



January 26, 2018

To USCIS
5629 Hoover Boulevard
Tampa, FL 33634

RE: Letter in Support of Luis Blanco Reyes

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Council of American Islamic Relations of Florida (CAIR-Florida) strongly urges you to **reconsider the denial** of Mr. Blanco Reyes' most recent application to withhold deportation. As you know, Mr. Blanco Reyes, a citizen of Mexico and decades-long resident of Plant City, Florida, has been an exemplary member of the immigrant community. His case had previously received favorable determination, and he has complied with all your instructions. He continues to deserve the utmost in latitude of discretion on humanitarian grounds – particularly considering the **changed circumstances** in this case.

CAIR-Florida is the state's largest Muslim civil liberties and advocacy organization. Its mission is to enhance the understanding of Islam, encourage dialogue, protect civil liberties of all people, and build coalitions that promote justice and mutual understanding. As a civil rights organization, we stand with our immigrant brothers and sisters from different cultural and religious backgrounds, advocating for the fair and equitable application of the law and sensible and humane immigration policies for Mr. Reyes and others like him. We believe that the United States is a nation of immigrants and that families should not be torn apart. America will not be better and safer without people like Luis Blanco Reyes. He is part of our community. America will, however, be a hostile place for several American citizen children who will be losing their father – the family's sole source of income, paternal guidance, warmth, love and protection.

Nothing has changed since his previous approval to make these American children less in need of their father's presence. To the contrary, since Mr. Blanco Reyes' case had **previously received favorable determination**, the family is experiencing additional hardships.

If you do not find it in your hearts to review this case, these children, as well as his wife and new baby that the family is expecting later this year will be left to fend for themselves, likely leaving the oldest children with the option of dropping out of school early to help make ends meet at home or seeing their little siblings go without. This outcome is detrimental to the entire community – particularly to the US citizen children who are already displaying serious symptoms of the stress of living with the prospects of losing a loving father.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thania D. Clevenger".

Thania D. Clevenger, Esq.
Civil Rights Director

Tampa: 8076 N 56th St, Tampa, FL 33617; Ph 813.514.1414/Fax 954.272.0491

South Florida: 9000 NW 44th St, #200, Sunrise, FL 33351; Ph 954.272.0490/Fax 954.272.0491

Central Florida: 1507 S Hiawassee Rd, #212, Orlando, FL 32835; Ph 407.440.9252/Fax 954.272.0491

Northwest Florida: 8317 Front Beach Rd, #37B, Panama City Beach, FL 32407; Ph 850.851.0330/Fax 954.272.0491

www.cairflorida.org - info@cairflorida.org