

Thomas Perez
Takoma Park, Maryland

May 13, 2009

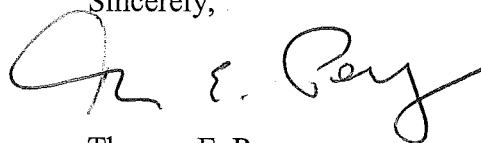
The Honorable Richard J. Durbin
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Durbin:

This responds to your letter of May 11, 2009, in which you expressed concern about there being loopholes in the "Guidance Regarding the Use of Race by Federal Law Enforcement Agencies" issued by the Civil Rights Division in 2003.

I appreciate your leadership on this critical matter and share your desire to ensure that we protect our national security and safeguard our borders while also preventing illegal racial, ethnic or religious profiling. If confirmed, I would be willing to carefully review the aforementioned guidance, including consultation with law enforcement, civil rights experts and affected minority communities, to ensure compliance with existing law.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "T. E. Perez", written in a cursive style.

Thomas E. Perez

CC: The Honorable Patrick Leahy
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary

The Honorable Jeff Sessions
Ranking Minority Member
Committee on the Judiciary