Assistant Secretary Harold Koh  
Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor  
The U.S. Department of State  
2201 C St. NW  
Washington D.C. 20520-1512  

via Hard Copy/Fax: 202 647-9519  

August 30, 2000  

Dear Assistant Secretary Koh:  

I want to thank you for meeting with me earlier this month. I appreciate the efforts of you and your staff to press the Chilean authorities to conduct a thorough investigation into the disappearance of my brother, Boris Weisfeiler.  

As a follow up to our discussion, I want to reiterate my expectation that the State Department will transfer all relevant information on witnesses and informants to the appropriate Chilean law enforcement authorities. My hope is that the leads currently in the possession of the U.S. government will prove instrumental to advancing the investigation in Chile.  

I am also hoping that the U.S Embassy will officially request the Chilean government to appoint a special investigative judge to take over this case. Despite the separation of powers between the government and the judiciary in Chile, the Lagos administration does have the ability to request the appointment of a "Ministro de Visita" who will have the resources and commitment to find out what happened to my brother.  

Finally, I would also like to formally request that all documentation, from all U.S. agencies, relevant to the Weisfeiler case be made available to me sometime in the next several weeks. I am formally making this request under the 1998 Intelligence Authorization Act, section 307, "Provision of Information on Certain Violent Crimes Abroad to Victims and Victims' families." That provision provides for the Secretary of State "to ensure that the United States Government takes all appropriate actions to identify promptly information (including classified information) in the departments and agencies of the United States Government regarding the killing, abduction, torture, or other serious mistreatment of United States citizens abroad; and ...promptly make such information available to...the family members of the victims."  

I understand that obtaining documentation from other agencies could become a lengthy process, but we do not have time. I would ask you to start that process as soon as possible. I expect that all State Department records, including those that were not declassified on June 30, 2000 and those from the 1990s--among them the anonymous letter received by the Embassy in 1997, and all memos, cables, and correspondence generated by that letter--will be provided to me expeditiously. I would appreciate having them as they become available.  

I want to thank you and your able, committed staff again for the support and interest the State Department has shown in Boris' case. I hope that you will leave no stone unturned to locate the one disappeared U.S. citizen among the 1100 desaparecidos in Chile.  

Sincerely,  

Olga Weisfeiler  

cc: Paulo Di Rosa, Office of the Legal Advisor