

ABEL HERRERO



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STATE REPRESENTATIVE
DISTRICT 34

July 1, 2022

President Joseph R. Biden
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

RE: Presidential Medal of Freedom for Cpt. Le Roy Torres-Veterans Rights Advocate

President Biden:

I write to respectfully ask that you award Cpt. Le Roy Torres the Presidential Medal of Freedom. Over the past decade, Cpt. Torres' bravery and dedication to transforming the lives of others through advocacy has provided so many veterans and their families a pathway to the medical treatment and disability compensation they deserve, honoring their service and sacrifice. His tireless efforts as co-founder of Burn Pits 360 lead to the recent passage of the SFC Heath Robinson PACT ACT which will have a profound effect on how veterans exposed to toxic burn pits receive critical lifesaving health care.

Cpt. Torres has dedicated his life to the service of his community and country. First in the U.S. Army for 23 years, then as a Department of Public Safety Trooper for 14 years. Since Cpt. Torres first brought the issue of toxic burn pits to my attention in 2012, he has selflessly worked with stakeholders, at both the state and federal level, to provide critical education and outreach about toxic burn pit exposure. He has made it his life's work to ensure veterans get the medical attention



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they deserve. He started by co-founding Burn Pits 360 in our hometown of Robstown, Texas, and advocating for the establishment of burn pit registries at the federal and state level. His leadership on this issue will ensure that more than 3.5 million toxic-exposed veterans have access to VA health care that had previously been delayed and denied.

Cpt. Torres is a true everyday hero. It is my hope you will award the Presidential Medal of Freedom to Cpt. Le Roy Torres.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Abel Herrero".

Abel Herrero
State Representative, District 34



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