

Via email: OHCHR-migrant@un.org

March 4, 2022

Felipe González Morales
Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Migrants
Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
United Nations
8-14 Avenue de la Paix
1211 Geneve 10
Switzerland

Re: Human Rights Violations at International Borders

Dear Special Rapporteur González Morales:

We are delighted to hear that your office is preparing a report of human rights violations at international borders. Lawyers for Civil Rights (LCR) respectfully submits this letter to bring two highly relevant sources to your attention: 1) an immigration-related [petition](#) recently filed with the Inter-American Commission for Human Rights (IACHR); and 2) a [report](#) on the conditions at the United States-Mexico border.

One hundred petitioning organizations from across the United States of America, Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, Costa Rica, and Chile submitted the attached [petition](#) to the IACHR requesting a thematic hearing regarding the human rights abuses against refugees at the Southern Border of the United States. The underlying issues and allegations brought forward in this petition are urgent, including squalid border conditions, disparate and racialized treatment of Black refugees, and alarming violations to COVID-19 protocol compounding an already deadly public health crisis. Our petition requests an investigatory hearing and urges the IACHR to visit both sides of the U.S.-Mexico border to observe and document human rights abuses at the hands of U.S. officials.

Additionally, in October 2021, LCR sent a delegation on a fact-finding mission to investigate the conditions at the U.S.-Mexico border. The outcome of the delegation has been published in the attached [report](#) — titled “*Deprived and Denied: Refugees Facing Abuses At The Border*” — which confirms widespread deprivations of medical care and discriminatory practices against migrants at the border.

We are available at your convenience to discuss the [petition](#) and [report](#) in greater detail. Please feel free to use the petition and the report — including any facts or data contained therein — in any way you deem appropriate as part of your investigation. We would welcome an opportunity to meet provide additional information at your request.

Respectfully submitted,

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