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*Andrés Pastrana*  
*Ambassador of Colombia*

August 4, 2006

The Honorable Donald Rumsfeld  
Secretary of Defense  
US Department of Defense  
1000 Defense Pentagon  
Washington D.C., 20301-100

Dear Mr. Rumsfeld,

As I prepare to leave the Colombian embassy here in Washington, I want to write to thank you for your continued support and warm friendship. My resignation as Ambassador resulted from a personal decision derived from a lifelong moral and political stance. The conflict of principle and position interfered with my efficacy as personal representative of President Alvaro Uribe in The United States of America.

Over the past eight years, Colombia and the United States have built a strong partnership. We are strengthening our democratic institutions, reducing terrorism and drug trafficking, and advancing economic and social development. Plan Colombia, the program our nations developed to address these challenges, has proven to be a sound investment and is today making a difference for millions of my fellow citizens. My country is on a solid path to being a more secure, peaceful and prosperous nation for the benefit of both the Colombian and American people. I hope you will continue to support President Uribe and Colombia.

As I return to private life, I will look for new ways to serve the Colombian people, as well as advance ties between our two nations. I am grateful for your support and friendship, both of which I value dearly.

With best regards,

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Embassy of Colombia  
2118 Leroy Pl NW  
Washington DC 20008

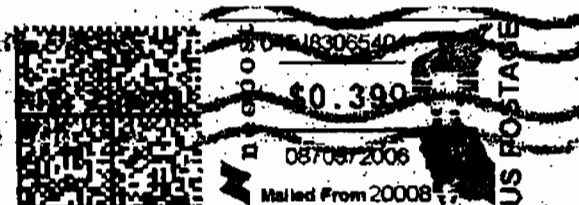
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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20008

SUBURBAN

09 AUG 2006



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