Bronx Father Inocencio Roman Solano, Whose Health Deteriorated Rapidly in ICE Detention, Reunited with Family

Inocencio Roman Solano was held by ICE in Bergen County Jail for 18 months

New York, NY (July 23, 2019) – On Tuesday, Inocencio Roman Solano, an immigrant father in the Bronx who has suffered rapidly deteriorating health in Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) custody, was released upon approval of an urgent parole request, submitted last week by Make the Road New York (MRNY). Upon his release, Mr. Roman Solano was greeted by his loving family (video captured here), which includes three children, two of whom are US citizens and one of whom is a recipient of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA). He is now heading to receive medical attention.

In recent days, community members have rallied for Inocencio’s freedom, including a Saturday morning protest at the Bergen County Jail by Make the Road New Jersey after reports that the air conditioning was not working there amidst a heat wave.

Carlos Roman, Inocencio’s son, said, “I am incredibly relieved to have my father back at home with his family, where he belongs. We have been worried sick about him as his health got worse in detention, and they kept failing to care for him. Now we are focused on making sure he gets the care he needs. We are so thankful to the New Yorkers and New Jerseyans who showed up to support our family. To every single one of you who stepped up for our family: thank you so much!”

Inocencio Roman, a father of three, has been held at Bergen County jail since February 2018. He has received woefully substandard care for serious medical conditions. A recent medical consultation found that, without immediate access to proper care, Inocencio is at risk of severe complications to his long-term health, including but not limited to: foot amputation, coma and death. The medical consultation was provided by members of a volunteer medical provider network put together by New York Lawyers for the Public Interest.
Mr. Roman suffers from insulin-dependent Type II diabetes and liver disease—and without proper medical treatment at Bergen County jail, his life has been at risk. Release on parole will allow Inocencio to continue fighting his ongoing case with his legal team, while living at home and receiving the care he needs from his medical providers.

**Ariel Gould, Staff Attorney at Make the Road New York, said,** "We are overjoyed to see Inocencio reunited with his family today. ICE’s failure to provide adequate treatment put his life at risk, and now he and his family can focus on making sure his health needs are met. Meanwhile, we will continue to work to prevent him from ever being separated from his family again."

**Laura F. Redman, Director of the Health Justice Program at the New York Lawyers for the Public Interest, said,** "We’re delighted that the advocacy appears to have worked and that Mr. Roman will now be able to receive appropriate care in the community, and be reunited with his family. His conscience-shocking case shows that there is an ever growing and expanding human rights crisis in detention facilities across the country, with people in immigration detention living in deplorable conditions, their dignity and health care needs ignored. His case is very similar to other examples we have seen occurring in other NY-NJ jails that contract with ICE. These are situations that end up in dramatic health consequences and even death. It is often difficult for doctors to even get into these facilities to meet with people suffering this kind of medical neglect. The detention machine is ruthless and cruel, in this regard."

"Inocencio Roman Solano, who has been detained at the Bergen County Jail since February of 2018, was torn from his home and family despite his declining health. In custody his health has deteriorated due to lack of proper care and extreme heat. The Roman Solano family is just one example of thousands of families torn apart due to the Trump administration’s policies targeting hard-working immigrant families around the nation," said Rep. Adriano Espaillat (NY-13). "I remain committed in my efforts to help keep families whole and combatting the heartless policies from this administration. I am proud to work with Make the Road New York and see Mr. Roman Solano and his family reunited and we will continue to fight for the rights of all."

"Today, after a year and a half of being detained in horrendous conditions and separated from his family, Inocencio returns home to his family and to have the opportunity to seek adequate medical care," said Lorenza Garcia, community organizer with Make the Road New Jersey. "No one should have to fight so hard to receive basic, life sustaining medical care. This is yet another example of how inhumane and out of control ICE is. While Inocencio is home today, his case continues and we must stay vigilant to ensure he receives due process and does not face detention again."

As the national outcry against the horrific conditions at the border continues, immigrants are suffering similar inhumane and unjust conditions in communities across the country. According to an NBC analysis, [24 immigrants died in ICE custody](https://www.nbcnews.com/storyline/immigration/2019-06-18/24-immigrants-died-in-ice-custody-nbcnews-45641) between the beginning of the Trump administration and early June.
RELEASE: Bronx Father Inocencio Roman Solano, Whose Health Deteriorated Rapidly in ICE Detention, Reunited with Family in Westchester County.

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