Hello, fellow union members. My name is Edward Canales, and I am the Union President of FCI Dublin. I apologize for my recent silence, but I have been in a serious battle with the agency. As I have a break in the battle this Sunday to give thanks to my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, I want to take a moment to thank my fellow unionists who have been working hard with my Eboard and members. I would like to express my gratitude to Western Regional Vice President John Kostelnick, National President Brandy Moore White, and Fair Practice Coordinator William Boseman for their presence and support at FCI Dublin this week. I also want to extend my thanks to Western Regional Legislator Coordinator William Stokes for providing remote assistance and helping us to contact numerous congressional contacts for assistance. Finally, I want to thank the Western Regional Presidents for their support and outreach.

I want to extend additional and special thanks to my Executive Board members, Sue Canales and Jose Lau. My Eboard, along with RVP John Kostelnik and myself, were a formidable team. John and Sue are brilliant strategists, always anticipating what's ahead. Jose is a dedicated soldier who will always hold the front line.

Some background and facts of what we know at this time:

The agency shut down Dublin because a Special Master uncovered Agency corruption and major flaws and the Bureau wanted to contain exposure. This has also failed.

Dublin will no longer house female inmates. The agency has not yet decided whether to permanently shut down its operations in Dublin or transition to a male-focused mission.

The Dublin staff's welfare has been disregarded by the Director and Regional Director, they failed to represent the good staff and only mentioned the indicted staff to the world via the news media.

The Agency, in a misguided attempt, sent 87 staff from around the country, including SORT and DCT teams, to intimidate and scare our staff. But what they failed to understand is our strength, our unity. This is what we unionists call the chilling effect. And this attempt, my friends, failed miserably. It only served to strengthen our resolve and unity.

Congress is backing our staff and is aggressively holding the agency accountable.