

United States Senate

March 19, 2013

President Barack Obama
c/o Ms. Julie Chaves Rodriguez, Associate Director
Latino Affairs and Immigration
Office of Public Engagement
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

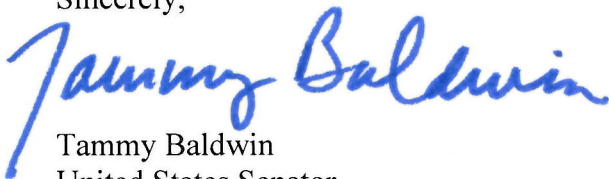
Dear President Obama:

I am writing to encourage you to posthumously award the Presidential Medal of Freedom to Mr. Fred Ross, Sr.

Mr. Ross was a pioneer who fought for racial, social and economic justice. He began his work organizing “Dust Bowl” refugees in migratory farm worker camps in the 1930’s, and continued advocating for nearly fifty years to improve the quality of life for Americans whose voices might otherwise have been lost. Mr. Ross was responsible for training thousands of organizers to build grassroots campaigns in order to participate in the democratic process, and he educated and inspired people of all races, ethnicities, and background to assert their basic human and civil rights.

Fred Ross, Sr. has truly made “an especially meritorious contribution to the security or national interests of the United states, world peace, cultural or other significant public or private endeavors,” per the Presidential Medal of Freedom. Awarding this medal to Mr. Ross posthumously would recognize the indelible mark he made on American history and serve as an inspiration to future organizers committed to social justice.

Sincerely,



Tammy Baldwin
United States Senator