



Office of the Attorney General
Washington, D. C. 20530

August 18, 2016

Maria Ramirez
1908 Princess Jeanne
Las Cruces, New Mexico 88001

Ms. Ramirez,

On behalf of the entire United States of Department of Justice, I am writing to extend our sympathies and condolences on the tragic loss of your son, Officer Jose Chavez. I was deeply shocked and saddened to learn of the senseless act of violence that claimed his life, and I want you to know that you, Officer Chavez's daughters, Janiley and Aryam, and your entire family will be in my thoughts and prayers during this painful time.

Officer Chavez was a loving father, a dedicated law enforcement officer, and a devoted public servant. He was a proud member of an eight-officer police department, where he embraced the challenge of being a part of a small team entrusted with the monumental responsibility of serving and protecting all that call Hatch, New Mexico home. Officer Chavez lived up to that responsibility and was a friend and reliable law enforcement officer to all those he served, and to those he served with. Although he was taken from us far too soon, I know that you will ensure that his legacy of public service and commitment to protecting his community is something that Janiley and Aryam carry on with pride, knowing that their father was a true hero.

I know that no words can ease your pain or relieve your sorrow. But I hope you can take some comfort in the knowledge that Officer Chavez's sacrifice will always be remembered by the people of Hatch, and by law enforcement officers across New Mexico and throughout the United States. Once again, please accept my sincere condolences. I wish you strength and peace in the days to come.

Sincerely,

Loretta E. Lynch
Attorney General