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July 16, 2003

Ms. Linda Van Houten  
P. O. Box 240381  
Anchorage, AK 99524

Dear Ms. Van Houten:

I recently received your letter requesting assistance for Jay and Ida Van Houten. Your concern for this family is certainly understandable but, unfortunately, I cannot be of assistance at this time. My jurisdiction as a United States Senator covers federal issues only and I am unable to intervene in matters that have been decided by the courts. An appeal through the court system may be the only way to question the justice of this situation. It is my hope that a more favorable resolution can be found. I appreciate your contacting my office and hope you will feel free to do so again.

With regards,

Sincerely,



Lisa Murkowski  
United States Senator