

May 17, 2010

URGENT

Harley G. Lappin  
Director, Federal Bureau of Prisons  
320 First St., NW,  
Washington, DC 20534

Via facsimile 202/514-6878

re: emergency furlough  
Oscar López Rivera, 87651-024  
FCI Terre Haute

Dear Director Lappin:

We write to ask that you allow Oscar López Rivera an emergency furlough, to travel to the bedside of his sister, Clara López Rivera, who is in the intensive care unit at Hospital Buen Samaritano in Aguadilla, Puerto Rico. At age 73, she has just suffered two heart attacks, which is significant given that she underwent open heart surgery in 2007, and given that she has diabetes. She is in a very delicate state.

Mrs. López has been a formative force in his life. The two siblings were the first of the family to migrate to the United States, when she was the oldest, and he was the baby. It has been her wish to live long enough to enjoy life with her little brother upon his release from prison. Since his release date is 2023, and since her health is precarious, this furlough may be the last time she will get to see her brother. The family, which is very close, and has managed, beyond all odds, to maintain very close relations with Mr. López throughout his 29 years in U.S. custody, is prepared to pay for his travel as well as the expenses for staff who would accompany him.

We strongly urge you to extend to this family the humanitarian gesture of allowing Mr. López to see attend to his sister's hospital bedside. Time is of the essence.

Very truly yours,

Name

City/State