

Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

September 18, 2008

Ambassador Barbara J. Stephenson American Embassy Panama - PAS Building 783, Demetrio Basilio Lakas Avenue Clayton, Panama

Dear Ambassador Stephenson:

We want to thank you for extraordinary efforts to strengthen US-Panama relations, as well as our nation's critical partnerships with Latin American countries. We are writing to you regarding an issue that was brought to our attention by Mr. Richard S. Lehman, an attorney from South Florida, who has encountered serious difficulties with the Panamanian legal system over the past two years while attempting to execute the will of Wilson C. Lucom.

As you are aware, Mr. Lehman is an American citizen and a resident from Boca Raton, Florida. As the Executor of Mr. Lucom's estate, he has been attempting to carry out Mr. Lucom's will, but has faced numerous legal obstacles and delays with the Panamanian courts. In addition, it is our understanding that Mr. Lucom, who passed away in 2006, may have left as much as \$50 million in his will for children's charities in Panama

It is our understanding that Mr. Lehman will be returning to Panama to continue to fight charges against him, as well as attempt to address legal matters relating to the Lucom Estate. We are concerned about his safety; according to Mr. Lehman, other individuals associated with him and this case have been threatened with physical violence and even shot at. It is our hope that the Panamanian courts will act in a just manner and that the Panamanian government will take adequate steps to ensure Mr. Lehman's safety while in Panama. Finally, we urge you along with Embassy personnel to meet directly with Mr. Lehman and provide any appropriate assistance should it be requested.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

With warm regards,

Ron Klein