THE HONORABLE MARK R. WARNER



Thank you for contacting my office. The letter below provides information on how my office is able to assist constituents with matters related to U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, as well as resources for services beyond my jurisdiction as your United States Senator.

- 1. Prior to any assistance, my staff <u>must</u> have a signed Privacy Act Release and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Waiver from the detainee (attached). We recognize this may be difficult, however, the Privacy Act of 1974 applies to the detainee and ICE will not communicate with my office without the detainee's express written consent. *If the detainee is relocated out of Virginia or you or your attorney are unable to visit with the detainee, you may wish to contact an advocacy organization such as the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) who may be able to assist with the visitation. ACLU may be reached directly at* (202) 675-2312 or at <u>www.aclu.org</u>.
- 2. Secondly, we wish to know if the detainee, his or her family, or another contact has retained an accredited immigration attorney in this matter. If so, please provide their contact information and include his or her name on both the Privacy Act Release form and ICE Waiver to authorize our office to communicate case specific details with them. *If not, you may wish to seek legal counsel.* While we are unable to provide legal counsel or refer you to specific attorneys, you may wish to contact the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA) for help in seeking legal counsel. The AILA can be contacted at 202-507-7600, and their online lawyer search tool can be found at <u>www.ailalawyer.org</u>. Additional information on the AILA can be found on <u>www.aila.org</u>. Furthermore, the U.S. Department of Justice's (DOJ) maintains "List(s) of Pro Bono Legal Service Providers" across the country. Additional information from DOJ can be found at <u>www.justice.gov/eoir</u>.
- 3. Please provide detailed information regarding the detainee's immigration history, including but not limited to, circumstances of original entry into the United States and/or overstay, if/when a final order of removal was issued, previous applications for immigration benefits, previous requests for a stay of removal, and/or any appeals with the Board of Immigration Appeals. If a recent stay of removal was requested, please provide our office with a copy of that request in full. If applicable, please provide the office with any information regarding the detainee's criminal history or reason for detainment. This may include minor violations.

4. Please provide a detailed and concise formal written request of my office. The letter should detail a description of the problem, the actions taken to resolve the matter, a description of a favorable outcome and the role my office can take in achieving that outcome. Please specifically include when and how the individual was detained, their employment status, family in the U.S., particularly ties to U.S. citizens and/or children and hardships that may exist – medical, financial, emotional, etc.

For questions and to submit all documentation, please contact my Vienna office at the following address:

The Honorable Mark R. Warner 8000 Towers Crescent Drive, Suite 200 Vienna, VA 22182 P: 703-442-0670, F: 703-442-0408

I am honored to serve Virginia as your United States Senator, and my top priority in the Senate is to provide efficient and effective constituent service to all Virginians. Please understand that there are limits to what my office can do with respect to certain matters. While my office may be able to advocate on behalf of any individual, any decision made by ICE cannot be overturned by congressional intervention. Furthermore, members of Congress are restricted from intervening at any point in the appeals process.