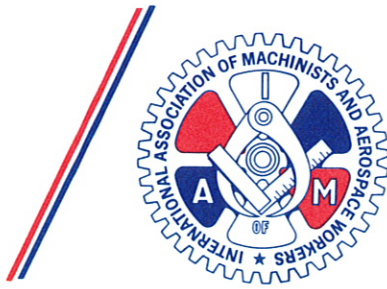


**International  
Association of  
Machinists and  
Aerospace Workers**



9000 Machinists Place  
Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772-2687

Area Code 301  
967-4500



OFFICE OF THE INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT

December 11, 2006

His Excellency Carlos de Icaza  
Ambassador of Mexico to the United States  
1911 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20006

Dear Mr. Ambassador:

On behalf of the 600,000 members of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers (IAM), we are outraged over the intimidation, illegal arrests, and violence, that has occurred with respect to the Sindicato Nacional de Trabajadores Mineros, Metalúrgicos y Similares de la República Mexicana (SNTMMSRM).

As you know, Napoleon Gomez Urrutia, the democratically elected general secretary of the National Miners' and Metalworkers Union (SNTMMSRM) was forcefully removed from his position in March 2006. He is a tireless advocate against the health and safety atrocities of the Pasta de Conchos mine, that left 65 miners dead after an explosion. A complaint with the International Labour Organization against the Mexican government citing violations of ILO Convention 87 has been filed, regarding this matter.

We demand that workers in Mexico enjoy fundamental human rights including the restoration of Napoleon Gomez Urrutia to his democratically elected position.

Sincerely yours,

R. Thomas Buffenbarger  
International President

RTB:cep