

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

June 19, 2013

The Honorable Janet Napolitano
Secretary of Homeland Security
U.S. Naval Security Station
3801 Nebraska Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20393

Dear Madam Secretary:

I am writing on behalf of Daniel Alejandro Lopez-Santiago, a Mexican national currently residing in Vermont. Mr. Lopez was recently denied his appeal for prosecutorial discretion by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) in his immigration removal case. He has been granted voluntary departure and ordered to leave the country by July 5, 2013.

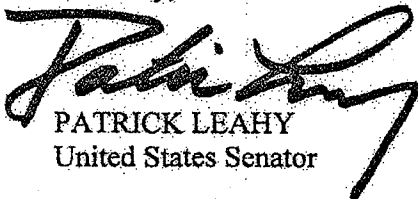
Mr. Lopez has been active in advocating for immigration reform in Vermont. He has testified frequently in front of the Vermont State Senate and the Vermont House of Representatives over the past few years and has become a leader in his community. Mr. Lopez has worked in the dairy industry for several years. Dairy farmers do not have access to the current H-2A temporary agricultural worker program, and Mr. Lopez's situation is emblematic of our broken immigration system.

Legislation pending before the Senate could potentially resolve Mr. Lopez's current immigration case. The Border Security, Economic Opportunity, and Immigration Modernization Act (S.744) would give Mr. Lopez the opportunity to petition for legalization under the proposed Registered Provisional Immigrant (RPI) program. This legislation is currently being debated in the Senate, and is not expected to be enacted before Mr. Lopez's ordered date of departure, July, 5th.

As you continue to consider Mr. Lopez's case, especially in light of pending legislation in the Senate, I urge you to exercise prosecutorial discretion.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



PATRICK LEAHY
United States Senator

COMMITTEES:
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JOINT ECONOMIC

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4504

(202) 224-5141

1 CHURCH STREET, 2ND FLOOR
BURLINGTON, VT 05401

(802) 882-8887

1 (800) 338-2834

www.sanders.senate.gov

PLEASE REPLY TO BURLINGTON OFFICE

June 17, 2013

Mr. John Morton, Director
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Immigration and Customs Enforcement
500 12th Street S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20536

Dear Director Morton:

I am writing you on behalf of my constituent, Mr. Daniel Alejandro Lopez Santiago of Burlington, Vermont. Mr. Lopez Santiago has asked for my assistance in having his request for Prosecutorial Discretion reviewed so that he can remain in this country. Here in Vermont he is generally known as Danilo Lopez, and his A# is 089-088-623.

Mr. Lopez has been a farmworker in Vermont for five years. He has an excellent reputation as a worker and has been involved in organizing efforts for a group of approximately 1500 farmworkers in our state who do not have legal status. In this role, he has given presentations on the experience of farmworkers to college students, civic groups and other venues. He was involved in influencing a policy change with law enforcement in Vermont to a Bias Free Policing Policy, and he was a key leader in the successful two year effort to persuade the Vermont Legislature to pass a new law granting the privilege of driving in Vermont to persons who lack legal status. He and other supporters argued that farmworkers in rural Vermont need access to health care, groceries, etc. and that they want to be able to legally drive to these services. The Governor just signed this legislation into law.

He is asking you to reconsider the decision not to grant Prosecutorial Discretion in his case. He is supported by the Vermont Workers' Center and Migrant Justice, organizations that I am personally knowledgeable about, and I am familiar with his efforts on behalf of farmworkers in Vermont who provide critical work on our dairy and other farms on a daily basis.

I respectfully request that you look into this matter at your earliest convenience and that you give full and fair consideration, consistent with applicable law and regulations, to Mr. Lopez's request for reconsideration of Prosecutorial Discretion in his case. If you have questions or concerns, please contact Ms. Gretchen Bailey, the Casework Coordinator in my Burlington office, at [Gretchen Bailey@sanders.senate.gov](mailto:Gretchen_Bailey@sanders.senate.gov). Thank you in advance for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,



Bernard Sanders
United States Senator

PETER WELCH
AT-LARGE, VERMONT

CHIEF DEPUTY WHIP

HOUSE DEMOCRATIC
STEERING & POLICY COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND COMMERCE

COMMITTEE ON
OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT
REFORM

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4500

2303 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-4500
202-225-4115

DISTRICT:
30 MAIN STREET
3RD FLOOR, SUITE 350
BURLINGTON, VT 05401
(802) 652-2450
(888) 605-7270

June 19, 2013

Mr. John Morton
Director
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Immigration and Customs Enforcement
500 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20536-5098

Dear Director Morton,

I write today on behalf of my constituent, Mr. Daniel Alejandro Lopez Santiago (A# 089-088-623) of Burlington, Vermont. Mr. Lopez Santiago, known in Vermont as Danilo Lopez, is requesting a reconsideration of Prosecutorial Discretion so that he can remain in this country.

His strong ties to Vermont, his work on Vermont farms, and his commitment to improving opportunities for Vermont farmworkers without legal status is why I am joining many Vermonters in weighing in on his behalf. I understand a number of Vermonters have submitted letters to Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), and signed a petition, on behalf of Mr. Lopez and his request for reconsideration.

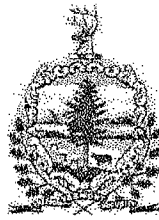
I respectfully request that you carefully review Mr. Lopez's request for reconsideration of Prosecutorial Discretion and give it full and fair consideration under the full extent of the law. If you have questions or concerns, please contact Shannon Nadeau in my Burlington, Vermont office at 802-652-2450. Thank you.

Sincerely,



PETER WELCH
Member of Congress

PW/sn



STATE OF VERMONT
SENATE CHAMBER

June 12, 2013

Immigration and Customs Enforcement Director John Morton
Department of Homeland Security
500 12th St., SW
Washington, D.C. 20536

Boston Field Office Director Dorothy Herrera-Nyles
10 New England Executive Park
Burlington, MA 01803

Dear Director Morton and Office Director Nyles:

I am writing regarding Daniel Alejandro Lopez Santiago (A089-088-623), who currently lives in Burlington Vermont and is known to me and other Vermont policymakers as Danilo.

Specifically, I am writing to ask that you grant Prosecutorial Discretion to Danilo, who is subject to voluntary departure on July 5th 2013.

As a member of the Vermont State Senate I have had the opportunity to get to know Danilo.

While employed as a farm worker, a difficult and time consuming job in itself, Danilo has developed into a credible, trusted community member and civil rights leader in Vermont.

Danilo was detained as part of a driving incident. It was later found to be an illegal case of racial profiling, as evidenced by the findings of the VT Human Rights Commission which ruled in his favor.

True to his character Danilo used the experience to become a positive force and leader in a successful effort to implement a new Bias-Free Policing policy for the Vermont State Police.

He went on to provide leadership in a successful effort to win passage of Vermont's new road safety law, recognizing all our state's residents regardless of immigration status.

This required Danilo to work with policymakers of all political persuasions, legislators, bureaucrats and the Governor and his administration. Throughout it all Danilo was honest and fair, gaining the respect of all with whom he came in contact.

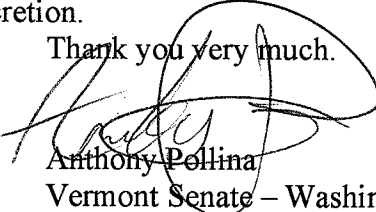
His benefit to the community was affirmed when Danilo was recognized as the "Vermont Human Rights Hero" of the year at a statewide conference of hundreds of community leaders.

Since then Danilo has continued to take his positive message of hard work, cooperation and community to schools, universities, churches and organizations across Vermont.

There is no doubt that Daniel Alejandro Lopez Santiago has earned his place as a respected member of our community.

I join other Vermonters in asking that you grant Mr. Lopez granted prosecutorial discretion.

Thank you very much.



Anthony Pollina

Vermont Senate – Washington County

Vice Chair Senate Government Operations Committee



STATE OF VERMONT
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

June 17, 2013

Immigration and Customs Enforcement Director John Morton
Department of Homeland Security
500 12th St., SW
Washington, D.C. 20536

Boston Field Office Director Dorothy Herrera Niles
10 New England Executive Park
Burlington, MA 01803

Dear Director Morton:

I am writing in order to ask that you grant Prosecutorial Discretion to Daniel Alejandro Lopez Santiago (A089-088-623), who currently lives in Burlington, Vermont. He is currently subject to a departure on July 5, 2013. Known as 'Danilo' by his friends, he is a farm worker and civil rights leader in Vermont, and he is an incredibly valuable, contributing member of our Vermont community.

My name is Kesha Ram, and I live at 31 North Prospect Street in Burlington, Vermont with my partner, Oliver. I was born in Santa Monica, California to a mother born in Chicago and a father who immigrated to the United States from India. I moved to Vermont nine years ago and am a Vermont State Representative, proudly serving the citizens of Chittenden District 6-4 in my third term. I sit on the Ways & Means Committee. When not in session, I am the Public Engagement Specialist for the City of Burlington and serve on numerous boards and advisory groups in the state – the University of Vermont, the Center for Whole Communities, and more.

I have known Danilo for several years now as an active member of the Vermont Workers' Center, an organization that many of my constituents access for support and building community. They recently honored him as a "Vermont Human Rights Hero" and there are many political leaders who applaud this recognition. He has been one of the leaders of the migrant farmworker community here in Vermont, without whom we would not be able to support our already struggling farms. He has bravely and effectively worked on many issues affecting farmworkers and other groups experiencing bias and prejudice, and has brought many others out of the shadows to come to the State House and pass important human rights legislation. He inspires many to be civically engaged and active participants in their community.

Most recently, he became a key leader in the successful effort to pass road safety legislation that gives all state residents the freedom of movement, ability to access the road test and legal means for licensure, and thereby guarantee everyone on our roads is insured. Members of the legislature from all political backgrounds supported this legislation, partially because they saw and met with farmworkers for the first time, who took Danilo's lead in courageously standing up and being counted.

I recognize that in the large and – in my view – untenable federal immigration system, someone like Danilo is just a number and a case file. But to many people in Vermont, he is truly a hero and a friend. He is a Veronter who works hard, who abides by our laws, and who has a welcomed place in our community. You would not only be punishing Danilo by removing him from his workplace and domicile, you would be punishing his neighbors, colleagues, and friends. You would be punishing the many Vermonters he has yet to inspire and empower.

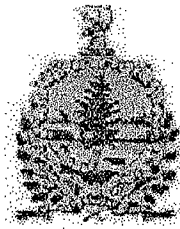
It is with all of this taken into account that I submit to you, Director Morton, that Daniel Alejandro Lopez Santiago is an upstanding, diligent, giving, kind person who is valued and recognized in the State of Vermont accordingly. I believe without reservation that he should be granted prosecutorial discretion and allowed to remain here.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Kesha K. Ram". The signature is fluid and elegant, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Hon. Kesha K. Ram

Burlington, Chittenden 6-4



STATE OF VERMONT
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
115 STATE STREET
MONTPELIER, VT
05633-5201

June 17, 2013

Immigration and Customs Enforcement Director John Morton
Department of Homeland Security
500 12th St., SW
Washington, D.C. 20536

Boston Field Office Director Dorothy Herrera Niles
10 New England Executive Park
Burlington, MA 01803

Dear Mr. Morton,

I am writing in order to ask that you grant Prosecutorial Discretion to Daniel Alejandro Lopez Santiago (A089-088-623), of Burlington Vermont. He is being asked to leave the country on July 5th 2013.

My name is Christopher Pearson. I am a State Representative serving my fourth term in the Vermont House, representing part of Vermont's largest city: Burlington.

I first met Danilo in 2012 when he testified in support of legislation give greater mobility to migrant farm workers in Vermont. Since then, I have had multiple opportunities to interact with him and have been impressed by Danilo's respect for everyone involved in the legislative process, his commitment to make Vermont a better place for all its residents, and his effective role as a spokesperson for the migrant farm worker community.

Danilo is an important asset for Vermont and our country. Plase exercise your discretion and close his case.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chris Pearson'.

Christopher Pearson
State Representative
12 Brookes Avenue
Burlington, VT 05401



STATE OF VERMONT
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

June 13, 2013

Immigration and Customs Enforcement Director John Morton
Department of Homeland Security
500 12th St., SW
Washington, DC 20535

Dear Director Morton,

I am writing to express my concern for a young man, Daniel Alejandro Lopez Santiago and ask for your assistance. It is through his Human Rights work here in Vermont that I have come to respect Mr. Santiago and now he faces an uncertain future.

As a VT State Representative I have known Mr. Santiago for over a year now and admire his courage and willingness to stand up for human dignity. He has testified on several occasions in my House Committee on Transportation and moved not only myself, but also many within the State House. He brought a new level of understanding with regard to the issues of migrant workers within Vermont. Today he needs our help.

I am hoping that you will consider Prosecutorial Discretion in this case. It would be an unfortunate loss for Vermont's future if Mr. Santiago was to be separated from our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Diane Lanpher".

Rep. Diane Lanpher
Addison-3
(802) 877-2230
dianelanpher@hotmail.com



**STATE OF VERMONT
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**STATE HOUSE
115 STATE STREET
MONTPELIER, VT
05633-5201**

**MOLLIE S. BURKE
VERMONT STATE REPRESENTATIVE
62 WEST STREET
BRATTLEBORO, VERMONT 05301**

14 June, 2013

Immigration and Customs Enforcement Director John Morton
Department of Homeland Security
500 12th St., SW
Washington, D.C. 20536

Boston Field Office Director Dorothy Herrera Niles
10 New England Executive Park
Burlington, MA 01803

Dear Director Moran and Director Herrera Niles:

I am writing on behalf of Daniel Alejandro Lopez Santiago (A089-088-623), currently of Burlington, Vermont. I ask that you grant him Prosecutorial Discretion from deportation, which is due to occur on July 5th.

I am a member of the Vermont House of Representatives, representing the town of Brattleboro. I first met Mr. Lopez Santiago in the spring of 2012, when he came to testify in the House Transportation Committee regarding the issuance of driver's licenses to immigrant farm workers. I was immediately impressed by Mr. Lopez Santiago's sincerity, and his clear articulation of the problems faced by immigrant farm workers.

Based on this very favorable impression of Mr. Lopez Santiago, and my belief in the issues he raised, I decided to support the cause of these workers to obtain driver's licenses. I participated in a Summer Study Committee, and then became the lead House sponsor of a bill to grant licenses to those people in Vermont unable to prove immigration status, or to otherwise meet the requirements of the REAL ID Act.

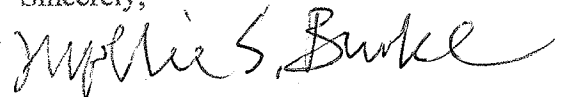
The bill passed the Legislature, and was signed into law on June 5, 2013 in a ceremony at the State House. That this happened is in no small measure because of the efforts of Mr. Lopez Santiago on behalf of his fellow farmworkers.

During the entire Legislative Session, Mr. Lopez Santiago appeared numerous times at the State House to advocate for the bill. He testified before legislative committees, and spoke one-on-one with Representatives, Senators, and the Governor. He helped to put a human face on the problems faced by farm workers who lack access to transportation. His gentle manner, basic honesty, and sincere articulation of issues won over many in state government who were unsure of the merits of this legislation.

Mr. Lopez Santiago has contributed much to his community, and to the State of Vermont. I know he wants to do more work on issues of human rights and community engagement. He is a leader and advocate. His work and presence enhance both our moral and cultural atmosphere.

Based on this character reference, and on the testimony of many others who have been impressed by Mr. Lopez Santiago, I respectfully ask that you grant him Prosecutorial Discretion. I am happy to follow up with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mollie S. Burke". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Rep. Mollie S. Burke
Brattleboro, Vermont

The Charlotte Congregational Church

United Church of Christ

Wednesday, June 13, 2013

ICE Director John Morton
Department of Homeland Security
500 12th St., SW
Washington, D.C. 20536

Boston Field Office Director Dorothy Herrera Niles
10 New England Executive Park
Burlington, MA 01803

Dear Director Morton:

My name is Rev. Will Burhans and I am the minister of the Charlotte Congregational Church, UCC in Charlotte, VT. I am writing to ask that you grant Prosecutorial Discretion to Daniel Alejandro Lopez Santiago (A089-088-623), who lives in Burlington, Vermont. He is subject to a departure on July 5th 2013 and we are hoping that he will not be forced to leave.

Danilo is a farm worker and civil rights leader in Vermont who has attended our church along with his father on a number of occasions over the last couple of years. He is a good man with a lot of heart and care for his community and it has been a pleasure to come to know him. As our church community has begun to develop relationships with our neighbor migrant workers and advocate for their fair treatment down in Montpelier, many of us have been impressed by Danilo, his gentleness of spirit and his honest, strong and persistent work for his fellow Vermonters.

We believe that Jesus calls us to "welcome the stranger" and to break down the walls that divide us one from another and it is exactly people like Danilo that inspire us towards that end as we experience the gift that he and others – though undocumented – truly are to our communities. Please consider our plea for prosecutorial discretion. It seems especially important and fair to do so at this juncture as the immigration bill is being debated and Danilo would qualify for becoming a citizen under the current bill.

I pray that God will bless you and keep you and inspire you towards works of mercy in the midst of your work for justice.

Grace and Peace,



Rev. Will Burhans
Charlotte Congregational Church, UCC
PO Box 12
Charlotte, VT 05445
802.598.6035



MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE

Middlebury, VT 05753

Department of Sociology/Anthropology

Jamie K. McCallum
Munroe Hall 110
SOAN Department

June 13, 2013

Immigration and Customs Enforcement Director John Morton
Department of Homeland Security
500 12th St., SW
Washington, D.C. 20536

Boston Field Office Director Dorothy Herrera Niles
10 New England Executive Park
Burlington, MA 01803

Dear Director Morton:

I write in order to ask that you grant Prosecutorial Discretion to Daniel Alejandro Lopez Santiago (A089-088-623), who lives in Burlington, Vermont. He is currently subject to a departure on July 5th 2013. Known as 'Danilo' by his friends, he is a farm worker and civil rights leader in Vermont.

My name is Jamie K. McCallum. I am a professor of Sociology at Middlebury College. I have had the pleasure and good fortune to collaborate with Danilo on a number of important projects, inside the classroom and out of it. As an active community member where I live in Addison County, I have often sought Danilo's assistance and advice when dealing with local political issues. On several occasions, I have brought Danilo to my class to speak with students about the local agricultural economy, migration issues, and other related topics. He was also vital to an independent study project I started at the college, that involved students and workers building community gardens.

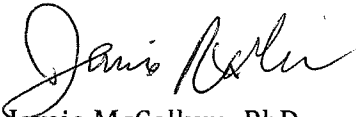
In the two years I've known him, Danilo has always been there for me—he's a man our community can rely on. Danilo is a leader. In other words, when he speaks, others listen and take notes. But he's also a careful listener. He has, in fact, been listening to our

community for a long time, which has also made him such an effective civil rights leader. He is kind and gentle when it matters most, and vocal and strong when it is appropriate. It is so rare to find someone who knows how to strike that balance. He is an inspiration for students and a fantastic teacher. Danilo makes it all look easy; but it is not.

If we lose Danilo, we lose a lot of hope, a lot of inspiration, a lot of character, a lot of laughter, a lot of strength, and a lot of power.

Director Morton, I urge you to grant Mr. Lopez prosecutorial discretion. This would allow him to live in the place to which he is so important, and which he loves so dearly.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jamie McCallum".

Jamie McCallum, PhD
Sociology and Anthropology Department
Middlebury College

Steve Gould
PO Box 224
Chelsea, VT 05038
(802) 685-3121
swgould@charter.net

Office of Chief Counsel
Prosecutorial Discretion Unit
Immigration and Enforcement
15 New Sudbury St.
Boston, MA 02203

June 11, 2013

Re: Daniel Alejandro Lopez-Santiago (A089-088-623)

Dear Madam or Sir,

I am a citizen of the United States who has resided in Vermont since 1976. I am now retired. Prior to my retirement I served as an assistant attorney general for the State of Vermont.

I met Daniel in 2011. Since then I have had the privilege and pleasure of observing him work tirelessly for the benefit of Vermont farm workers. I admire his courage for putting himself at personal risk by coming out of the shadows to advocate for what he believed was right. He has demonstrated that he is an articulate leader and advocate for human rights. He is a model for all those who want to achieve fair treatment for all. His efforts to break down racial barriers has benefited not only the farm worker community but the entire Vermont community.

Daniel is a kind and caring young gentleman whom I would be proud to have as my neighbor. Simply stated, Daniel is outstanding resident of Vermont who presents no risk to public safety. It is for that reason that I respectfully request that you exercise prosecutorial discretion in Daniel's case and dismiss the deportation proceedings pending against him.

Thank you for considering my request. If you have further questions concerning my knowledge of Daniel's character, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Steve Gould", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Steve Gould

June 12, 2013

John Morton
Director of Immigration and Customs Enforcement
Department of Homeland Security
500 12th St., SW
Washington, D.C. 20536

Dear Director Morton:

I am writing to ask that you grant Prosecutorial Discretion to Daniel Alejandro Lopez Santiago, (A089-088-623), currently living in Burlington, Vermont, and subject to a departure on July 5th, 2013.

I am a citizen and resident of Charlotte, Vermont. I am a social studies teacher but I am currently working at home raising my two children. I am a deacon in the Charlotte Congregational Church.

Daniel Alejandro Lopez Santiago, known as 'Danilo' by his friends, is a farm worker and civil rights leader in Vermont. I have known Danilo for more than two years since he first attended a Spanish church service at my church. Over the last two years I have had the honor of volunteering alongside Danilo, and I have watched him become an incredibly strong leader and advocate for the human rights of all people.

As you may already know by now, Danilo Lopez is a public figure in the State of Vermont. He has come by this status because he is a tireless worker, was recognized in 2011 as a Vermont Human Rights Hero by the Vermont Worker's Center and he was instrumental in the successful effort to grant access to driver's licenses to all state residents, regardless of immigration status.

All of this taken together makes Danilo one of the most influential and important voices in Vermont today. This makes Danilo's presence in Vermont, and in the United States, a critical piece in the struggle for justice and human rights.

I respectfully request that you grant Prosecutorial Discretion to Daniel Alejandro Lopez Santiago, and thus allow him to continue this critical work.

Sincerely,

Laura O'Brien

LOB/bon

Avery Book
155 North Winooski Ave., Apt. 1
Burlington, VT 05401

Immigration and Customs Enforcement Director John Morton
Department of Homeland Security
500 12th St., SW
Washington, D.C. 20536

Boston Field Office Director Dorothy Herrera Niles
10 New England Executive Park
Burlington, MA 01803

Dear Director John Morton:

I am writing to ask that you grant Prosecutorial Discretion to Daniel Alejandro Lopez Santiago. A089-088-623), who currently lives in Burlington Vermont. He is currently subject to a departure on July 5th 2013. Known as 'Danilo' by his friends, he is a farm worker and civil rights leader in Vermont.

My name is Avery Book. I live in Burlington, Vermont, and I am a United States citizen. I am a professional musician, sing in a number of local community choirs, and am a regular volunteer with local nonprofits Migrant Justice and the Vermont Workers' Center. I grew up in Vermont, and I have been only impressed by Danilo's selfless contributions to my home state.

I have known Danilo since the summer of 2011, as a friend and fellow community organizer. I have been consistently moved by his passion, compassion for others, and the unassuming, direct, and effective leadership he demonstrates in every area of his life. He has been a critical civil rights and human rights leader in strengthening Vermont's bias-free policing policy, in educating the broader public about the experiences of immigrants in Vermont, and in the successful passage of a law allowing driver's licenses for all Vermont residents, regardless of citizenship status.

Danilo is an incredible public speaker. I've seen him speak in a range of contexts, from the Vermont State House to university lecture halls to community meetings all over the state. He's inspired reactions ranging from standing ovations to moving people to tears from people who have been touched by his vision and the stories he shares. He has also made an incredible impact on his friends and fellow community members in his interpersonal interactions. He is patient, attentive, supportive, and encourages and pushes others to find their own courage to become leaders themselves. This is true whether he is talking with fellow farmworkers on rural dairy farms or to Vermont-born friends and neighbors here in Burlington over dinner.

Danilo has worked tirelessly to make Vermont a better place for everyone. I think his is a clear case, and I ask you to grant him prosecutorial discretion.

Best regards



Avery Book

Dana Woodruff
120 Main St. #1
Plainfield, VT 05667
June 14, 2013

Immigration and Customs Enforcement Director John Morton
Department of Homeland Security
500 12th St., SW
Washington, D.C. 20536

Boston Field Office Director Dorothy Herrera Niles
10 New England Executive Park
Burlington, MA 01803

Dear Director Morton:

I am writing in order to ask that you grant Prosecutorial Discretion to Daniel Alejandro Lopez Santiago.

My name is Dana Woodruff, I live at 120 Main St #1, Plainfield, VT 05667, and I am a US citizen. I am a health educator and member of the Central VT Farmworker Coalition, the VT Farm Health Task Force, Migrant Justice, and I have completed and assisted with the VT Farm Health Task Force's Agricultural Medicine training program.

I have known Daniel Alejandro Lopez Santiago for two years. We met through the organization Migrant Justice and we have worked together often since then. Danilo is both a friend and colleague. Danilo is a caring and thoughtful community member, as well as an attentive listener. He is very responsible and follows through in his work. His calm and warm personality puts the others around him at ease. He is dedicated to his friends, colleagues, and those in VT's migrant farm worker community. He is very community-minded, giving much of his time and energy to support others and working to raise awareness and make positive changes at the statewide level.

Danilo visited my workplace to give a presentation on the connections between workers' rights in the US and in Mexico. He is very well spoken, sharing his personal and family history and connecting it with broader issues here in VT, nationally, and internationally. There was a great turnout at this event, including my co-workers and community members, and many people left feeling both informed and moved by Danilo's presentation. This is just one example of the many presentations that Danilo has given in educational and community settings.

We most recently worked together in organizing at the Statehouse, within the migrant farm worker community, as well as in the larger VT community, in order to pass the law that allows freedom of mobility (via access to driver's privilege cards) to all Vermont residents, regardless of immigration status.

Danilo contributes very much to the VT community and I believe that he should be granted prosecutorial discretion.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Dana Woodruff

Hanna Mahon
8 Bakery Lane
Apartment 1
Middlebury, VT 05753

Office of the Chief Counsel
Prosecutorial Discretion Unit
Immigration and Customs Enforcement
15 New Sudbury Street
Boston, MA 02203

June 12, 2013

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing in order to ask that you grant Prosecutorial Discretion for Daniel Alejandro Lopez Santiago.


My name is Hanna Mahon. I am a US citizen and current resident of Apartment #1 at 8 Bakery Lane in Middlebury, Vermont. I am a senior at Middlebury College where I study Peace and Justice Studies and Education Studies. Though I was born and raised in Washington, DC, I plan on staying in Vermont after I graduate next year, hopefully in the capacity of community organizer or high school history teacher.

I first met Danilo (a nickname for Daniel) when he gave a presentation at Middlebury on immigrant rights in Vermont and his work with the Burlington-based organization Migrant Justice. When, after studying abroad for a semester on the Mexico Solidarity Network's Social Movements program, I was deciding what to do with my summer, I remembered his dynamic lecture and ended up a summer intern with the organization Migrant Justice. There I worked with Danilo almost every day, planning workshops on immigrant rights for religious leaders throughout Vermont, 'bike-riding for human rights,' organizing carpools for farmworker members of the organization, making the necessary though awkward fundraising phone calls, writing on a report on the state of the dairy industry in Vermont, and much more.

It is hard for me to essentialize Danilo through angular letters on a blank white page as I feel people are much more than the 'papers' that supposedly tell their stories for them, but I will say this: Danilo is one of the most dedicated, joyful, and inspiring people with whom I have ever worked. I spent last summer thinking of Danilo as one of my bosses—as a mentor showing me what it meant to be open-hearted and yet determined, trusting and yet pragmatic. Danilo is the one who taught me how to engage a crowd of people and inspire them to action. Danilo is the one who showed me that we must unconditionally treat everyone with respect even if they are acting in a way that we deem unethical. Danilo is the one I will always think of when I remember those special Vermonters who planted in me the seeds of a community organizer dedicated to the people.

I ask again – not because I feel my request is as yet unclear – but because, if Danilo has taught me anything, it is that to be an ally is to devote oneself to the repetitive monotony of just being there for people: Please grant Daniel Alejandro Lopez Santiago Prosecutorial Discretion.

Sincerely,



Hanna Mahon

June 14, 2013

Immigration and Customs Enforcement Director John Morton
Department of Homeland Security
500 12th St., SW
Washington, D.C. 20536

Dear Director Morton:

I am writing in order to ask that you grant Prosecutorial Discretion to Daniel Alejandro Lopez Santiago (A089-088-623), who currently lives in Burlington Vermont.

My name is Kate Kanelstein. I live in Burlington, Vermont and I work as the Lead Organizer with the Vermont Workers' Center.

Mr. Lopez, or Danilo, as friends call him, is an agricultural worker and an incredibly important civil and human rights leader in Vermont. After being detained due to an illegal incident of racial profiling, Danilo won a case of discrimination before the VT Human Rights Commission. He was also a key civil rights leader in a successful campaign for a new and improved State Police Bias-Free Policing policy.

In December 2011 on International Human Rights Day, my organization, the Vermont Workers' Center recognized Mr. Lopez, as Human Rights Hero of the Year at the Human Rights Conference at the University of Vermont. At that conference I heard Danilo speak on a panel alongside U.S. Senator Bernie Sanders, professors at the University of Vermont, leaders of disability rights organizations, leaders of Vermont's labor movement and Vermonters who lost their homes in hurricane Irene. I will never forget hearing Danilo's inspiring words when he spoke on that day and committed to making his community here in Vermont a better place.

Danilo has continued since then to be an incredibly important person in my life. He has taught me and many other people around him what it really means to be a part of a community in which people care for each other, treat each other with respect, work hard and advocate for what is right.

I have witnessed Danilo become a public speaker at churches, schools and universities. Most recently I saw him speak at an event in Montpelier where he stood with priests, ministers and other prominent community leaders to discuss issues of respect and fairness in our community.

For these reasons and so many more I strongly urge you to grant Mr. Lopez prosecutorial discretion. Please, do not take Danilo away from Vermont where he has so positively influenced the lives of many.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kate Kanelstein', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Kate Kanelstein
61 Spring Street
Burlington VT 05401

Immigration and Customs Enforcement Director John Morton

Department of Homeland Security

500 12th St., SW

Washington, D.C. 20536

Dear Director John Morton,

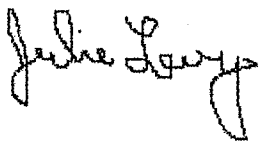
I am writing in support of Daniel Alejandro Lopez Santiago (A089-088-623) who has done excellent human rights work in the State of Vermont and whose presence is a positive contribution to the United States of America. He deserves a path to citizenship.

If you will grant him prosecutorial discretion to halt his deportation, our state and communities will be very much enriched by his presence.

In 2002 when our friend Ruth Juarez was granted legal status (after entering illegally in 1989), the judge told her that, based on 13 years of evidence of her positive contributions to the US, he wished that more people like her would bring their evidence and apply for legal status. (She was granted permission and now is a citizen based upon the NACARA opportunity.) That judge is not the only supporter of individuals who show outstanding service to our society. We, as well as many Vermonters, wish that Daniel and others active in enriching our state with their attention to communities and to human rights can have a path to legal status. It is the least we can do in gratitude for their presence.

Daniel's recent accomplishments:

- After being detained due to an illegal incident of racial profiling, Danilo won a case of discrimination before the VT Human Rights Commission. He was also a key civil rights leader in a successful campaign for a new and improved State Police Bias-Free Policing policy.
- Danilo has become a passionate and effective public speaker, speaking in schools, universities, churches, and for community and labor organizations about about civic engagement, immigration, and his experiences and the experiences of his communities on Vermont's dairy farms.
- For his community work and advocacy, in 2011 Danilo was recognized as the "Vermont Human Rights Hero" of the year by the Vermont Worker's Center at a conference of hundreds of community leaders at the University of Vermont.
- Danilo was a key leader in the effort for a successful road safety bill for Vermont, giving access to all state residents regardless of immigration status.



Julie Levy

Office of the Chief Counsel
Prosecutorial Discretion Unit
Immigration and Customs Enforcement
15 New Sudbury Street
Boston, MA 02203

William Bennington
7207 Route 7
North Ferrisburgh, VT
05473
802-734-9642

June 11, 2013

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am writing to request that you grant Prosecutorial Discretion to Daniel Alejandro Lopez Santiago.

My name is William Bennington. I rent an apartment at 7027 Route 7 in North Ferrisburgh, Vermont. I am a United States citizen and Vermont resident. I work as a campaigner and development associate for a forest protection organization, and am a small-scale organic farmer and a seasonal farm worker in Vermont. I graduated from the University of Vermont in 2011 with a B.S. in Forestry.

I met Daniel Alejandro Lopez Santiago (whom I will refer to as Danilo) 2 years ago while volunteering to support the migrant farm worker community in Vermont. Since meeting Danilo, I have seen him speak many times, and have spent time with him engaging in various community activities.

Danilo is an exemplary member of his local community, and of his statewide and national community. I have learned invaluable lessons about participating in and building community from Danilo. He has taught me the importance of advocating for oneself and for one's neighbors, friends and families.

Danilo is someone who puts the importance and well-being of his community before his own self interest. Over the past several years, he has worked tirelessly to give a voice and dignity to thousands of farm workers in Vermont.


I have personally experienced Danilo's ability to empower other community members to become civically and socially engaged, which is a difficult feat for people living in rural Vermont. Danilo's presence in our community has made us all stronger. Danilo possesses a great ability to critically engage people on complex issues involving immigration, labor issues and human rights.

My fondest memory of Danilo happened this past fall. We were driving through the back roads of a small, rural Vermont town trying to find a friend's house. Danilo was in charge of navigation, and I was driving. Danilo had printed directions in Spanish, but was trying to direct me in English, as his English is far superior to my Spanish. While it was a great challenge to communicate across two languages, while neither of us had any idea where we were, Danilo rose to the challenge and got us to our destination, where he gave some of the most inspiring and motivating testimony I have ever witnessed. And, when I took a wrong turn on our way home, Danilo once again rose to the challenge to reorient us and find our way back. This demonstrates his steadfast determination to solve problems no matter how difficult the situation may be.

Danilo's absence would deal a crushing blow to the greater Vermont community. At a time when so many people in our communities are struggling to meet their basic needs, we absolutely need strong leaders like Danilo to inspire, encourage and create meaningful solutions to the problems we create.

You must know that forcing Danilo to leave our community will impact thousands of people across the state and across the country. Danilo is a friend, a leader and a visionary. He has shown more dedication to the state of Vermont than most citizens in the state ever will. **I urge you to please grant Prosecutorial Discretion to Daniel Alejandro Lopez Santiago.** He is a community member that we cannot afford to lose.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'William Bennington', with a large, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

William Bennington

June 13, 2013

Office of Chief Counsel
Prosecutorial Discretion Unit
Immigration and Customs Enforcement
15 New Sudbury Street
Boston, MA 02203

To Whom it May Concern:

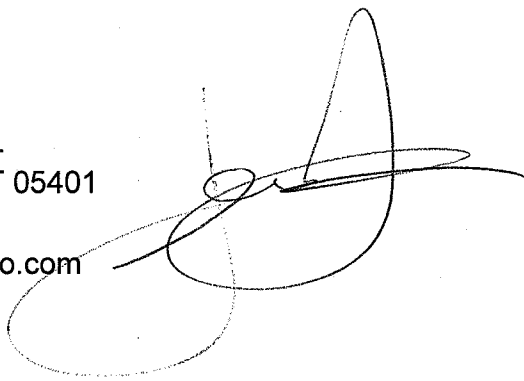
My name is Jen Berger. I live in Burlington, Vermont, and am an active member of my community as an artist, activist and educator. I am writing to you as a long time resident of Vermont, specifically Burlington. I begin this letter this way to give context to the many changes I have seen throughout the twelve years I have lived in Vermont, and to the people who have been instrumental in creating change.

I met Danilo Lopez a few years ago. When I met Danilo he was shy and reserved, as one would expect when feeling like a stranger in a new place. Yet it was always clear that Danilo had heart, and a strong sense of goodness within. Since our first meeting, Danilo has grown to be a leader in our community, fighting for justice for himself and his peers. He has taught many of us the nature of the lives of migrant workers, and worked hard to understand how to make an impact. I have seen Danilo stand in front of huge groups of people and speak his heart, and we have all been moved. And he has been nothing but kind and gracious.

Danilo is one of the people who makes a difference in the lives of others. He is a strong asset to our community, and there would be a void here if he leaves.

Please grant Danilo Lopez prosecutorial discretion. Our community is better off with him here.

Thank you,
Jen Berger
14 Decatur St.
Burlington, VT 05401
802.862.8127
jb4pax@yahoo.com

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, likely belonging to Jen Berger, written over the typed name and contact information.

6/13/2013

Darya Marchenkova
61 Spring Street
Burlington, VT 05401

Office of the Chief Counsel
Prosecutorial Discretion Unit
Immigrant and Customs Enforcement
15 New Sudbury Street
Boston, MA 02203

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am writing to ask that you grant prosecutorial discretion to Daniel Alejandro Lopez Santiago, known as Danilo in our community.

My name is Darya Marchenkova and I am 26-years-old. I live in Burlington, Vermont and work with a community organization called the Vermont Workers' Center. I am a permanent resident of the United States, having lived here since my family and I moved to Ohio from Moscow, Russia when I was five. This summer I am proud to submit an application for U.S. citizenship.

At the Vermont Workers' Center, we share an office with Migrant Justice. We also share a vision for a better Vermont where everyone can live free from want – in peace, happiness, and dignity. The organizations we are building are tight-knit communities where we try to love and take care of one another. Danilo is indispensable to that.

I have known Danilo since I met him at a conference in 2011, where he was helping set up a radio station to facilitate communication among migrant farmworkers in Vermont. Ever since then, I have known Danilo as an important leader of the movement to advance human rights. I moved to Vermont in 2012 and have become Danilo's colleague and friend. He is an extraordinary person: kind, generous, intelligent and humble. He is passionate and dedicated to the hard work of improving our democracy and economic system. We have spent countless late nights together at our office with other members of Migrant Justice and the Vermont Workers' Center, planning community workshops or making phone calls to our organizations' members. Danilo has helped many to understand the root causes of why people from all over this continent and the world come to the United States, and what a system based on human rights would look like.

It breaks so many hearts in Vermont to think that Danilo will be removed from our community. When Danilo and other members of Migrant Justice fight for their human rights, they build a better Vermont for us all, so Danilo is an important leader for everyone. He is also a dear friend to many.

I urge you to grant prosecutorial discretion to Daniel Alejandro Lopez Santiago. I am available to answer any questions or discuss this matter further.

Sincerely,
Darya Marchenkova
Communications Coordinator, Vermont Workers' Center
61 Spring Street
Burlington, VT 05401

Office of the Chief Counsel
Prosecutorial Discretion Unit
Immigration and Customs Enforcement
15 New Sudbury Street
Boston, MA 02203

Avery Pittman
83 South Water St
Vergennes, VT
05491
802-343-7565

June 11, 2013

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am writing to request that you grant Prosecutorial Discretion to Daniel Alejandro Lopez Santiago.

My name is Avery Pittman. I rent an apartment at 83 South Water Street in Vergennes, Vermont. I am a United States citizen and Vermont resident. I work as a community organizer for a human rights and labor organization. I graduated from the University of Vermont in 2012 with a B.A. in Environmental Studies.

I met Daniel Alejandro Lopez Santiago (whom I will refer to as Danilo) 2 years ago while volunteering to support the migrant farm worker community in Vermont. Since meeting Danilo, I have seen him speak many times, and have spent time with him engaging in various community activities.

Danilo is an exemplary member of his local community, and of his statewide and national community. I have learned invaluable lessons about participating in and building community from Danilo. He has taught me the importance of advocating for oneself and for one's neighbors, friends and families.

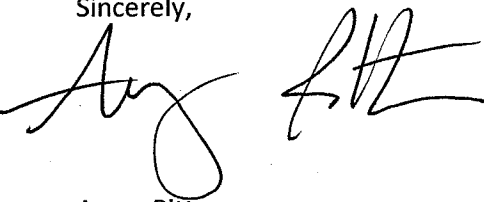
Danilo is someone who puts the importance and well-being of his community before his own self interest. Over the past several years, he has worked tirelessly to give a voice and dignity to thousands of farm workers in Vermont.

I have personally experienced Danilo's ability to empower other community members to become civically and socially engaged, which is a difficult feat for people living in rural Vermont. Danilo possesses a great ability to critically engage people on complex issues involving immigration, labor issues and human rights.

Danilo's absence would deal a crushing blow to the greater Vermont community. At a time when so many people in our communities are struggling to meet their basic needs, we absolutely need strong leaders like Danilo to inspire, encourage and create meaningful solutions to the problems we create.

You must know that forcing Danilo to leave our community will impact thousands of people across the state and across the country. Danilo is a friend, a leader and a visionary. He has shown more dedication to the state of Vermont than most citizens in the state ever will. **I urge you to please grant Prosecutorial Discretion to Daniel Alejandro Lopez Santiago.** He is a community member that we cannot afford to lose.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Avery Pittman', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Avery Pittman

Immigration and Customs Enforcement Director John Morton
Department of Homeland Security
500 12th St., SW
Washington, D.C. 20536

Boston Field Office Director Dorothy Herrera Niles
10 New England Executive Park
Burlington, MA 01803

Dear Director Morton:

I am writing in order to ask that you grant Prosecutorial Discretion to Daniel Alejandro Lopez Santiago. A089-088-623), who currently lives in Burlington Vermont. He is currently subject to a departure on July 5th 2013. Known as 'Danilo' by his friends, he is a farm worker and civil rights leader in Vermont.

My name is Teresa Mares, and I have worked as a volunteer with Migrant Justice. I am a citizen of the United States, and am a professor of anthropology studying the relationships between migration, hunger, and food access. I have been researching and advocating for immigrant rights since 2004, in both Washington State and Vermont.

I have known Danilo for the past year and a half and first met him through our mutual involvement at Migrant Justice. During that time, I have been consistently inspired by Danilo's work and commitment to human rights and expanding the community's understanding of the struggles that confront migrant workers in the state and the surrounding region. He has been central to ongoing work regarding Bias-Free Policing and a successful road safety bill for Vermont, giving access to all state residents regardless of immigration status. Danilo has quickly become a leader in Vermont and has been at the forefront of the migrant justice and human rights movement. In 2011, he was recognized as "Vermont Human Rights Hero" by the Vermont Worker's Center. He speaks regularly at public events, including at schools and universities, churches, community events, and academic events.

Danilo is a model member of our community and everyone who is fortunate to meet him is impressed by his good nature and friendliness, commitment to positive social change, and desire to help others. I have worked with Danilo at several community events and have heard him speak on at least five occasions. Danilo is a tireless community advocate and without his continued involvement, the movement for human rights in Vermont would be significantly weakened.

I firmly believe that Daniel (Danilo) Alejandro Lopez Santiago should be granted prosecutorial discretion.

Sincerely,



Teresa Mares, Ph.D.
27 School Street
Burlington, Vermont 05401
(802) 310-1179

Office of the Chief Counsel
Prosecutorial Discretion Unit
Immigration and Customs Enforcement
15 New Sudbury Street
Boston, MA 02203

June 12, 2013

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am writing in order to ask that you grant Prosecutorial Discretion to Daniel Alejandro Lopez Santiago, who currently lives in Burlington Vermont. My name is Chris Schroth, of Glover, VT, and I run a small farm and ag-educational program in Northern Vermont. I also volunteer with the Vermont Workers Center and Migrant Justice and play music with a number of community based projects.

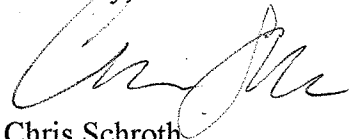
I met Daniel, or Danilo as he is known to friends, two years ago shortly after he was illegally detained by the VT State Police. Later that year I participated in the Vermont Worker's Center conference where he was recognized as the "Vermont Human Rights Hero" of the year.

During the last year I volunteered alongside him with Migrant Justice. He worked tirelessly on the Drivers' License campaign while consistently supporting his community members facing workers' rights violations. His leadership and dedication extend beyond his personal struggles. He has been a key part of the Put People First campaign, and has worked with the Vermont Workers Center, Green Mountain Self Advocates, NDLON, and the Poverty Initiative, among many other groups, institutions, and schools.

Danilo is more than just an organizer and leader; he is a human being and a good friend. I lived with Danilo for part of this past year, and he was a pleasure to live with and always supportive. He often would feed me and cook delicious food when I was too busy to take care of myself, and has always been there for me when I needed him. He put up with and encouraged my loud music practice, and is a fun and hilarious person to be around.

Danilo is vital to our state and our community. He has worked ceaselessly to improve the lives of a wide spectrum of people, and has fought for civil rights since I first met him. I strongly urge you to grant Daniel Alejandro Lopez Santiago Prosecutorial Discretion and stop his deportation.

Sincerely,



Chris Schroth
287 Drew Place
Glover, VT 05839

273 Lynrick Acres
Charlotte, VT 05445
June 13, 2013

Immigration and Customs Enforcement Director John Morton
Department of Homeland Security
500 12th St., SW
Washington, D.C. 20536

Dear Mr. Morton:

I am writing to urge that you grant prosecutorial discretion for Mr. Daniel Alejandro Lopez Santiago (known as Danilo Lopez) so that he is not deported from our community. I have lived half my seventy-two years in the State of Vermont, am a long-term member of the Cathedral Church of St. Paul in Burlington, and now work as a volunteer on environmental and social issues. I have lived in Charlotte, VT with my husband for 23 years.

I first met Danilo on September 1, 2012 at the Peoples' Convention in Burlington, VT when he spoke to a group of those who attended the convention. He spoke in Spanish, through an interpreter, in a way that impressed me deeply; he was engaging, unpretentious, earnest, and revealed compassion and real leadership ability.

Danilo has worked skillfully with fellow immigrant workers and Vermonters to help pass legislation creating a new category of drivers' licenses in Vermont to enable these workers, our neighbors, to gain mobility and live as members of our society while they work long hard hours in the dairy industry. I have come to know him as a creative, articulate, intelligent, caring leader with a keen sense of justice and a vision of a more inclusive and just society in Vermont shared by myself and others who have worked on migrant issues and those who have written on his behalf. He has also demonstrated a commitment to non-violence in his demeanor and work.

I observed him talking with a Senator about legislation supported by Migrant Justice and allies. She was undecided about her position and had questions about the need for the law. He talked patiently with her as one human to another. After the bill passed the House, she ultimately decided to vote for it in the Senate and helped it become law.

This young man cares enough for his family in Mexico to risk extreme danger and hardship in our country. He has also demonstrated care for the migrant community and the larger community of Vermont, and if not deported, could be eligible for citizenship in the U.S. I sincerely hope that my letter and those of others in support of Mr. Lopez will persuade you to use your prosecutorial discretion to prevent his deportation from our community.

Sincerely,

Sylvia Knight

P.S. Because I am attending a conference in Canada, I am unable to include my signature in this letter. To confirm my identity, please contact Mark Howe, Music Director and Canon Precentor at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul, 2 Cherry St, Burlington VT. Telephone: work, 802-864-0471; home, 802-865-1258.

155 Main St.
Montpelier, Vt. 05602
phone: 802-505-3562
6/12/2013
e-mail: stevelobb@gmail.
com

TO: John Morton
Director of ICE

Dear Sir:

I am writing this letter to ask you to use your prosecutorial discretion to stop the deportation of Daniel Alejandro Lopez Santiago scheduled for July 5, 2013. To illustrate my reasons for this request, I would like to share with a similar situation with my own son concerning immigration issues.

I took my 17 year old son to Holland where he was accepted as a student at the Rindlands Lyceum. The Dutch immigration laws had no category for our situation, i.e. Student with family. So they "overlooked" us, but had us check with them monthly, allowing us to stay. The result was good for all parties concerned, because my son became the first non-Dutch student to be chosen to represent Holland at the Model United Nations, and went on to be involved at the Peace Palace Program at the Hague. From there he was on his way to Harvard Law School, after he would finish his studies at Amherst College. All this education was on full scholarship,

due to my low income. Had the Dutch immigration not allowed him to stay in Holland, none of these good outcomes would have happened.

The comparison here is that Daniel Lopez very much reminds me of my own son, and should be given a chance to continue his excellent work here in Vermont. Daniel is a very talented and bright young man with enormous possibilities to be a big help in immigration issues and more. He has already had a leading influence in the Vermont farming community and has shown amazing skill in organizing when working with our legislators. I have seen him in action in State House hearings. He is a very quiet, calm, and unassuming person with a lot of good capabilities, and is very much needed here in Vermont. Being from Mexico, he draws on his agrarian background. This combined with his abilities for mediation, allows him to make a positive contribution when it comes to immigration policy in our state.

It would be a crying shame and a huge dis-service to our community here to deport him.

I am open to discuss this more with you and thank you for your kind consideration of this matter.

yours sincerely,

Stephen D. Lobb

June 17, 2013

Immigration and Customs Enforcement Director John Morton
Department of Homeland Security
500 12th St., SW
Washington, D.C. 20536

Boston Field Office Director Dorothy Herrera Niles
10 New England Executive Park
Burlington, MA 01803

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am writing in order to ask that you grant Prosecutorial Discretion to Daniel Alejandro Lopez Santiago. My name is Cecile Reuge. I am a student in the Masters Program in Food Systems at the University of Vermont. For the past few years I have been very involved with the Vermont Worker's Center as a volunteer organizer. I have spent several years as a teenager and young adult working in food service. I am a dual citizen of the United States and France.

I have known Danilo since November 2011. I have since had the pleasure of watching Danilo flourish as a passionate grassroots leader, organizing his peers and giving them the courage to speak out about the many woes in the life of a dairy farm worker in Vermont. Danilo once told me a story about being kicked in the ribs while milking and waiting for 48 hours to receive medical attention due to a lack of access to healthcare and transportation. Since then, he has been fighting tirelessly for the right to mobility for himself and his peers. In June of 2013, Senate Bill 38 was signed into law, giving all people in Vermont, documented or not, the right to mobility. I do not believe that this victory would have been possible without Danilo's dedication and organizing efforts throughout the two years prior.

Danilo Lopez is a key player in building unity between workers in Vermont. He is a crucial peer advocate and member of the Burlington Community. Please consider my testimony and grant Prosecutorial Discretion to Mr. Lopez.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cecile Reuge". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Cecile Reuge
36 Decatur Street
Burlington, VT 05401
(631)275-1546

June 18, 2013

Immigration and Customs Enforcement Director John Morton
Department of Homeland Security
500 12th St., SW
Washington, D.C. 20536

Boston Field Office Director Dorothy Herrera Niles
10 New England Executive Park
Burlington, MA 01803

Dear Director Morton:

I am writing in order to ask that you grant Prosecutorial Discretion to Daniel Alejandro Lopez Santiago (A089-088-623), who currently lives in Burlington Vermont. He is currently subject to a departure on July 5th 2013. Known as 'Danilo' by his friends, he is a farm worker and civil rights leader in Vermont.

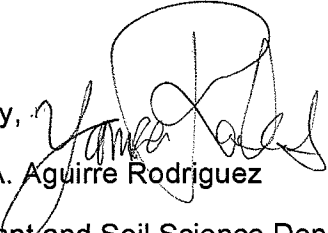
My name is Yanira A. Aguirre Rodriguez, I live in 93 N. Union St in Burlington Vt. I'm a permanent resident in Vermont since 2012. I work in the Plant and Soil Science Department for the University of Vermont as a researcher. Also I'm a volunteer with Migrant Justice, where I met Daniel A. Lopez Santiago more than a year ago.

We were working together organizing events for the Hispanic community in Vermont, and after a short period of time we became very good friends. We've share many moments together as friends and I can assure you that he is an honest, hardworking man.

Danilo is a sharing, intelligent sensitive human being. I was able to see his develop as a leader for the Hispanic Immigrant community during the last year, and I can tell you that he never disappointed his peers. He is the voice for hundreds of Latino farmworkers and their struggle for Humans Rights in Vermont, and if someone asks him for help, he will always be there for them.

Danilo is not a threat to public safety, he has no criminal record and he has been an asset to the Vermont community. I am aware that he has one prior removal from 2007, however his record and story show that if given a chance to remain in the United States, he will use his time and work to make the Vermont community and the country a better place, and will continue to advocate for human rights. Please consider closing his deportation case using prosecutorial discretion.

Sincerely,


Yanira A. Aguirre Rodriguez

UVM Plant and Soil Science Department. 802-310-9066

GRAVES & DOYLE
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
77 FRANKLIN STREET, 3RD FLOOR
BOSTON, MA 02110

WILLIAM E. GRAVES JR.
KERRY E. DOYLE

TEL: (617) 542-6400
FAX: (617) 542-6411

April 24, 2012

BY HAND

Prosecutorial Discretion Panel
Office of Chief Counsel
Department of Homeland Security
15 New Sudbury Street
Boston, MA 02203

Re: Request for Prosecutorial Discretion – Daniel Alejandro Lopez-Santiago
A 089 088 623
Next Hearing: April 26, 2012

To Whom it May Concern:

I am writing to ask the Department of Homeland Security to consider prosecutorial discretion for the above-referenced individual, who is currently in removal proceedings before Judge Feder. His next hearing is on April 26, 2012, when we are scheduled to argue a Motion to Suppress that is currently pending before the Immigration Court. I believe that his case merits consideration for prosecutorial discretion and administrative closure. He has enormous support in his community. We have submitted more than 30 letters from individuals who know him and have written about his community involvement in Vermont.

Relevant Factors

Mr. Lopez-Santiago has been active in the working for the rights of migrant workers in Vermont. According to State Senator Philip Baruth, the Vermont Senate Agriculture Committee worked closely with Mr. Lopez and others, and crafted a bill that helped farmworkers and was publicly acceptable. He describes Mr. Lopez as a "very special individual, a gifted young man . . . a natural leader." Letter of Senator Philip Baruth. Senator Sara Kittell echos some of these sentiments and noted Mr. Lopez' "moral grounding in human rights and responsibility to others." Letter of Senator Sara B. Kittell.

Brendan O'Neill, the co-coordinator of Migrant Justice, a non-profit organization in Vermont, has known Mr. Lopez for three years and writes about Mr. Lopez commitment to migrant workers help lead to the founding of Migrant Justice. Mr. O'Neill noted that Mr. Lopez was named the 2011 Human Rights Hero by the University of Vermont.

Other letters discuss Mr. Lopez hours of volunteering, his leadership skills, his sincerity and his dedication to human and civil rights. By all accounts, he is an exemplary individual. In addition, Mr. Lopez has no criminal history and he has never received public assistance in the United States. He does not pose a threat to public safety or to national security.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter and to review Mr. Lopez' file. He is a hardworking man who has never been involved in criminal activity. He has attended all of his hearings before the Court and would follow any instructions issued to him by DHS. I have additional letters and can provide additional evidence to assist you in your decision. I believe that he deserves the opportunity to remain in the United States and merits the exercise of prosecutorial discretion. Thank you again.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'WEG', with a stylized flourish extending from the end.

William E. Graves Jr.

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LOPEZ-SANTIAGO, Daniel Alejandro
A089 088 623

Dated: April 24, 2012



The University of Vermont

Office of the Chief Counsel
Prosecutorial Discretion Unit
Immigration and Customs Enforcement
15 New Sudbury Street
Boston, MA 02203

April 16, 2012

Dear Chief Counsel Officer:

My name is Philip Baruth, and I'm a Vermont State Senator representing Chittenden County, as well as a Professor of English at the University of Vermont in Burlington. It is my understanding that Daniel Alejandro Lopez Santiago has applied to you for prosecutorial discretion in his pending immigration case. This letter is sent on his behalf, and by way of summary let me say that over the last six months I have come to think of Danilo as one of the most honorable and admirable young men I know. It is my hope that you will permit him to stay in the United States for as long as that is his wish.

Far from being a threat of any sort to our greater community here in Vermont, Danilo has selflessly dedicated himself to mitigating the sometimes harsh conditions experienced by his countrymen while working on dairy farms here in the US, and that effort deserves our thanks and recognition. Let me explain more specifically.

Some five months ago, Danilo and others from the organization Migrant Justice approached the Senate Agriculture Committee, upon which I currently sit, to discuss a bill then being drafted – S.238, which would address the working conditions for dairy workers from Mexico and Guatemala, many of whom labor on isolated Vermont farms, often without access to proper medical care and the necessities of daily life. And so over the course of several months, we took testimony from Danilo and others, and worked closely with them to craft a bill that would pass Federal muster, assuage the fears of a sometimes skeptical public, yet also substantially improve the lives of young men and women who typically work 10-12 hour days.

During those months, I watched Danilo very closely, and found him to be impressively intelligent, self-effacing, and extremely hard-working. He has become a one-man liaison between his countrymen and the growing number of Vermonters who would like to make their working conditions more humane; in his handling of this role, he has shown both maturity and an enviable evenness of temper.

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

400 Old Mill, 94 University Place, Burlington, VT 05405-0114

Telephone: (802) 656-3056, Fax: (802) 656-3055

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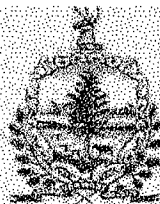
I know I speak for the other Senators on Senate Agriculture when I say the following: Danilo is a very special individual, a gifted young man who – because of chance and circumstance – has become a natural leader for many others. I ask you to exercise your prosecutorial discretion in this case because Danilo has deserved that discretion through his personal conduct, but also because solving our intractable immigration problems will require skilled young leaders on both sides of the debate, and Danilo represents precisely that sort of judicious, sympathetic and level-headed leadership. We sorely need him here in Vermont, every bit as much as he needs your intervention to remain.

Thank you for your consideration. Please don't hesitate to contact me should you need any further information – Danilo's case is of very special concern to me, and if I can strengthen it in any way – including sponsoring him personally in his attempts to secure a place here in the US – I will do so wholeheartedly.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Philip Baruth". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the typed name.

Senator Philip Baruth,
Representing Chittenden County, Vermont



STATE OF VERMONT
SENATE CHAMBER

April 13, 2012

Senator Sara B. Kittell
437 Chester Arthur RD
Fairfield Vermont 05455
skittell@leg.state.vt.us

Office of the Chief Counsel Date:
Prosecutorial Discretion Unit
Immigration and Customs Enforcement
15 New Sudbury Street
Boston, MA 02203A

Danilo Lopez:
Justicia Migrante/Migrant Justice
danilo@migrantjustice.nte
802-777-0938 (cell)
802-658-6770 (office)

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in order to ask that you grant Prosecutorial Discretion to Daniel Alejandro Lopez Santiago.

My name is Sara B. Kittell, I am an elected Vermont State Senator for the past 17 years, chair of the Vermont Senate Agriculture Committee for the past 15 years, also, past chair of the Northeast States Association for Agricultural Stewardship, representing the ten northeast states. I live in an agricultural county with many dairy farm businesses. Vermont has 1000 dairy farms and they provide an important economy for our state.

I met Daniel Alejandro Lopez Santiago in January 2012 at the Vermont Statehouse as he testified about legislation for migrant farm workers. I have had the opportunity to meet and talk with Danilo a number of times since.

I observe Danilo to be committed to working with the legislators, willing to speak, be patient and listen, with a sincere appearance and respect for all involved in the process. When he has been a witness in the Senate Agriculture Committee he has addressed the issues succinctly, and shared his sense of moral grounding in human rights and responsibility to others as he testified on behalf of the migrant farm workers in Vermont.

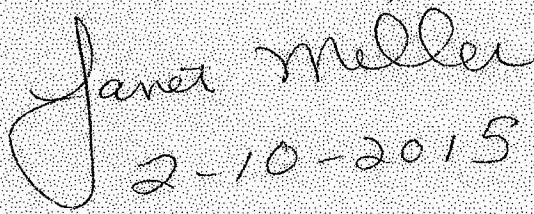
I believe that Mr. Lopez should be granted prosecutorial discretion.

Yours truly,



Senator Sara B. Kittell

Today April 13-2012, Sara B. Kittell
Signed before me. State of
VT.

Notary 
exp. 2-10-2015



Langrock Sperry & Wool, LLP
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

Peter P. Langrock
Mark L. Sperry
Michael W. Wool
Ellen Mercer Fallon

William B. Miller, Jr.
Christopher L. Davis
James W. Swift
Emily J. Joselson

Thomas Z. Carlson
Susan M. Murray
Alison J. Bell
Mitchell L. Pearl

Kevin E. Brown
Frank H. "Fritz" Langrock
F. Rendol Barlow
Devin McLaughlin
Lisa B. Shelkrot
Eric M. Knudsen
David W. M. Conard
Sarah Gentry Tischler
Wanda L. Otero

Erin Miller Heins
Hobart F. Popick

Cara L. Cookson
Michele B. Patton
Alexia Venafra

April 17, 2012

Office of the Chief Counsel
Prosecutorial Discretion Unit
Immigration and Customs Enforcement
15 New Sudbury Street
Boston, MA 02203

Re: Daniel Alejandro Lopez Santiago

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in support of Daniel Alejandro Lopez Santiago's request for Prosecutorial Discretion.

I had the privilege of representing Danilo before the Vermont Human Rights Commission on the question of whether his September 19, 2011 detention violated the Vermont Public Accommodations Act. Having reviewed the video of the traffic stop, it is clear to me that the only reason Trooper Hatch extensively questioned and ultimately detained Danilo was because of the color of his skin. In my opinion, this violated the United States Constitution and the Vermont statute. See, e.g., Farm Labor Organizing Comm'n v. Ohio State Hwy Patrol, 308 F.3d 523, 532-33 (6th Cir. 2002)(equal protection violation if targeted for questioning based solely on Hispanic appearance). The Human Rights Commission agreed, finding probable cause that Danilo's stop and detention were illegal.

Beyond the success with the Human Rights Commission, what I wanted to highlight was my personal interaction with Danilo. He was a very thoughtful and polite client. He was impressive in explaining in forceful yet respectful language the indignities of the illegal stop to everyone at the hearing, including to members of the State Police and the Attorney General's office. I can confirm that to Danilo, his pursuit of justice had little to do with himself, but rather how he could help improve things for others who are similarly situated. Thankfully, in large part due to Danilo's efforts, the State of Vermont has started the process of adopting better guidelines on how to deal with immigration issues in future traffic stops.

REPLY TO: Middlebury Office • WEBSITE: www.langrock.com • EMAIL: attorneys@langrock.com

MIDDLEBURY, 111 S. Pleasant Street, P.O. Drawer 351, Middlebury, VT 05753-0351 • (802) 388-6356 • Fax: (802) 388-6149

BURLINGTON, 210 College Street, P.O. Box 721, Burlington, VT 05402-0721 • (802) 864-0217 • Fax: (802) 864-0137

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Office of the Chief Counsel

April 17, 2012

Page 2

I would ask that you please consider all this remarkable young man has done, and the courteous and law-abiding manner in which he has done it, and exercise prosecutorial discretion in Danilo's favor. Please feel free to call if you have any questions.

Yours truly,



Devin McLaughlin
dmclaughlin@langrock.com
DM:jaf
570458



Langrock Sperry & Wool, LLP
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

Peter F. Langrock
Mark L. Sperry
Michael W. Wool
Ellen Mercer Fallon

William B. Miller, Jr.
Christopher L. Davis
James W. Swift
Emily J. Joselson

Thomas Z. Carlson
Susan M. Murray
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April 17, 2012

Office of the Chief Counsel
Prosecutorial Discretion Unit
Immigration and Customs Enforcement
15 New Sudbury Street
Boston, MA 02203

Re: Daniel Alejandro Lopez

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am writing in order to ask that you grant Prosecutorial Discretion to Daniel Alejandro Lopez Santiago.

My name is Monica R. Collins and my mailing address is P.O. Box 275, Rochester, VT 05767. My physical address is 2277 VT Route 125, Hancock, VT 05748. I am a paralegal at the above named law firm, and a U.S. citizen born in Connecticut. My parents were immigrants from Lima, Peru.

I am currently involved with the following organizations / associations and community activities: Migrant Justice, Vermont Association for Justice (a plaintiff's attorney organization), the Vermont Bar Association as a paralegal member, the Vermont Paralegal Organization, and volunteer on the budget committee and a library committee in the town of Hancock, VT. I am also active in an arts organization in the town of Rochester, VT.

I have known Danilo for over a year as a colleague with Migrant Justice (formerly known as the Vermont Migrant Farm worker Solidarity Project). I also consider Danilo a friend. When Danilo was detained by the Vermont State Police, this law firm represented him in his complaint to the Vermont Human Rights Commission and I assisted Devin McLaughlin, Esq. in my capacity as a paralegal.

In time I have known Danilo, I have watched him grow to become an eloquent, and committed representative of the migrant farm worker community in Vermont. It takes courage to be in the situation he is in and still work towards bettering the situation of the farm worker community. I have been inspired at how he has turned a bad situation into an opportunity to bring light to a

REPLY TO: Middlebury Office • WEBSITE: www.langrock.com • EMAIL: attorneys@langrock.com

MIDDLEBURY: 111 S. Pleasant Street, P.O. Drawer 351, Middlebury, VT 05753-0351 • (802) 388-6356 • Fax: (802) 388-6149
BURLINGTON: 210 College Street, P.O. Box 721, Burlington, VT 05402-0721 • (802) 864-0217 • Fax: (802) 864-0137

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community so important to the Vermont dairy industry but who live in the shadows. His work has helped Vermont shape a more just bias-free policing policy and has educated students, teachers, community members, legislators and government officials about the migrant community and their lives, dispelling many prejudices.

He is compassionate, good humored, well mannered and a brilliant teacher to all of us who have watched and accompanied him this year, a shining example of an engaged community member, dedicated to public service. We should all strive to stand up for our beliefs and the betterment of our communities in the respectful and law-abiding manner in which Danilo does.

I respectfully urge you to exercise prosecutorial discretion in the case of Daniel Santiago Lopez. Our community is only enhanced by his presence here. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.

Sincerely,



Monica R. Collins
Paralegal, Langrock Sperry & Wool, LLP
Coordinating Committee member, Migrant Justice

mcollins@langrock.com
MRC

Migrant Justice

294 N. Winooski Ave, Ste 130, Burlington VT 05401 • 802-658-6770 • migrantjustice.net • info@migrantjustice.net

Brendan O'Neill
41 Beartown Rd.
Underhill, VT 05489

Office of the Chief Counsel
Prosecutorial Discretion Unit
Immigration and Customs Enforcement
15 New Sudbury Street
Boston, MA 02203

April 19, 2012

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am writing in order to ask that you grant Prosecutorial Discretion to Daniel Alejandro Lopez Santiago. My name is Brendan O'Neill and I am US citizen, educator and founder of an organization called Migrant Justice in Vermont.

I first met "Danilo" in the fall of 2009 when I was an English as a Second Language Teacher with the Vermont Migrant Education Program. Danilo was always punctual, prepared, and engaged. He went out of his way to make other students in the class feel comfortable and relaxed. He was respectful, articulate, and thoughtful.

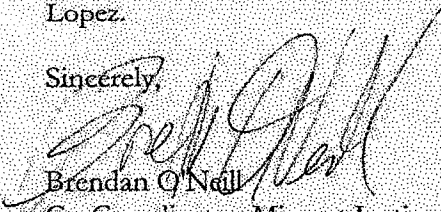
On December 22nd, 2009 after months of working closely with Danilo our English class was interrupted with heart breaking news. One of Danilo's fellow students, Samuel, received a phone call that his cousin, José Obeth Santis Cruz, was killed in a Vermont farming accident. Though Danilo did not know José personally he sprung into immediate action showing both compassion and strong leadership. He helped organize a collection amongst the migrant community in order to help return the young worker's body home to his family in Chiapas, Mexico. This death and community response in Vermont by leaders such as Danilo inspired a community building project that led to a new organization now called Migrant Justice. I am proud to say that I have known Danilo for nearly three years and each year I've only grown more impressed with him as a friend and human being.

In August 2011 Danilo helped lead a farm worker delegation to meet with Vermont Governor Shumlin to express concern about federal immigration policies that were blurring lines between police and immigration agents and causing widespread fear for Vermont's communities of color to access local and state police when they were victims or witnesses of crime. Ironically, just weeks later Danilo was traveling as a passenger in a vehicle on Interstate 89 in Vermont that was pulled over by State Police for speeding. Upon seeing the brown skinned individuals the Trooper shifted his attention from the traffic violation to a series of inappropriate questions of the passengers including asking them about their immigration status. The Trooper was in clear violation of the State Police's own Bias-Free-Policing Policy and Danilo was fully aware of this and notified Migrant Justice.

Migrant Justice responded with a community support campaign reaching out to VT Governor Shumlin calling for an investigation. Weeks later Danilo helped lead a farm worker delegation to meet with the Governor and call for a strengthened and clarified policy leading the Governor and State Police to create a new and improved policy that will benefit all communities of color in Vermont. Then, the VT Human Rights Commission ruled that Danilo was in fact discriminated against. Soon after, Danilo was recognized in a huge conference at the University of Vermont as the 2011 VT Human Rights Hero.

Danilo has a way of bringing out the best in all those who have the privilege to get to know him. Vermont is a better place thanks to Danilo. I urge you to please grant Prosecutorial Discretion to Daniel "Danilo" Alejandro Lopez.

Sincerely,



Brendan O'Neill
Co-Coordinator, Migrant Justice

2021) 1111-1124. doi: 10.1002/ajpa.24542. Epub 2021 Jul 14. PMID: 34281000

The Charlotte Congregational Church

United Church of Christ

Office of the Chief Counsel
Prosecutorial Discretion Unit
Immigration and Customs Enforcement
15 New Sudbury St.
Boston, MA 02203

April 18, 2012

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am writing to you with the request and hope that you will grant Prosecutorial Discretion to Danilo Alejandro Lopez Santiago. I am the Reverend Will Burhans, minister of the Charlotte Congregational Church, UCC in Charlotte, VT. My wife, 3 children and I are all U.S. citizens and have lived here in Vermont for 12 years.

I first met Danilo when our church organized and hosted a bi-lingual service for Epiphany 2 years ago. This was a joint effort with the local Catholic Church to meet and provide a meal and a religious service for our local migrant farm workers who are so important to the economy of our state and yet hidden within our communities. Danilo attended the service and joined us for a meal afterwards. While I do not speak Spanish well, I was impressed with Danilo's command of English, his friendliness and his appreciation for the service. Since then I have had the opportunity to read about and listen to Danilo in the local media as he supports his fellow farm workers and speaks for migrant workers' rights, always with a calm and gentle disposition that immediately draws people in and makes them want to listen. Those who come to know Danilo even a little bit as I have appreciate his presence and his manner, which is very warm and soft spoken but intelligent and full of care. Along with his fellow migrant workers, I also know that Danilo works incredibly hard and is very committed to the farm where he is employed. It would be a great loss not only for the farm and the migrant community but also for our wider Vermont community to lose someone who not only gives so much to the community through the physical work he does but also puts so much heart into working for fairness and justice in our state, an even greater gift to all of us.

Therefore I am asking that you grant Danilo Prosecutorial Discretion so that he will be able to stay among us here in Vermont. As a person of faith and the leader of a faith community, I am convinced by our sacred scriptures that God would have us better tend to the foreigner and sojourner among us. We must seek more fairness and justice for those who give so much of their lives to our country and yet who don't have the necessary papers to be officially citizens. Danilo and the Migrant Justice group in this area are working tirelessly for just this and they need more than anything our support and trust. They are the ones helping to align our communities ever more fully to the very justice and neighborliness that ultimately blesses all of us.

Thank you for your time and effort on his behalf. I will hold Danilo, your office, and this situation in prayer as you consider it.

Sincerely,



Rev. Will Burhans

April 15, 2012

Office of the Chief Counsel
Prosecutorial Discretion Unit
Immigration and Customs Enforcement
15 New Sudbury Street
Boston, MA 02203

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am writing in order to ask that you grant Prosecutorial Discretion to Daniel Alejandro Lopez Santiago.

My name is Martha Caswell, I live at 125 North Champlain Street in Burlington, Vermont with my husband, Seth Wolcott-MacCausland and son Jasper Caswell-MacCausland. All three of us are citizens of the United States. After years of working in the nonprofit sector, I am currently working as an independent contractor – serving as a research assistant at the University of Vermont, helping out on Seth's family farm and volunteering significant time for two organizations (Migrant Justice/Justicia Migrante – an organization focused on organizing farm workers and engaging Vermonters to build more socially and economically just farming communities and food systems, and Food 4 Farmers – a nonprofit whose mission is to facilitate the implementation of sustainable food security programs in coffee-growing communities).

This letter is hard for me to write, since I am struggling for appropriate words to express my deep appreciation for Daniel Alejandro Lopez Santiago (Danilo) and convey to you how utterly impressed I have been by him in the past year as we have worked together and become friends.

I first met Danilo in the summer of 2011, when he became more involved in Migrant Justice. From the beginning, Danilo has added something special to the organization. He has a willingness to jump in and an eagerness to contribute that meets a critical need in our small organization. Early on it was clear that Danilo brings great communication skills in many mediums, and has led Migrant Justice to more effective community outreach – through videos he has produced, newsletters compiled and written by farm workers that he co-edited, and through the many presentations he has made throughout Vermont in recent months (with audiences including Peter Shumlin, the Governor of Vermont; members of the Vermont State Senate and House of Representatives, churches, universities, and several conferences).

Danilo is generous in sharing his story so that others better understand the situation of farm workers living in Vermont. Ours is a state that relies on these workers to maintain our dairy industry. They are a population, albeit hidden, that is critical to the health and maintenance of Vermont's economy. Undocumented workers are already at times exploited and often live hidden away from the rest of the state. They are often subjected to racial profiling because they are "different" in a majority white, rural state. Even Governor Shumlin said that our policy has been to "look the other way." Unfortunately this neither serves the individuals who are caught in the middle of this situation nor furthers the goal of

-continued-

resolving this need with an appropriate policy shift that would provide legal status for the workers who are currently undocumented. By going out into communities and talking about his experience, Danilo is furthering a dialogue that is badly needed and long overdue.

Because of the hours we have spent together in the past months, Danilo has become "uncle Danilo" to my son Jasper. The tenderness and care he shows to Jasper is incredible. It is this side of Danilo - the yin to the yang of his passion for speaking out and pursuing justice - that softens him. This is the quiet side, when he isn't responsible for representing a whole population of people - for speaking as the voice of farm workers in Vermont - when he can smile, relax, and just be Danilo.

Danilo is contributing to our community in tangible and profound ways. Through his leadership within the community of migrant workers in Vermont, Danilo is building bridges among workers, farmers, service providers, law enforcement, state officials and allies - engendering a sense of hope and dedication toward addressing this complicated situation.

With my whole heart and no hesitation I believe that Daniel Alejandro Lopez Santiago should be granted prosecutorial discretion.

Sincerely,



Martha Caswell
125 North Champlain Street
Burlington, Vermont 05401

State of VERMONT

County of FRAANKLIN

On this 15th day of APRIL, 2017 before me personally appeared MARTHA CASWELL to me known to be the person who executed the foregoing instrument, and she thereupon duly acknowledged to me that she executed the same to be her free act and deed.

Is Wagon

Office of the Chief Counsel
Prosecutorial Discretion Unit
Immigration and Customs Enforcement
15 New Sudbury Street
Boston, MA 02203

April 16, 2012

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am writing to ask that you grant Prosecutorial Discretion to Daniel Alejandro Lopez Santiago.

My name is Joshua Lanney. I am twenty-one years of age, not married, and was born and raised in Concord, New Hampshire where my parents still reside. I was born and remain a United States citizen. I have lived in the United States with the exception of one month in 2010 when I lived in Cuenca, Ecuador, and a further six months in 2010 when I lived and studied in Santiago, Chile. Since 2008 I have been studying Music, Spanish, and Geography at Saint Michael's College just outside of Burlington, Vermont. I will graduate in May with magna cum laude and thesis honors. My current address should I need to be reached is:

Joshua Lanney
1 Winooski Park
SMC Box #2963
Colchester, VT 05439

I am currently working for Saint Michael's College as an academic peer tutor in a variety of Music, Spanish, and Geography courses. I also teach private piano lessons. I left my job at Enterprise Rent-a-Car last autumn to devote more time to my studies, but may return to work with Enterprise in May.

In 2011 I co-founded a student organization at Saint Michael's college in collaboration with the University of Vermont. The organization is called Juntos (Spanish for "together"), and initially began at Middlebury College. We work to teach English to migrant workers in Vermont. We work in collaboration with the organizations Migrant Justice and Migrant Education. We provide transportation for these migrant workers (to the grocery store, community meals, church, etc.) and work to educate the community about the realities of migrant labor. I have been coordinating Juntos since its inception in Summer 2011. I met Daniel Alejandro Lopez Santiago through my involvement with Juntos and Migrant Justice, for whom I am currently an intern.

I met Daniel Alejandro Lopez Santiago (hereby referred to as "Danilo") in September of 2011 when I drove him back to the farm where he worked after Migrant Justice meal and planning meeting. He struck me as a friendly, empowered, bright, and kind-hearted individual, and we got along right away. We conversed

Office of the Chief Counsel
Prosecutorial Discretion Unit
Immigration and Customs Enforcement
15 New Sudbury Street
Boston, MA 02203

Leah Erlbaum
33 Russell St. #2
Burlington, VT
05401

17 April 2012

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am writing in order to ask that you grant Prosecutorial Discretion to Daniel Alejandro Lopez Santiago.

My name is Leah Erlbaum and I rent an apartment at 33 Russell St. in Burlington, VT. I am a substitute teacher, gardener, and I also work with adults with developmental disabilities. I am a United States citizen and Vermont resident. I grew up in East Montpelier, VT, graduated from College of the Atlantic in 2008 with a B.A. in Human Ecology, and returned to Vermont in 2011. I am an active member of my greater Vermont community: I care for ageing neighbors and friends, I sing and dance in local groups, and I have a community garden plot. I volunteer in basic English classes with Vermont Adult Learning, and I also frequently volunteer with the Vermont Worker's Center and Migrant Justice to help with hotline calls and event planning.

I met Daniel Alejandro Lopez Santiago in the summer of 2011, and we have become friends since I moved to Burlington in October of 2011. I have spent time with Danilo both in informal social situations and in situations where he held a leadership role, such as leading workshops and speaking tours. Because I speak Spanish, Danilo and I have had the fortune to be able to communicate with ease, and I occasionally serve as an informal translator in Danilo's company.

I know Danilo as a thoughtful, generous, person who is a loyal friend and is a dedicated and articulate spokesman for racial equality and justice. Danilo is a familiar face to many Burlington residents, and he has become an integral part of our local community.

Danilo is eager to learn new things and is self-assured when approaching even the most substantial of projects. When I met Danilo, he was just learning about movie editing. He has since dedicated himself to improving his audio and video editing skills, and frequently is the go-to person for media expertise in his volunteer capacity at Migrant Justice. I am inspired by his willingness to learn from those around him – and by his boldness in immediately applying his learning to very public projects without a trace of the self-consciousness I might display in a similar role.


As a leader, Danilo is articulate and confident. I was present at the December 10th 2011 Human Rights Day Conference in Burlington, VT, where Danilo spoke as part of a panel and received an award for his human rights work. He also organized a workshop along with fellow organizers and volunteers from Migrant Justice to educate others about Vermont's dairy industry and the root causes of migration. Workshop participants listened carefully when he spoke; he chooses his words with care, and speaks his mind frankly yet respectfully in a large group.

Danilo's outspoken support for human rights and anti-discrimination policies has moved many Vermonters to re-examine their own views on immigration and race, begin to embrace Vermont's diverse communities. Through dialogue and speeches to the Vermont legislature, college students, conference attendees, and even Vermont's governor, Danilo has become a recognizable face and spokesperson for an isolated and invisible group in our state. Danilo assumes this role with grace and confidence.

For these reasons, Danilo is a positive role model within the farm worker community, as well as in the larger Vermont community. I am personally inspired by Danilo's courage, as I know he inspires many of my Vermont neighbors and friends as well.

In conclusion, as my grandmother might say in Yiddish, Danilo is a "mensch": a person of integrity and dignity, with admirable values and a strong sense of right and wrong. He is a valuable asset to our community, an inspiration to many, and a good friend. **I strongly urge you to grant Daniel Alejandro Lopez Santiago prosecutorial discretion.**

Sincerely,


Leah Erlbaum

State of Vermont)
County of Chittenden)
City of Burlington) ss. Leah Erlbaum
Personally appeared _____
before me and subscribed and swore to the truth of the
foregoing statement.
Dated this 17 day of April, 2012



Notary Public My Commission Expires: 2/10/2015

April 12, 2012

246 Lynrick Acres
Charlotte, VT 05445

Office of the Chief Counsel
Prosecutorial Discretion Unit
Immigration and Customs Enforcement
15 New Sudbury Street
Boston, MA 02203

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am writing concerning Daniel Alejandro Lopez Santiago. I am a resident of Charlotte, Vermont, and a middle school social studies teacher. Currently I am staying at home to care for my two young daughters. I am the Secretary of the Vermont Alliance for the Social Studies and a Deacon of the Charlotte Congregational Church.

I first met Danilo at a Spanish church service held at the Charlotte Congregational Church in January 2011. Since that time, as a fellow resident of Charlotte, I have had occasion to provide him with transportation. I have been in attendance at several meetings of the advocacy organization Migrant Justice where Danilo has played a leadership role.

When I first drove Danilo to a Migrant Justice meeting I was immediately put at ease, despite my lack of Spanish fluency, by his gentle personality and ease of humor. Not to mention his good command of English. At the meeting Danilo spoke, somewhat hesitantly, to a group of thirty volunteers about his work in establishing better communication between farm workers. This work would enable workers to help each other with issues arising in their isolated lives, including gaining access to basic services and handling workplace abuses.

The next time I heard Danilo speak was at a meeting some months later, and this time he was speaking to other farm workers. For many migrant farm workers, these once-a-month meetings are the one opportunity they have to leave their farms and socialize with others. They are also an opportunity to discuss any difficulties they may be having and potential solutions. At this meeting, Danilo was speaking from a place of more confidence and strong leadership. His attitude of hope and belief in positive change, as a farm worker himself, was clearly something his fellow farm workers needed to hear.

Danilo's presence in Vermont has changed the nature of the discussion around the issues facing migrant farm workers in our state. His willingness to testify before the Vermont Legislature and to speak to the press has given Vermonters an insight into the hidden world which is helping to sustain Vermont's dairy industry.

The last time I gave Danilo a ride was from a bus stop in Charlotte to his home, only three miles away. At the end of the ride he asked how much money he should pay me. I declined

any compensation, and this is a fine example of who Danilo is. He is not looking for the easy, free way. He is looking to contribute. He is looking to continue his work so that the human rights of all people living in Vermont are recognized – important work that needs to be done.

I respectfully request that you grant Prosecutorial Discretion to Daniel Alejandro Lopez Santiago.

Sincerely,



Laura O'Brien



Carrie Spear
Comm exp. 2/2/13

Jill Charbonneau
17 Elm St.
Middlebury VT 05753
April 17th, 2012

Office of the Chief Counsel
Prosecutorial Discretion Unit
Immigration and Customs Enforcement
15 New Sudbury Street
Boston, MA 02203

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am writing in order to ask that you grant Prosecutorial Discretion to Daniel Alejandro Lopez Santiago. My name is Jill Charbonneau of 17 Elm Street Middlebury, Vermont. I am a single parent of three adult children. I am lifelong Vermonter. This is my 29th year as a letter carrier with the United States Postal Service. I am also a member of the National Association of Letter Carriers Branch 521. I have served my union in many capacities. I have been a steward for over two decades. I have also served as Vice-President and President of NALC Branch 521. I was Executive Vice President Of the Vermont State Association of Letter Carriers for over a decade. I have served the Vermont State Labor Council AFL-CIO as the Volunteer in Politics, Executive Vice-President and President Emeritus. I have been an activist in the single payer health care movement for two decades.

I met Danilo about a year ago at a community celebration of Medicare's birthday. I was struck by his demeanor. I found him shy, intelligent, and genuinely caring. He is a kind person, one you would like your children to befriend. We are colleagues within the labor community. I have over the course of this year come to understand his dedication to the farm workers of the Champlain Valley. He gives so much of himself to others, which is noteworthy in one so young. It transcends the barriers of language. Danilo is a leader of his peers. He leads by concern, listening skills, and kindness. I note, with interest, whatever pressures Danilo has over this hearing process he cheerfully and good naturedly continues his activism within his labor community. He is dedicated to improving the lives of immigrant farm workers by using his positive thinking and serving as a positive example.

In my line of work, I meet people from all walks of life and of a myriad of dispositions. I see people on their good days and their bad days. I think you would be doing Vermonters a great honor by allowing Danilo to remain in our community. He is an asset to both the migrant workers and to the Vermont communities where they live and work. Their work is desperately needed to get our farm products to market. The migrant workers should be a vibrant and integral part of our communities. Danilo is steadfast in his beliefs and equally important in his actions to support a family of community for our two cultures. I enjoy knowing and working with Danilo. I am sure you will too.

Respectfully,

Jill Charbonneau



Given to this 17th day of April 2012,

April 17, 2012

Office of the Chief Counsel

Prosecutorial Discretion Unit
Immigration and Customs Enforcement
15 New Sudbury Street
Boston, MA 02203

Dear Sir or Madam:

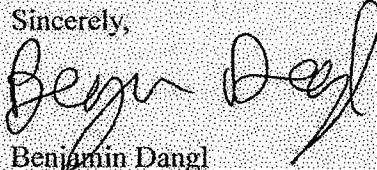
I am writing in order to ask that you grant Prosecutorial Discretion to Daniel Alejandro Lopez Santiago.

My name is Benjamin Dangi, I am 31 years old and live at 69 Marble Avenue in Burlington, Vermont. I am a college teacher, writer, editor, homeowner, United States citizen and was born in the United States. I am the author of two books on Latin American politics, and am now completing my Master's Degree in Latin American history at the University of Vermont. I am a long-time member of the Burlington, VT community and am an active participant in local politics, activism and social causes.

I have known Daniel Alejandro Lopez Santiago as a friend and fellow community member for more than a year. Danilo has been a guest at my home, friend at our dinner table, speaker on panels I have organized, and colleague in volunteer work through the organization Migrant Justice. From the very first time I met him, Danilo has impressed me with his kindness, sense of humor and excellent cooking skills. He is a very amiable and generous person, with a deep-seated concern for other people's well being. These traits are articulated through his everyday actions, whether among his many friends or within the sphere of his influential work as a social justice leader in Vermont.

Danilo has been a tireless and key leader in the struggle for the rights of migrant farm workers across Vermont. He is very democratic in his leadership, encouraging others to participate actively. As an articulate and informed activist, he has been an important part of the Vermont community, shaping the media and political debate around migrant farm worker issues in Vermont. Overall, Danilo is a wonderful member of our community whose presence and contributions are exactly what is needed to help make our state and nation a better and more inclusive place to live and work. I therefore believe that Danilo should be granted prosecutorial discretion.

Sincerely,


Benjamin Dangi
69 Marble Ave.
Burlington, VT, 05401
Phone: 802-540-2516



Notary, April 17, 2012

April 12, 2012

Office of the Chief Counsel
Prosecutorial Discretion Unit
Immigration and Customs Enforcement
15 New Sudbury Street
Boston, MA 02203

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am writing in order to ask that you grant Prosecutorial Discretion to **Daniel Alejandro Lopez Santiago**. My name is Megan Sheehan. I am twenty-nine years old, I work at the Vermont Workers' Center as the Media Production Coordinator, I am engaged to Kevin Stewart and own my home in East Randolph, VT. I am a US citizen and a JD student at Vermont Law School, a co-chair of the VLS National Lawyers' Guild chapter, and a Public Service Award scholarship recipient.

I have known Danilo since June 2011, and met Danilo through the Vermont Workers' Center's collaboration with the farmworker community in Vermont. Since meeting Danilo, I have been extremely impressed with his commitment to his community, leadership, and care for others. Danilo is a powerful organizer and leader in Vermont, and many people look up to him. I have seen Danilo work with many farmworkers in Vermont to tell their stories through video projects that have brought many issues to light in the greater Vermont community. **My organization, the Vermont Workers' Center, honored Danilo at our major human rights conference in December 2011 (which drew over 500 people) with our Human Rights Hero Award for his work in Vermont in advancing human rights and his leadership in the farmworker community.** Danilo was also invited to speak at a conference on civil and human rights at Vermont Law School, and made a major impact on many of my classmates. I had law students come up to me for many days after the conference to tell me how moved they were by Danilo's presentation on racial profiling in Vermont and how impressed they were with his work.

I believe that if Vermont lost Danilo, that it would be a major loss for our community and our state. **I am writing to you to request prosecutorial discretion.** Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or would like to discuss this further.

Sincerely,



Megan Sheehan
2013 JD Candidate, Vermont Law School
1475 Vt Rt 14 N
East Randolph, VT 05041
msheehan1@vermontlaw.edu
802-431-1024 (home) 802-505-9315 (cell)

On this day, APR 11 12, 2012
before me personally appeared
Megan Sheehan,
Elizabeth M. Spencer
Notary Public
my Commission expires 2/10/2015



MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE

Middlebury, VT 05753

Department of Sociology/Anthropology
Telephone: (802) 443-5620
Fax: (802) 443-2084

Office of the Chief Counsel
Prosecutorial Discretion Unit
Immigration and Customs Enforcement
15 New Sudbury Street
Boston, MA 02203

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am writing in order to ask that you grant Prosecutorial Discretion to **Daniel Alejandro Lopez Santiago**. My name is Marcos F. Lopez and I am a U.S Citizen. I live at 110 South Main St. #2, Middlebury, Vermont, 05753. I am also a faculty member in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology at Middlebury College. My research expertise is on Mexican migration to the U.S., farm work, and agriculture.

I first met Mr. Lopez in October 2011 when I invited him and his collaborators at Migrant Justice to give a presentation at Middlebury College on farm workers in the state of Vermont. His lecture was extremely well received. In fact, more than 100 students, faculty members and community members attended his talk. His talk has had a lasting and inspiring effect on the campus community.

I have since had many conversations and interactions with Mr. Lopez. To put it simply, I am utterly impressed by his outstanding character. Even though he has a quiet demeanor, his actions and dedication to improving the lives of others speaks for itself. Mr. Lopez has made Vermont a better place to live by shortening the racial divide the often splits native Vermonters and the state's migrant farm worker community. His actions, such as advocating strongly for the passage of the state's Bias Free Policing policy, have improved the human rights of all.

Please grant Mr. Lopez prosecutorial discretion. I can honestly say that I am thankful for the actions he has taken to make Vermont a better place to live. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions, mflopez@middlebury.edu, or 802-443-5620.

Best regards,

Marcos F. Lopez, Ph.D
Sociology and Anthropology Department

Vermont Immigration and Asylum Advocates

www.vtimmigrationandasylum.org

241 North Winooski Avenue, Burlington, VT 05401
(802) 864-3200 (Phone)

Office of the Chief Counsel
Prosecutorial Discretion Unit
Immigration and Customs Enforcement
15 New Sudbury Street
Boston, MA 02203

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am writing in order to ask that you grant Prosecutorial Discretion to Daniel Alejandro Lopez Santiago.

My name is Michele Jenness. I am the executive director of Vermont Immigration and Asylum Advocates (VIAA) which is located at 241 N. Winooski Ave., Burlington, Vermont. VIAA is one of the only organizations in Vermont that is focused on meeting the legal needs of indigent asylum seekers, torture survivors and immigrants.

I learned about Mr. Lopez's arrest on the day that it occurred, September 13, 2011. The initial stop was made by Vermont State Police for a traffic violation and the two passengers, Mr. Lopez and Mr. Jose Antonio Meza Sandoval were then questioned by the State Police as to their immigration status. When local and state law enforcement ask those who look like immigrants about their immigration status, it raises serious civil rights concerns. It can lead to racial profiling and divisive community policing practices.

Since last September, I have been fortunate to attend many forums where Mr. Lopez was a presenter. The Second Vermont Latino Agricultural Labor Roundtable, 'Mexico/U.S. Border Dynamic', a mobile Mexican consulate held in Middlebury, Vermont are some of the forums where Mr. Lopez spoke eloquently about the plight of the migrant laborers in Vermont and the legal reforms needed to improve their lives. Mr. Lopez is also an accomplished videographer and his short films which deal with civil rights are a wonderful tool to engage more people in these issues.

It is my firm belief that Mr. Lopez is an invaluable asset to this community; that he raises the level of public discourse on issues of human rights and racial justice and that he works hard to find legal avenues which would improve the lives of immigrants in the U.S.

Therefore, I kindly request from the Chief Counsel that Mr. Lopez be granted prosecutorial discretion in these removal proceedings.

Thank you,

Michele Jenness

Dana Woodruff
135 Maple Hill Rd #2
Plainfield, VT 05667
April 17, 2012

Office of the Chief Counsel
Prosecutorial Discretion Unit
Immigration and Customs Enforcement
15 New Sudbury Street
Boston, MA 02203

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am writing in order to ask that you grant Prosecutorial Discretion to Daniel Alejandro Lopez Santiago.

My name is Dana Woodruff, I live at 135 Maple Hill Rd #2, Plainfield, VT 05667, and I am a US citizen. I am a health educator and member of the Central VT Farmworker Coalition, the VT Farm Health Task Force, Migrant Justice, and I recently completed the VT Farm Health Task Force's Agricultural Medicine training program.

I have known Daniel Alejandro Lopez Santiago for over a year. We met through the organization Migrant Justice and we have worked together often since then. Danilo is both a friend and colleague. Danilo is a caring and thoughtful community member, as well as an attentive listener. He is very responsible and follows through in his work. His calm and warm personality puts the others around him at ease. He is dedicated to his friends, colleagues, and those in VT's migrant farm worker community. He is very community-minded, giving much of his time and energy to support others and working to raise awareness and make positive changes at the statewide level.

He recently visited my workplace to give a presentation on the connections between workers' rights in the US and in Mexico. He is very well spoken, sharing his personal and family history and connecting it with broader issues here in VT, nationally, and internationally. There was a great turnout at this event, including my co-workers and community members, and many people left feeling both informed and moved by Danilo's presentation.

Danilo contributes very much to the VT community and I believe that he should be granted prosecutorial discretion.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Dana Woodruff



on this Day April 18-2012
The above signed before
me, STATE OF VT. County
of Washington.

Notary - Janet Miller

Office of the Chief Counsel
Prosecutorial Discretion Unit
Immigration and Customs Enforcement
15 New Sudbury Street
Boston, MA 02203

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am writing in order to ask that you grant Prosecutorial Discretion to Daniel Alejandro Lopez Santiago.

My name is Daniel Loehr and I am writing on behalf of Juntos Migrant Outreach, a student organization at Middlebury College, in Middlebury, VT. I am a US citizen and a junior at Middlebury College. The organization Juntos Migrant Outreach has been in existence for 6 years, and our mission is to provide services for migrant farm workers in the surrounding area through English as a Second Language classes and community events. We are the College's largest student volunteer organization and I serve on the advisory board for the organization.

I have known Daniel Alejandro Lopez Santiago (Danilo) for eight months as a friend and colleague. I first met Danilo when he came to Middlebury College to give a lecture, which was well attended and well received. Danilo was so good, in fact, that we brought him back the next week because there was a lot of student demand. Since then, I have worked with Danilo in providing for a monthly community gathering. While Danilo does most of the work for this, I have helped locate a room and provide logistical support from the College.

Danilo has always impressed me with his character. He has been such a great leader and colleague because he is kind, modest, and always interested in finding inclusive ways to help many people. Danilo has always been very kind to me. Also, Danilo is well known around the state as a humble and inspirational leader. This is because he has accomplished so much, by organizing many events, and getting lots of people together to share their perspectives and try to find solutions.

I believe that Daniel Alejandro Lopez Santiago should be granted prosecutorial discretion.

On behalf of Juntos Migrant Outreach, I thank you for your time.

Office of the Chief Counsel
Prosecutorial Discretion Unit
Immigration and Customs Enforcement
15 New Sudbury Street
Boston, MA 02203

April 17, 2012

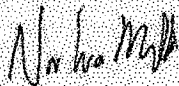
Dear Sir or Madam:

I am writing in order to ask that you grant Prosecutorial Discretion to Daniel Alejandro Lopez Santiago. I am a United States citizen living in Burlington, Vermont. I work at UVM Extension as the Coordinator of the Farming Across Cultures Communication Project and the Farm Health Connection, projects focused on agricultural labor management and farm health access respectively. I have known Danilo since the fall of 2011 when we met during an event sponsored by Migrant Justice. Since that time, I have seen him present on a number of occasions, attended various meetings with him, and have heard of his work and contribution to the farmworker community through the farmworkers that I work with on a daily basis. I feel confident that I can testify to Danilo's character and contribution to the Vermont community.

Danilo has demonstrated a consistent and a remarkable commitment to improving the community in which he lives and has worked. His courage and tenacity in expressing, on behalf of the farmworker community, his experience and perspective on farmworker justice issues is notable. I distinctly remember his presentation at the 2012 Latino Ag Labor Roundtable, held at the University of Vermont. He was one of multiple presenters, among them accomplished professors, outreach professionals, the Agency of Agriculture, and the Mexican Consulate. Also present were representatives from the Farm Bureau, the Department of Education, and Vermont's US senators. I was struck by Danilo's poise and passion as well as his ability to articulate precisely the information he wanted to convey. Danilo has become a respected and invaluable member of the Vermont community that is working towards agricultural justice for all.

Witnessing Danilo perform in his volunteer work environment, I was quickly able to ascertain that he is dedicated, dependable, and energizing. He is a man of commitment and strong character with an admirable work ethic. He is the type of person who goes above and beyond to contribute to the betterment of his community. I strongly believe that you should grant Prosecutorial Discretion to Daniel Alejandro Lopez Santiago. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions concerning the contents of this letter.

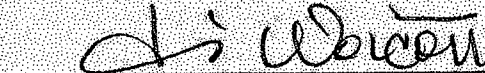
Sincerely,



Naomi Wolcott-MacCausland
(802) 752-6247

STATE OF Vermont
COUNTY OF Franklin

On this 17 day of April, 2012, before me personally appeared Naomi Wolcott-MacCausland to me known to be the person who executed the foregoing instrument, and that she thereupon duly acknowledged to me that she executed the same to be her free act and deed.



Aaron Lackowski
5 East Village Drive
Burlington, VT 05401

April 17, 2012

Office of the Chief Counsel
Prosecutorial Discretion Unit
Immigration and Customs Enforcement
15 New Sudbury Street
Boston, MA 02203

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am writing to ask that you grant Prosecutorial Discretion to Daniel Alejandro Lopez Santiago. I am a United States citizen living in Burlington, Vermont, the city where I was born. I work full-time at Gardener's Supply Company and additionally I am a near full-time volunteer with the community organization Migrant Justice.

I first met Danilo through a common friend in August 2011. We got to know each other better when I began to help out at Migrant Justice the following month, where Danilo is himself a tireless volunteer. We are now close friends, and spend a great deal of time together. He has stayed at my apartment and I at his; we often share dinner with our friends; and we see each other almost daily in the midst of our volunteer work. We have coordinated and led community meetings; edited video footage late into the night; presented to the community about our organization; and collaborated on countless other projects.

Danilo is unique for his generosity, his eloquence, his courage, and his kindness. He easily makes friends, and he has become so well known for his community involvement that people he's never met sometimes stop him on the street with words of congratulation or encouragement. I recently joked with Danilo and some fellow volunteers that he could easily win 5% of the vote in the next Burlington mayoral race were he to run. And while he certainly has no intentions of doing so, we all smiled because it is true—he is truly that respected and loved in Burlington. His public speeches about social justice, his personal meetings with the Governor in Montpelier, and his leadership role in the immigrant communities of Vermont have all led him to be widely revered as a selfless champion for the human rights and dignity of all.

Danilo is one of my closest friends and an irreplaceable part of our community. Thousands of people in Vermont know him for his good-spirited commitment to the well-being of others. I request that he be granted Prosecutorial Discretion so that he may continue to influence the community we both live in for the better.

Sincerely,


Aaron Lackowski

4/19/12

State of Vermont
County of Chittenden
City of Burlington
Personally appeared Aaron Lackowski
before me an subscribed and swore to the truth of
foregoing statement.
Dated this 19 day of April, 2012


Notary Public

My Commission Expires: 2.10.15

Office of the Chief Counsel
Prosecutorial Discretion Unit
Immigration and Customs Enforcement
15 New Sudbury Street
Boston, MA 02203

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am writing in order
to ask that you grant Pro-
secutorial Discretion to
Daniel Alejandro Lopez
Santiago.

My name is John
MacLean, and I live at
46 Shumans Street #2,
Burlington, VT, 05401.
I am a 100% disabled
American veteran, served
in Lebanon in 1983, and
have done volunteer work
with the Vermont Workers
Center and Migrant Justice.

I have known Danilo
for well over a year now,
and have hosted him at
my apartment for weeks
at a time. He is a trust-
worthy and kind young
man, and I have heard him
speak highly of himself from no

Flood victims, in the state,
to Senator Benare Sanders.
Vanile, and others at Migrant
Justice, have helped Vermont
ers to hear the voices of
migrant workers who help
run the states dairy farms.

I want to ask you
to please grant prosecutorial
discretion in the case of
Daniel Alejandro Lopez
Santiago.

John Maclean
J. J. M. C.

United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America

PETER KNOWLTON, President
RAY POMPANO, Vice-President
ELIZABETH JESDALE, Secretary-Treasurer



Northeast Region

1285 Acushnet Avenue
New Bedford, MA 02746
TEL: 774-264-0110
EMAIL: office@uenortheast.org

April 17, 2011

Office of the Chief Counsel
Prosecutorial Discretion Unit
Immigration and Customs Enforcement
15 New Sudbury St.
Boston, MA 02203

To Whom this Concerns:

I am writing in order to ask that you grant Prosecutorial Discretion to Daniel Alejandro Lopez Santiago.

My name is Peter Knowlton. I am the President of the UE Northeast Region and a Vice-President of the national UE. I live at 778 Dartmouth St., South Dartmouth, MA. I am 58 years old and a husband, father, and grandfather. I was born in Worcester, MA and have lived on and off in Massachusetts my entire life. I have been an elected officer of my union, the UE, since 2001 and previously was employed by the national union as a field representative since 1985. I am an active member of the Community Economic Development Center (CEDC) in New Bedford and have served on the steering committee of the U/Mass Labor Education Center for over 20 years. My work as President of UE Northeast Region means I travel frequently to Vermont to work with and provide support to our local unions in whatever educations, trainings, community activities, or other projects they are involved in.

Founded in 1936 the UE has been led by and made up of immigrants – recent and not so recent. Consequently, the union has since its founding been involved with and supportive of immigrant organizations and issues. Over the last few months, members of UE Local 255 at Hunger Mountain Co-op in Montpelier, VT have been working with the Migrant Justice organization in Vermont to educate UE members and Montpelier, VT residents on the issues VT migrant farm workers, and other recent immigrants, face. As a result of UE Local 255's involvement in this work I have had the opportunity to work closely with Daniel and the Migrant Justice organization. Just this past April 11 Daniel and myself, with others, made a presentation to Local 255 members and the Montpelier community on issues immigrant workers face in VT and the conditions under which they work and live. Daniel's presentation

Page Two

Letter to ICE in support of Daniel Alejandro Lopes Santiago

April 17, 2012

and presence was sincere, descriptive, and extremely moving. His participation in these events and in the others that we have worked with him on clearly demonstrate Daniel to be a responsible, honest, and upstanding resident.

Based on my own personal experiences as an elected leader of my union and the experiences of our members I strongly believe Daniel Alejandro Lopez Santiago should be granted prosecutorial discretion.

Sincerely,



Peter Knowlton

President

UE Northeast Region

cc: Migrant Justice
UE Local 255

STATE OF VERMONT
HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

Daniel Alejandro Lopez-Santiago)	
Charging Party)	
)	
v.)	HRC Charge No. PA12-0005
)	
)	
VT Dept of Public Safety)	
Responding Party)	

FINAL DETERMINATION

Pursuant to 9 V.S.A. §4554, the Vermont Human Rights Commission enters the following Order:

1. The following vote was taken on a motion to find that there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Vermont Department of Public Safety, the Respondent, illegally discriminated against Daniel Alejandro Lopez-Santiago, the Charging Party, in violation of Vermont's Fair Housing and Public Accommodations Act on the grounds of national origin, race, and color.

Mary Marzec-Gerrior, Chair	For <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Against <input type="checkbox"/> Absent <input type="checkbox"/> Recused <input type="checkbox"/>
Nathan Besio	For <input type="checkbox"/> Against <input type="checkbox"/> Absent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recused <input type="checkbox"/>
Mary Brodsky	For <input type="checkbox"/> Against <input type="checkbox"/> Absent <input type="checkbox"/> Recused <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mercedes Mack	For <input type="checkbox"/> Against <input type="checkbox"/> Absent <input type="checkbox"/> Recused <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Donald Vickers	For <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Against <input type="checkbox"/> Absent <input type="checkbox"/> Recused <input type="checkbox"/>
Charles Kletecka	For <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Against <input type="checkbox"/> Absent <input type="checkbox"/> Recused <input type="checkbox"/>

Entry: ☒ Reasonable Grounds ☐ Motion failed

Dated at Winooski, Vermont, this 1st day of December, 2011.

BY: HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

Mary C. Marzec-Gerrion
Mary Marzec-Gerrion, Chair

~ present ~
Nathan Besio

~ recused ~
Mary Brodsky

~ recused ~
Mercedes Mack

Donald R. Vickers
Donald Vickers

Charles Kletecka
Charles Kletecka



VT Human Rights Commission
14-16 Baldwin Street
Montpelier, VT 05633-6301
<http://hrc.vermont.gov>

{phone} 802-828-2480
{fax} 802-828-2481
{tdd} 877-294-9200
{toll free} 1-800-416-2010

INVESTIGATIVE REPORT
PA12-0005
& PA12-0006

CHARGING PARTIES: Daniel Alejandro Lopez-Santiago (0005) & Antonio Mesa-Sandoval (0006)

RESPONDING PARTY: The Vermont Department of Public Safety

CHARGE: Public Accommodations/National Origin/Race/Color

SUMMARY OF CHARGE: On September 19, 2011, Mr. Lopez-Santiago and Mr. Mesa-Sandoval filed Charges of Discrimination alleging that the Department of Public Safety, through its agent, Trooper Jared Hatch, discriminated against them because of their national origin, race and color. Complainants were passengers in a truck that was stopped for speeding by Trooper Jared Hatch. Complainants allege that because of their skin color and appearance they quickly became the focus of the stop which resulted in intensive questioning about their legal status and ultimately resulted in their being taken into custody and handed over to Border Patrol.

SUMMARY OF RESPONSE: The state denies that Trooper Hatch's attention was drawn to Mr. Lopez-Santiago and Mr. Mesa-Sandoval by the color of their skin or appearance; however it admits that Trooper Hatch's attention shifted to the complainants and away from the driver.

PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION: This Investigative report makes a preliminary recommendation that the Human Rights Commission find that there are **reasonable grounds** to believe that the Department of Public Safety discriminated against Mr. Lopez-Santiago and Mr. Mesa-Sandoval based on their national origin, race and color, in violation of 9 V.S.A. §4502(a).

SUMMARY OF INVESTIGATION:

Interviews:

Daniel Alejandro Lopez-Santiago
Antonio Mesa-Sandoval

Documents:

Charge of Discrimination
Responses to the Charges
Open letter from the State Police Advisory Committee (SPAC)
Video of Stop released by the Vermont Department of Public Safety

Danilo Lopez: Community, Civil Rights, Human Rights Leadership in the news

Undocumented workers seeking driving rights victorious in key House vote

Date: May 7, 2013

Outlet: Vermont Digger

Link: <http://vtdigger.org/2013/05/07/undocumented-workers-seeking-driving-rights-victorious-in-key-house-vote/>

Quote: "Lopez expressed happiness with the eventual outcome. 'Slowly but surely, we're moving away from the discrimination that has permeated our society for so long,' he said."

With 27-2 vote, Senate backs bill allowing undocumented migrant workers to drive in Vermont

Date: April 5, 2013

Outlet: Vermont Digger

Link: <http://vtdigger.org/2013/04/05/with-27-2-vote-senate-backs-bill-allowing-undocumented-migrant-workers-to-drive-in-vermont/>

Quote: "Danilo Lopez. . . is a farm worker and spokesperson for the Vermont-based organization Migrant Justice. He said the vote was an exciting step forward in a drawn-out process.

'We have been working on this for almost two years and we are seeing the fruit of our labor show its product... It's been an exciting and long path and we are hoping we are getting close to the goal line and we look forward to complete victory soon.'"

Vermont Senate advances immigrant driver's license bill: Bill would allow immigrant workers to become legal drivers even though they might be in country illegally

Date: April 5, 2013

Outlet: Burlington Free Press

Link: <http://tinyurl.com/k3mpn2y>

Quote: "'We are really proud,' Lopez said through an interpreter. The vote today is due to the testimony and organizing and strong efforts of our community.'

...

'The license itself is much more than a piece of plastic,' he said. 'What it really means is the opportunity and ability to move around, to meet our fundamental needs independently.'"



Danilo Lopez, left, shakes hands with Sen. Anthony Pollina, P-Washington, right, following the vote on immigrant licenses Friday in Montpelier. The Vermont Senate advanced legislation aimed at allowing workers on Vermont farms to become legal drivers despite the fact that they might be in the country illegally. The 27-2 vote giving the measure preliminary approval came after there was broad agreement that the workers, an estimated 1,200 to 1,500 mostly from Mexico and Guatemala, have been advocating for the right to drive for a number of years. They say they are isolated on Vermont's farms and that the ability to drive will help them get access to basic services. / Toby Talbot/AP

Driving Towards Justice: Vermont Poised to Issue State ID and Driver's Licenses to Migrant Farm Workers

Date: March 28, 2012

Outlet: ZNet

Link: <http://www.zcommunications.org/driving-towards-justice-vermont-poised-to-issue-state-id-and-driver-s-licenses-to-migrant-farm-workers-by-michael-feiner>

Quote: "Speaking to an Executive Chamber meeting with representatives of the Governor's Legal Counsel, Senate Committees on Transportation and Agriculture, Departments of Public Safety, Motor

Vehicles and Agriculture among others, migrant farm worker and Migrant Justice organizer Danilo Lopez stated emphatically, 'Right now the very people who sustain Vermont's dairy farms are not free to move about in VT. You are all in a position to change this and I urge you to use your power to act now and push S-238 forward.'

"Danilo's leadership in the farm worker community is bolstered by his experience and his affable, unassuming charm. Agreement with his values and opinions has been palpably growing across the state and gaining traction in the legislature."

Vermont Farm Worker Danilo Lopez Receives Human Rights Hero Award at Human Rights Conference drawing hundreds of Vermonters

Date: December 12, 2011

Outlet: Vermont Workers' Center

Link: <http://www.workerscenter.org/video/vermont-farm-worker-danilo-lopez-receives-human-rights-hero-award-human-rights-conference-draw>

Quote: "After being arrested and detained just 3 months ago Danilo Lopez was recognized for his work standing up for the human rights of Vermont's migrant workers at a big Human Rights Conference on Saturday. Upon receiving the award Lopez told the packed house of at least 300 Vermonters, who gave him a rowdy standing ovation, 'Thanks to all the support and solidarity we are creating important human rights changes for all. One of those is the new Bias-Free-Policing policy that directs police to stop acting as immigration agents and to not discriminate based on a persons skin color by asking them about their legal status.'"

Vermont Human Rights Commission hearing: State police discriminated against Mexican farmworkers during traffic stop

Date: December 1, 2011

Outlet: Vermont Digger

Link: <http://vtdigger.org/2011/12/01/vermont-human-rights-commission-hearing-state-police-discriminated-against-mexican-farmworkers-during-traffic-stop/>

Quote: "Upon hearing about the ruling in his favor Lopez commented, 'We won. Its great. Its a victory not only for us but also for our organization and the farm worker community.' Lopez has been transformed by the incident, and since has been volunteering much of his time to work with the VTMFSP for farm worker rights in Vermont. After hearing about the victory Lopez was already on to the hard work ahead, 'Now we just need to build upon this victory and make sure we use it as an opportunity to benefit future generations.'"

Food Justice Wins We Can Be Thankful for This Year

Date: November 23, 2011

Outlet: Colorlines

Link:

[http://colorlines.com/archives/2011/11/5_food_justice_wins_to_be_grateful_for_this_thanksgiving.htm](http://colorlines.com/archives/2011/11/5_food_justice_wins_to_be_grateful_for_this_thanksgiving.html)
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Quote: "Vermont, thanks in part to the organizing of the Vermont Migrant Farmworker Solidarity Network, is celebrating its new Anti-Bias Policing Policy, unveiled by Gov. Peter Shumlin just weeks ago, which ensures that local and state law enforcement make public safety, and not immigration enforcement, their first priority. . . The reality is that what happened to me and Antonio and what happened up on Chris Wagner's farm in Franklin County, who was was handcuffed and had his employees deported after a 911 call, shouldn't have happened,' said Lopez, adding that he was 'hopeful' about the new policy."

Under new rules, Vermont State Police can no longer ask undocumented residents about immigration status

Date: November 11, 2011

Outlet: Vermont Digger

Link: <http://vtdigger.org/2011/11/05/under-new-rules-vermont-state-police-can-no-longer-ask-undocumented-residents-about-immigration-status/>

Quote: "Public Safety Commissioner Keith Flynn said the new rules, which allow migrant workers to use identification from the Mexican consulate, will 'further ensure the fair and equal treatment of all individuals in Vermont."

"The new state police policy "underscores" the troopers' primary obligation, which is to enforce Vermont laws,' Sorrell said."

Vt. farmworkers say had good meeting with gov

Date: October 17, 2011

Outlet: Associated Press

Link:

http://www.boston.com/news/local/vermont/articles/2011/10/17/vt_farmworkers_say_had_good_meeting_with_gov/

Quote: "A small group of Vermont farmworkers and their supporters say they had a good meeting with Gov. Peter Shumlin and his lawyer to discuss immigration issues and ways to modify policing policies when it comes to the workers."

Migrant Farmworker Leader Detained; 3 Protesters Arrested; Gov. Shumlin Orders Investigation (Updated)

Date: September 13, 2011

Outlet: Seven Days

Link: <http://7d.blogs.com/blurt/2011/09/video-migrant-farmworker-leaders-detained-3-protesters-handcuffed-and-arrested.html>

Quote: "My name is Danilo. Today the police stopped us. Though there was no reason to ask for my documented status they did and only for being a different color from our friend who was driving. We chose to remain silent to not have more problems. He called the Border Patrol quickly. If this message reaches the governor it is so he can see our cruel reality. We spoke with him not too long ago about this 'Polimigra' and we have another meeting that now I will not be able to attend."

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement

PRIVACY WAIVER AUTHORIZING DISCLOSURE TO A THIRD PARTY

Use this form to authorize the U.S. Department of Homeland Security ("DHS") to disclose information and/or records about you to a third party. Taking this action is entirely voluntary; you are under no obligation to consent to the release of your information to any third party. **Authority:** Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. § 552a); DHS Privacy Act Regulations (6 C.F.R. § 5.21(d)).

STEP 1 Provide information about yourself and identify the third party that you intend to receive your information and/or records (the "Recipient").

Your Full Name: Daniel Alejandro Lopez-Santiago	Your Alien Registration Number (if applicable): 089-088-623
Your Current Address: 294 N. Winooski Ave #130 Burlington VT 05401	Date of Birth: 09/01/89 Country of Birth: Mexico
Recipient's Name: Natalia Fajardo	Recipient's Phone Number: 802-4977027
Recipient's Mailing Address (required if requesting disclosure by mail): 294 N. Winooski Ave Ste 130 Burlington, VT 05401	
Recipient's Organization, if the waiver will apply to it (e.g. news media, congressional office, law firm): Migrant Justice	

STEP 2 Specify what information and/or records DHS is authorized to share with the Recipient.

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Identifying Data (Date of Birth, etc.) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Family Data | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Travel/Border Crossing |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Immigration Case | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Detention Information | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Medical Information |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alien File (A-File) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Criminal History | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Criminal Case |

AND/OR

☐ The following information/records (describe): _____

OR

☐ ALL information and/or Records Requested by the Recipient

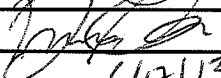
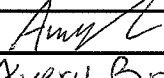
For Aliens Only: If you have applied for or received any of the immigration benefits below, you are legally entitled to confidentiality. (See reverse for more information.) If you want DHS to share information about these benefits with the Recipient, you must waive your confidentiality rights by checking the appropriate boxes below. Waiver of these rights is not required; however, if you do not waive these rights DHS may be unable to disclose to the Recipient some or all of the information you identified above.

I waive my right to confidentiality and authorize disclosure to the Recipient regarding these immigration benefits:

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Temporary Protected Status (TPS) | <input type="checkbox"/> T Visa (for trafficking victims) | <input type="checkbox"/> U Visa (for victims of certain crimes) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Seasonal Agricultural Worker | <input type="checkbox"/> Battered Spouse/Child
Seeking Hardship Waiver | <input type="checkbox"/> Violence Against Women Act
(VAWA) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Asylum
(confidentiality applies even if petition is denied) | | |

STEP 3 Sign the statement below authorizing DHS to disclose your information and/or records to the Recipient.

I certify under penalty of perjury that the information above is accurate. I authorize DHS, its components, offices, employees, contractors, agents, and assignees, to disclose the information or records specified above to the Recipient. I understand this may include and is not limited to reports, evaluations, and notes of any kind, contained in any record keeping system maintained by or on behalf of DHS; that DHS retains the discretion to decide if particular records or information are within the scope of this Waiver; and that DHS has no control over how the Recipient will use or disseminate my information. I agree to release and hold harmless DHS, its components, offices, employees, contractors, agents, and assignees, from any and all claims of action or damages of any kind arising from, or in any way connected to, the release or use of any information or records pursuant to this Waiver.

Your Signature: 	Witness Signature: 
Date: 6/17/13	Witness Name: Avery Book

*Privacy Waiver is valid for 90 days from date of signature

*Witness may not be the Recipient or employed by Recipient's employer