

**COALITION FOR THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF IMMIGRANTS/  
COALICIÓN PARA LOS DERECHOS HUMANOS DE LOS INMIGRANTES**

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December 11, 2002

Hipolito Acosta  
District Director  
Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS)  
126 Northpoint Drive  
Houston, Texas 77060  
fax: 281-774-5989

Dear Mr. Acosta,

I am writing on behalf of the Coalition for the Human Rights of Immigrants (CHRI), a New York City-based grassroots advocacy organization, to express my concern over the Dec. 3 arrest of Roger Calero by the INS in Houston, Texas.

As you know, Roger Calero has been a lawful permanent resident of the United States since 1990. When the INS approved his permanent residence, it had full knowledge of his 1988 conviction.

Given that fact, I would like to know why the INS has taken the highly unusual step of revisiting Calero's conviction at this time.

Roger Calero is a journalist. His arrest by INS creates a strong impression that our government is seeking to persecute him based on the nature of his media work—especially the fact that he was covering Latin American conferences where views in opposition to US "free trade" policies were likely expressed.

I think most Americans would agree that it is an inappropriate use of INS resources to selectively pursue proceedings against lawful permanent residents with US citizen families, with the aim of squelching media coverage of peaceful opposition activities.

The INS should now use its discretion in Calero's case and release him immediately, allow him to return home to his community, and end all efforts to deport, remove or exclude him from the US.

I look forward to hearing from you about this matter.

Sincerely,

Jane Guskin  
Coalition for the Human Rights of Immigrants (CHRI)