

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

February 16, 2024

The Honorable Francisco Obadiah Campbell Hooker
Ambassador
Embassy of the Republic of Nicaragua
1627 New Hampshire Ave NW
Washington, D.C. 20009

Dear Ambassador Campbell Hooker:

We write you today with deep concern regarding violations of religious freedom in Nicaragua, exemplified by the recent actions taken by your government against Mountain Gateway, a Christian organization with missionary presence in North and Central America for more than a decade.

It has come to our attention that many individuals affiliated with Mountain Gateway have been arrested following a widely attended religious worship service approved by the Nicaraguan government. It is our understanding that these individuals have been without access to legal counsel, understanding of the allegations against them, or documentation of their alleged criminal charges. This follows the arrests of several members of the Catholic Church, Red Cross, and other non-governmental organizations in recent years by the Nicaraguan government.

In addition, it is believed that the Nicaraguan government has issued arrest warrants for at least three American citizens affiliated with Mountain Gateway, and that the Nicaraguan government has requested other Latin American countries arrest and extradite these individuals if they travel to any of these other countries.

Religious freedom is a fundamental human right, and we urge you and the government of Nicaragua to take prompt action to address all violations of this right--in upholding international human rights standards. As Members of the United States Congress, we have a vested interest in both the upholding of international religious freedom, and the safety and security of the American citizens we understand are currently being targeted for arrest and extradition by the Nicaraguan government.

We request a briefing on the status of and allegations against the individuals affiliated with Mountain Gateway in Nicaragua within 10 days of receipt of this letter.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent issue, and we look forward to your response, which can be sent to Laura Titus (Laura.Titus@mail.house.gov) with the office of Congressman Robert Aderholt.

Sincerely,



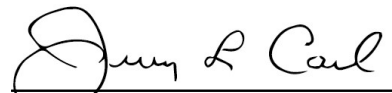
Robert B. Aderholt
Member of Congress



Katie Boyd Britt
United States Senator



Tommy Tuberville
United States Senator



Jerry L. Carl
Member of Congress



Barry Moore
Member of Congress



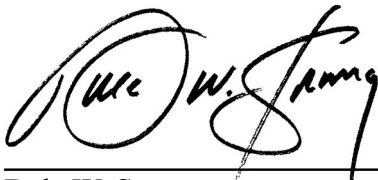
Gary J. Palmer
Member of Congress



Mike Rogers
Member of Congress



Terri A. Sewell
Member of Congress



Dale W. Strong
Member of Congress



John Boozman
United States Senator



Ted Budd
United States Senator



Charles J. "Chuck" Fleischmann
Member of Congress



Jake LaTurner
Member of Congress



Bruce Westerman
Member of Congress



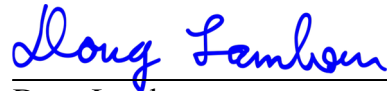
Randy K. Weber, Sr.
Member of Congress



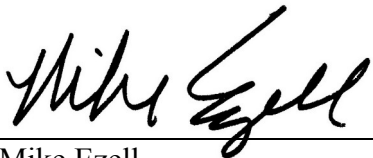
Daniel Webster
Member of Congress



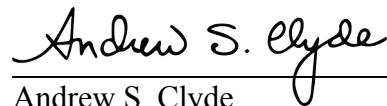
Tracey Mann
Member of Congress



Doug Lamborn
Member of Congress



Mike Ezell
Member of Congress



Andrew S. Clyde
Member of Congress

Mary E. Miller

Mary E. Miller
Member of Congress

Burgess Owens

Burgess Owens
Member of Congress

Beth Van Duyne

Beth Van Duyne
Member of Congress

Michael Guest

Michael Guest
Member of Congress

John R. Moolenaar

John R. Moolenaar
Member of Congress

Rich McCormick

Rich McCormick, MD, MBA
Member of Congress

Chip Roy

Chip Roy
Member of Congress

Warren Davidson

Warren Davidson
Member of Congress

Lloyd Smucker

Lloyd Smucker
Member of Congress

Glenn Grothman

Glenn Grothman
Member of Congress



Bonnie Watson Coleman
Member of Congress



Joe Wilson
Member of Congress



Ben Cline
Member of Congress



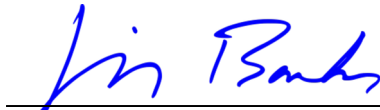
Austin Scott
Member of Congress



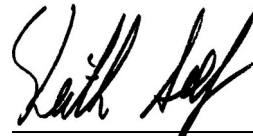
Rick W. Allen
Member of Congress



Eric Burlison
Member of Congress



Jim Banks
Member of Congress



Keith Self
Member of Congress



Barry Loudermilk
Member of Congress



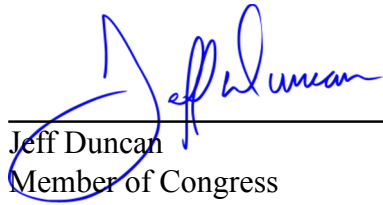
Andrew Ogles
Member of Congress



Alex X. Mooney
Member of Congress



Debbie Lesko
Member of Congress



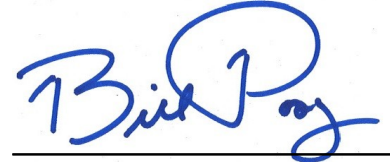
Jeff Duncan
Member of Congress



Elijah Crane
Member of Congress



Christopher H. Smith
Member of Congress



Bill Posey
Member of Congress



Carol D. Miller
Member of Congress



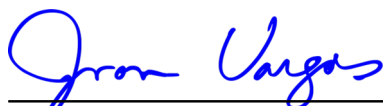
Brian Babin, D.D.S.
Member of Congress



Michael Cloud
Member of Congress



André Carson
Member of Congress



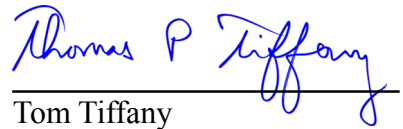
Juan Vargas
Member of Congress



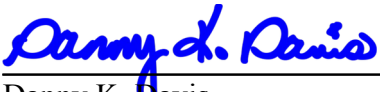
Barbara Lee
Member of Congress



Andy Harris, M.D.
Member of Congress



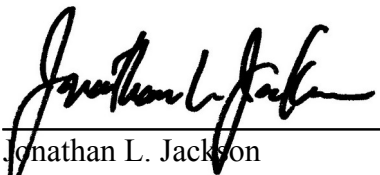
Tom Tiffany
Member of Congress



Danny K. Davis
Member of Congress



Steve Cohen
Member of Congress



Jonathan L. Jackson
Member of Congress