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Joe Davis, Sr.
2nd Aldermanic Discrit
City Hall, Room 205
200 East Wells St.
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Chicago, February 12, 2007

Dear Alderman Davis,

This letter is a friendly request that you and your office help us to reach the office of Governor Jim Doyle to explore the possibility of his support to co-invite and co-facilitate a visit of Governor Luis Ramon Reyes Reyes of the State of Lara, Venezuela. In the interests of international cooperation, constructive engagement with this dynamic African-Venezuelan political leader could very well usher in a new era of heightened friendship between our respective countries.

While American-Venezuelan relations are currently at a low ebb, Governor Reyes is a graduate of the acclaimed international jet fighter training program at Columbus Air Force Base (AFB) in Mississippi. Governor Reyes has served as the Venezuelan Air Attaché in Washington D.C.; Chief of Venezuelan Military Acquisitions Office in Dayton, Ohio; and Chief Procurement Officer for the Venezuelan Air Force. The Columbus (AFB) proudly acknowledges its role in both top-flight pilot training and leadership grooming of international students.

Presently, Luis Ramon Reyes Reyes has been the elected Governor of the Lara State since 2000 after serving as a Member of the Venezuelan National Assembly and as the Minister of Infrastructure. Governor Reyes has been nationally recognized for his outstanding achievements in developing health, agricultural and educational programs for his state. Now a role model for his fellow governors, Governor Reyes has finalized several key transportation projects; as well as, having personally administered several environmental programs and housing projects for low-income citizens.

Recently, Governor Reyes hosted a delegation of Midwest elected officials to observe the Presidential Election. Delegates were able to tour the State of Lara's innovative health care system and the facilities for the Mission Miracle humanitarian initiative which features eye surgery (cataract) free of charge for Latin America, the Caribbean and now the United States. We truly thank you for your participation in this delegation.

A hearty friendship ensued from the above-mentioned visit, and in response to the invitation from the delegates, we are happy to announce that Governor Reyes is willing to come to the U.S. on a speaking tour which could ideally be co-hosted by the office of Governor Jim Doyle. Gov. Reyes is also interested in promoting sister cities agreements between cities in the Midwest and cities in his state, with the aim of promoting cultural, sports, trade and academic exchanges. As you know, there is already a Sister Cities agreement between Milwaukee and the City of Carora in the State of Lara, expected to be approved soon thank to your support. We look forward to hearing your thoughts and suggestions on this matter.

Sincerely,

Omar Sierra
Deputy Consul

