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Congress of the United States
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The Honorable Robert P. Storch
Inspector General of the U.S. Department of Defense
4800 Mark Center Drive
Alexandria, VA 22350

November 14, 2023

Dear Mr. Storch:

I write to congratulate you on your approaching one-year milestone as Inspector General of the Department of Defense. Your leadership and oversight of the Department are crucial to strengthening our national defense.

In addition, I enclose a letter I sent to your predecessor, the Acting Inspector General, two years ago regarding the case of my murdered constituent Army Paratrooper Enrique Roman Martinez. Mr. Roman Martinez was stationed in Fort Bragg and was brutally murdered in May 2020. His family never received justice and his case was declared a cold case. At that time, the Army did not have a Cold Case Unit to use cutting-edge technological breakthroughs to solve cold cases, unlike other services such as the Navy. I requested that the Army develop a cold case unit to provide justice to the Roman Martinez family and other Army servicemembers. I am glad that the Army did so.

However, I remain concerned that best practices are not shared across the military criminal investigative divisions and that which branch you serve plays an inordinate role in the quality of justice you receive as the victim of a crime. I request you do everything in your power to ensure justice for the servicemembers and their families who are victims of serious crimes and review the military criminal investigative divisions across the services to ensure the highest standards are met regardless of service, and to help improve how the United States military pursues justice on behalf of the men and women who serve.

Thank you for your commitment to our servicemembers, their families, and our national defense. I look forward to collaborating with you in service of our country and the brave men and women who defend it.

Sincerely,



Norma J. Torres
Member of Congress