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TO AMCONSUL CIUDAD JUAREZ

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

UNCLAS STATE 005572

FOR AMB. GARZA AND CONSUL GENERAL BLAIR FROM A/S HARTY

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: CASC

SUBJECT: KUDOS TO CONSULAR OFFICERS FOR ASSISTANCE TO
CYNTHIA KIECKER AND ULISES PERZABAL

1. I want to thank Elizabeth Power and the entire American Citizens Services staff at Consulate General Ciudad Juarez for the extraordinary assistance provided to Cynthia Kiecker and Ulises Perzabal during their twenty-month incarceration. Ms. Kiecker and Mr. Perzabal were imprisoned in Chihuahua City, which is some 300 miles from Ciudad Juarez. I understand Elizabeth and her staff drove a rather dangerous desert highway, sometimes round trip on the same day, on numerous occasions to visit Ms. Kiecker, and to meet with local government officials to monitor the progress of the case. Elizabeth and the team pursued every opportunity for advocacy, and it is because of these efforts that the case was continually raised at the highest levels, ultimately, I believe, resulting in Ms. Kiecker's release. I would particularly like to commend post's detailed chronology of the case, which the Department used to excellent effect with GOM interlocutors and provided valuable detail on the case.

2. In addition to Elizabeth, I would like to single out the efforts of Deborah Kay, Christina Bernal, and Anna Sanchez-Perea. These officers all played a vital role in the release of Ms. Kiecker. Further, I would like to

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recognize Jose Antonio Peral, Miguel Calvillo, and Abril Chacon, all of whom provided crucial support to Consular Officers dealing with the case. The remarkable support and advocacy provided to Ms. Kiecker and her family by the entire section is in the highest traditions of the Foreign Service, and I highly commend the Ciudad Juarez ACS team. Best regards, Maura.

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