(3) Nonprofit Law Enforcement Advocacy Corporation
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NEWS RELEASE

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Former Agents Released & Returning Home At Last

Chino, CA – Friends of the Border Patrol has learned that former Border Patrol Agents Ignacio Ramos, Jr., and Jose Alonso Compean were released from their respective Federal Correctional Institutions earlier this morning.

We, at Friends of the Border Patrol want to thank Congress and the American People for their support of the former agents. We wish both Nacho, Joe, and their families well, and hope they can use time they'd never have had otherwise had this case continued to be confined within El Paso to move on with their lives, turn the page, and leave this chapter behind.

As many will recall, this case and story was confined to El Paso and was hardly known elsewhere until FOBP was the first entity in the U.S. in March 2006 to begin independently investigating this "miscarriage of justice." Once their story was published outside El Paso in August 2006, the Inland Valley Daily Bulletin and then aired on CNN's Lou Dobbs, the story was finally able to reach the rest of America where it just didn't seem like justice had prevailed. In fact, it looked like something smelled very wrong, which it did. A prosecution is not supposed to raise questions, but this one and others did.

As a result, U.S. Attorney Johnny Sutton was forced to do the unprecedented, by releasing the trial transcripts, which further showed something indeed did stink. Many in the Congress were skeptical until reading the transcripts and soon jumped on board.

FOBP spearheaded the nationwide drive after having pledged and meeting the following goals on the case: new appellate counsels, financial relief, Congressional hearings, media coverage outside El Paso, and popular American support, all of which were met. Regarding donations, hundreds of thousands of dollars were received by the families through fundraising efforts on the part of many organizations and individuals. The National Border Patrol Counsel, and FOBP paid the fees for the appellate counsels. In fact, Andy Ramirez (FOBP chairman) utilized his appearances as an expert witness on border security before Congressional Committees to testify about Ramos and Compean's case.

However, with Ramos and Compean now being reunited with their families, our work continues. FOBP calls for Prince George's County Maryland K-9 Officer Stephanie Mohr, who was prosecuted and received 10 years in prison for a dog bite while doing her job, to have her sentence commuted by President Barack Obama. If Ramos and Compean were released from prison after two years though discharging firearms via commutation of sentence, than it is proper to release former Officer Mohr, too. In all honesty, 10 years for a dog bite is patently absurd. It's time for her to be released and be reunited with her son whom she has been separated from for over 5 years.

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End of Release

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