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25TH DISTRICT, NEW YORK

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MEMORIAL AFFAIRS

November 16, 2011

Attorney General Eric Holder  
U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Room 1145  
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Attorney General Holder,

I am writing to bring your attention to an issue that is important to many of the constituents of my 25<sup>th</sup> District of New York. The case *United States v. Rubashkin* (Case No. 2:08-CR-01324-LRR (N.D.1A)) has been a topic of considerable debate as well as concern.

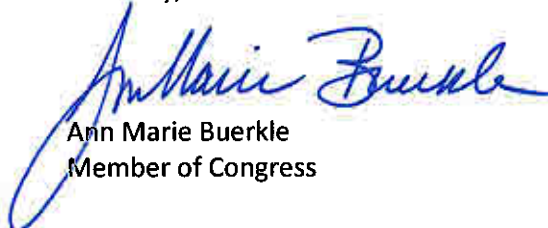
Sholom Rubashkin is former manager of the Agricprocessors kosher meatpacking plant in Potsville, Iowa. He was tried, convicted, and sentenced to 27 years in prison for bank fraud and other white-collar crimes in November 2009. It is important to note that this sentence was much more harsh than the government prosecutor had recommended.

It has since come to my attention that Chief Judge Linda Reade had discussed the case with the U.S. Attorney and immigration officers six months prior to the raid. Unfortunately for Mr. Rubashkin, these discussions were not disclosed during his trial. I am requesting that these *ex parte* communications be reviewed by your office.

With consideration to this recent finding, the manner in which the investigation against Mr. Rubashkin was conducted raises many legal and ethical concerns. Subsequently, this calls into question the severity the sentencing of Mr. Rubashkin, a first time, non-violent offender.

Thank you for your careful attention to this matter. I know that you will do everything you can to make sure that Mr. Rubashkin, and every person prosecuted by the government, receives fair treatment. Our citizens deserve nothing less.

Sincerely,



Ann Marie Buerkle  
Member of Congress

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