

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

May 15, 2014

Juan Manuel Santos
President of Colombia
Casa de Nariño
Bogotá, Colombia

Dear President Santos:

As members of the Congressional Monitoring Group (CMG) on Labor Rights committed to making sure that the United States and Colombia fully implement the promises made to Colombia's workers in the U.S.-Colombia Labor Action Plan, we write to ask that the Colombian government – especially the Attorney General's Office – launch an investigation into the bombing at the headquarters of the public sector union, Sintraemcali, in Cali, Colombia on April 16, 2014.

We recognize that steps have been taken to improve protection of union leaders and members, but ask that the Colombian government, through the National Protection Unit (UNP), significantly strengthen these protective measures.

We continue to be deeply concerned about the high levels of anti-union violence and labor rights violations in Colombia. The bombing occurred one week after the third anniversary of the U.S.-Colombia Labor Action Plan (LAP) and days after a major court decision regarding crimes committed against Sintraemcali, Sintrauniocol and Sintratelefonos under former President Alvaro Uribe Velez.

In August of 2013, CMG Members Miller and McGovern visited the city of Cali and met with the leadership of Sintraemcali who described how union members had been the repeated targets of paramilitary anti-labor violence, which included the forced exile of 15, murder of 8 and threats against more than 100 union members. As you know, in the past, this union was also the focus of "Operation Dragon" – an assassination plot involving former members of the armed forces against a long list of labor rights activists, including the former President of Sintraemcali and now Senator Alexander Lopez-Maya and prominent human rights defender Berenice Celeyta, the Robert F. Kennedy laureate for Colombia.

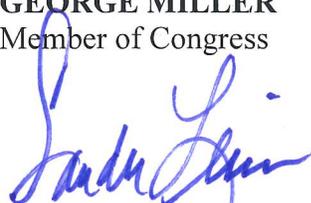
President Juan Manuel Santos
May 15, 2014
Page 2

We thank you in advance for your continuing attention to this matter and look forward to continuing our dialogue on advancing justice for union members throughout the country and the on-going implementation of the Labor Action Plan.

Sincerely,



GEORGE MILLER
Member of Congress



SANDER LEVIN
Member of Congress



HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON JR.
Member of Congress



KEITH ELLISON
Member of Congress



JAMES MCGOVERN
Member of Congress



ROSA L. DELAURO
Member of Congress



SAM FARR
Member of Congress