

Message from the Administrator

Special Agent Enrique "Kiki" Camarena embodied the very best of DEA: he was a tenacious agent who relentlessly pursued the most dangerous drug cartels operating in Mexico. He fearlessly pursued the most violent and the most dangerous traffickers and put our mission—protecting the safety and health of the American people—above all else.

Kiki is a hero.

Today, our incredible DEA team in Mexico worked in partnership with Mexican authorities to capture and arrest Rafael Caro Quintero, who is charged in the United States with the torture and murder of DEA Special Agent Kiki Camarena and with many other crimes. For more than 30 years, the men and women of DEA have worked tirelessly to bring Caro Quintero to justice. Today's arrest is the result of years of your blood, sweat, and tears. Without your work, Caro Quintero would not face justice.

Thank you. I am grateful for each and every one of you.

I am grateful also to the men and women of the Mexican Navy, Semar. We mourn the tragic deaths of the 14 Mexican marines who lost their lives today in service to their country.

It is a privilege to work with you every single day and to be a part of our incredible DEA family. Each day, like today, you exceed my highest expectations: I see your heart, your tenacity, and your commitment above all else—including your own personal safety—to protecting the American people. There is no greater mission and there is no greater team.

The legacy of Special Agent Camarena lives on in you and in the righteous and just work you do every day in service of the United States of America. We will never forget.

-Anne Milgram