



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

JUL 16 2015

Dear Mr. McGovern:

Thank you for your June 30 letter regarding the human rights situation in Mexico. The promotion and defense of human rights is a fundamental element of the foreign policy of the United States and our bilateral relationship with Mexico.

Our 2014 annual human rights report for Mexico identifies major developments, challenges, and concerns, including the two cases you highlight: the June 2014 killings in Tlatlaya and the September 2014 forced disappearance of 43 students from Ayotzinapa. We actively encourage Mexican authorities to thoroughly investigate both cases and prosecute those responsible, consistent with the rule of law and Mexico's international legal obligations.

Regarding Ayotzinapa, we applaud the decision of the Mexican government to work collaboratively with the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and its independent experts group to review the ongoing investigation and provide assistance and constructive recommendations. The work of the experts group is extremely valuable. We urge the Government of Mexico to continue to cooperate fully with the experts as they carry out their mandate.

We hope this information is helpful. Please do not hesitate to contact us if we can be of further assistance on this or any other matter.

Sincerely,

Julia Frifield  
Assistant Secretary  
Legislative Affairs

The Honorable  
James P. McGovern,  
House of Representatives.