

# SOLIDARITY LETTER ACTION GUIDE

## #FREEMAURA, TRANS WOMAN UNJUSTLY DETAINED BY ICE

Originally from Nicaragua, Maura fled to the U.S. from Mexico to escape relentless gender-based violence and abuse. She spent half her life here, attending high school in San Diego, holding numerous jobs in the hospitality industry, and building a community that accepts her as a trans woman. Now, Maura is seeking humanitarian protection to be able to stay in the U.S. She faces significant risk if returned to a country she has not known for decades. Nicaragua is not safe for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and intersex (LGBTI) individuals, particularly trans women. For nearly two years, Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) has detained Maura at the Otay Mesa Detention Center in California, where she is suffering from abuse, a lack of adequate medical care, and possible exposure to COVID-19. With her life at risk, Maura should be free to seek protection without detention.



### TAKE URGENT ACTION TO STOP THIS INJUSTICE!

[Email the ICE San Diego Field Office Director](#) and urge him to release Maura immediately!

**TAKE ACTION FOR MAURA NOW!** Send Maura strength and support and to show solidarity with her fight for freedom by writing her cards, notes or letters. We encourage you to send more than one and keep writing her over time to encourage her and build her morale.

**1. Write a simple message on paper, construction paper, or store-bought cards.** Here are some samples:

English	Spanish
Stay strong! Many people from around the world support you.	¡Sé fuerte! Te apoyan muchas personas de todo el mundo.
Sending you love, strength, and solidarity.	Te envío amor, fuerza y solidaridad.
We are fighting for your freedom and we will not give up.	Estamos luchando por tu libertad y no vamos a rendirnos.
Thank you for your bravery.	Gracias por tu valentía.
We stand in solidarity with you and we will fight for you.	Nos solidarizamos contigo y lucharemos por ti.

**2. Get creative!** Consider drawing hearts, flowers, and other illustrations.

**3. Optional: Take a photo of you and your card(s), print it, and include it in your package to Maura.** (Note: you can't send more than 10 pictures, and they must be 5 x 7 or smaller. Other things that are not allowed include: Polaroids, tape, anything sticky, markers, crayon, lipstick, perfume, confetti, strings, gummy stickers, origami stickers, or glitter).

**4. Address the envelope to:** Maura, c/o TransLatin@ Coalition, 3055 Wilshire Blvd #350, Los Angeles, CA 90010

If you have any questions or ideas, please reach out to [Alli.Jarrar@amnesty.org](mailto:Alli.Jarrar@amnesty.org). Thank you for sending Maura support during this difficult time!



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