

COBB COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING • 185 ROSWELL STREET • MARIETTA, GA 30090-9650 TELEPHONE (770) 499-4600 • FAX (770) 499-4797

NEIL WARREN SHERIFF MILTON H. BECK CHIEF DEPUTY

January 13, 2016

Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee,

It is with great concern that I am writing to you in opposition of President Obama's effort to place Judge Dax Lopez on the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Georgia.

Judge Lopez's 11 years of service on behalf of the Georgia Association of Latino Elected Officials (GALEO) would suggest prejudice towards law abiding citizens and law enforcement across this country.

In July of 2007 I was the first Sheriff in Georgia and the 7th in the nation to enter into a 287(g) agreement with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. From the moment we began working with ICE there has been a constant effort by GALEO to discredit, discourage and disband the partnership. In fact, in my 38 years of law enforcement service in Cobb County Georgia, including 11 years as Sheriff, I have never seen an organization work harder against the interest of our state.

GALEO has called for law enforcement to turn a blind eye towards criminals that have illegally penetrated our borders and then perpetrated crimes against the very citizens I am sworn to protect. They have insulted the front line law enforcement officers who protect our nation's borders while aggressively lobbying against legislation intended to protect our citizens here in Georgia.

In light of Judge Lopez's partnership and service on behalf of GALEO, I urge you to not allow him to appear before the Senate Judiciary Committee or to further consider his appointment to the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Georgia.

Sincerely.

Neil Warren Sheriff