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June 15, 2011

His Excellency Francisco Caamano Dominguez
Minister of Justice
Government of Spain
Calle San Bernardo 45
Madrid, Spain 28071

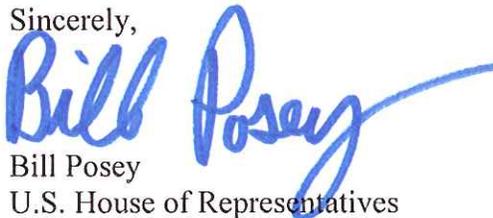
Dear Minister Caamano Dominguez:

As the Cerna family's Representative in Congress, I write with grave concern about the prosecution of the murder of Laura Cerna, an American citizen, on August 30, 2010, in Seville, Spain. As you are aware from my previous letter which was passed to you by the Spanish Ambassador, Ms. Cerna, who had lived in Seville teaching English to several students, was brutally murdered. After the murderer killed Ms. Cerna he mutilated her body and discarded it into the Guadalquivir River. The particularly vicious nature of this crime demands proper punishment within the bounds of Spanish law.

The defendant in this case was charged with Basic Homicide, which carries a maximum prison sentence of only 10 to 15 years. It has been reported that the suspect, Antonio Gordillo, has admitted to and even bragged about his crime. Surely such behavior should be condemned and severely penalized, not simply for the sake of justice, but to deter others from committing such horrific crimes.

Knowing of our two countries' mutual interest in keeping our citizens as safe as possible, we would hope that the Spanish authorities would press for the highest penalty under the law for the perpetrator of what is clearly a heinous crime.

Sincerely,


Bill Posey
U.S. House of Representatives