

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

September 3, 2024

VIA ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION

The Honorable Ken Salazar
U.S. Ambassador to Mexico
Embassy of the United States of America
Av. P.º de la Reforma 305
Cuauhtémoc, 06500 Ciudad de México, CDMX, Mexico

Dear Ambassador Salazar:

We write to request a status briefing and regular updates on the embassy's efforts to recover Iowan Chris Leguisano and to bring her kidnappers to justice. On August 10, 2024, Chris Leguisano's son reported her missing to the Federal Bureau of Investigation.¹ Ms. Leguisano traveled to Mexico to deliver a truck to a family member. While in Tamaulipas, Mexico, she was kidnapped for ransom.²

This is now the second high-profile assault of an American citizen in Tamaulipas in the last two years. In March 2023, four Americans lawfully traveling to Mexico came under cartel gunfire in Tamaulipas.³ Only two Americans survived. They were found in a wooden house with the bodies of their travel companions.

The United States cannot and will not tolerate the assault of its citizens while traveling abroad. By all public accounts, Ms. Leguisano's kidnap was an act of extortion. An attack of this nature on a United States citizen is an affront to the United States.

Please provide rolling updates on the recovery of Ms. Legusiano as soon as they become available, with a progress report within the week.

Sincerely,



Charles E. Grassley



Joni K. Ernst

cc: Christopher A. Wray
Federal Bureau of Investigation

¹ Caleb Geer, Alex Fulton, and Mario Rossi, *Des Moines Resident Reported Missing in Mexico*, We Are Iowa (Aug. 26, 2024), [Des Moines resident reported missing in Mexico by family | weareiowa.com](https://weareiowa.com/news/2024/08/26/des-moines-resident-reported-missing-in-mexico-by-family/)

² Ildefonso Ortiz and Brandon Darby, *Iowa Woman Missing After Crossing Into Mexican Border City* (Aug. 19, 2024), [Iowa Woman Missing After Crossing into Mexican Border City \(breitbart.com\)](https://www.breitbart.com/news/2024/08/19/iowa-woman-missing-after-crossing-into-mexican-border-city/)

³ Emily Shapiro and Meredith Deliso, *Everything We Known About The Kidnapping of 4 Americans in Mexico*, ABC News (Mar. 13, 2023), <https://abcnews.go.com/International/kidnapping-4-americans-mexico/story?id=97706114>