



LEROY D. BACA, SHERIFF

County of Los Angeles
Sheriff's Department Headquarters
4700 Ramona Boulevard
Monterey Park, California 91754-2169



May 27, 2005

The Honorable David Dreier
House of Representatives
233 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Dreier:

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES BILL 2363 - SUPPORT
AS INTRODUCED ON MAY 16, 2005
THE PEACE OFFICER JUSTICE ACT**

The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department is proud to support your House of Representatives Bill 2363 (HR 2363). This Bill would make it a federal crime to murder any peace officer engaged in, or on account of the performance of, his or her official duties, and flee to another state or foreign country to avoid prosecution.

Deputy David March, a seven-year veteran of this Department, was gunned down on April 29, 2002, while conducting a "routine" traffic stop on Armando Garcia in the City of Irwindale. After this deadly altercation, Mr. Garcia fled to Mexico to escape prosecution and refuses to return to the United States to face the charge of Murder on a Peace Officer. Like you, many local, state, and federal officials have met with the Mexican Government regarding this issue, however, Mr. Garcia remains a free man.

House of Representatives Bill 2363 provides prosecutors and law enforcement a powerful tool to apprehend violent criminals because they can use the federal government's power, resources, and leverage to seek justice for the victim's family and friends.

As Sheriff of Los Angeles County representing the 15,000 men and women of this Department, we appreciate your efforts regarding this issue and gladly support your House of Representatives Bill 2363.

A Tradition of Service

The Honorable David Dreier

-2-

May 27, 2005

If I can be of further assistance regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me directly at (323) 526-5000, or my Legislative Advocate, Sergeant Wayne Bilowit, at (323) 240-5696.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Leroy Baca". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "L".

LEROY D. BACA
SHERIFF