



AMERICAN FEDERATION OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES, AFL-CIO  
AND  
AFGE BUREAU OF PRISON LOCALS COUNCIL, C-33



June 25, 2015

The Honorable Loretta Lynch  
Attorney General  
U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20530

Dear Attorney General Lynch,

I am writing to you today on behalf of the over 38,000 correctional workers employed by the federal Bureau of Prisons. On June 20, 2008, we lost our friend and brother Jose Rivera when he was brutally murdered by Joseph Carera-Sablan. At the time of the attack, Carera-Sablan was already serving a life sentence for murdering his girlfriend with a machete and attempting to murder a 14 year old girl. On June 20<sup>th</sup> he and another inmate, James Leon Guerreo, attacked Officer Rivera – when Officer Rivera tried to get away, Carera-Sablan and Gerrero pinned him down and stabbed him repeatedly with a homemade weapon. They knew exactly what they were doing, and they did it to kill Jose Rivera. As President of the Council of Prison Locals I urge you to reconsider the plea arrangement that would remove capital punishment from being considered in the upcoming case against Joseph Carera-Sablan. If Joseph Cabrera-Sablan is given a second life sentence, which he clearly does not regard as actual punishment, there will be no deterrent on other inmates attacking correctional officers with deadly force.

Jose's family deserve justice, and correctional officers at every Bureau of Prisons facility have a right to know that if an inmate takes their life there will be real repercussions. As Attorney General you have the opportunity to send a strong message to every inmate in federal custody that if they murder an officer, they will pay the ultimate price. Joseph Carera-Sablan has a clear history of having no respect for human life; he has attempted to kill three times, and has been successful twice. This man is a menace to society and a danger to every correctional officer who will have to guard him for the rest of his life. By rejecting this plea agreement you will tell every correctional officer that their life matters and that you take their safety seriously.

Every single day correctional officers put their lives at stake to keep America safe. These men and women don't do this job for glory, they do it because they are proud members of the law enforcement community and have a deep commitment to the safety of America's communities and families. Showing Joseph Carera-Sablan mercy would be doing more for him than he has ever done for another living soul. Please reconsider accepting this agreement.

Sincerely,

Eric Young

President, Council of Prison Locals

