

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

June 19, 2009

President Barack Obama
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We are writing you in regard to your meeting next week with President Michelle Bachelet of Chile. We respectfully urge you at this meeting to raise the case of Boris Weisfeiler, who disappeared in Chile in 1985. His remains the only outstanding case of a missing American citizen from the Pinochet-era for which there has never been a full accounting of the circumstances surrounding his disappearance.

His surviving relatives have tirelessly and vigorously made efforts to publicize Mr. Weisfeiler's case and gather more information in the hope of determining his fate. Members of Congress and State Department officials have written letters and otherwise expressed their concern about the case, and President Bush brought it up in 2004 during a meeting with Chile's then-President Ricardo Lagos. We believe these expressions of the U.S. concern have been vital in impressing upon Chile the importance of continuing its investigation, which unfortunately seems to have stalled.

We believe it would be very helpful for President Bachelet to understand that your Administration is particularly concerned that a final resolution of the case be achieved. We also hope that you will specifically convey the suggestion – previously put forward by ourselves and other Members of Congress in prior correspondence, and by the Department of State on several occasions – that the Chilean government allow the FBI to have a greater role in assisting the investigations currently being conducted by a Chilean judge and by the Chilean government's Defense Council of State (CDE).

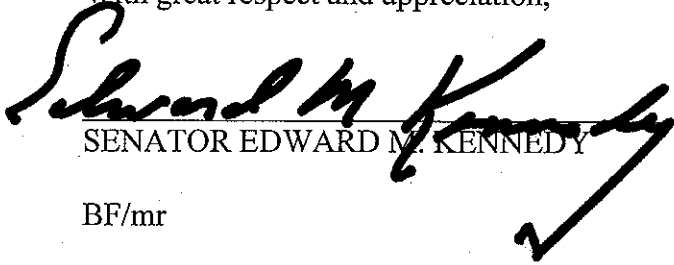
We believe the involvement of the FBI, while being necessarily limited in its extent by both American and Chilean law, can bring additional resources to the effort to determine what happened to Mr. Weisfeiler. For instance, there apparently remain a large number of American documents related to the disappearance which to this date have not been translated by Chilean officials, and it is our hope that FBI involvement will expedite this work as well as other investigative possibilities.

President Barack Obama

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Thank you very much for considering our request, and we look forward to the results of your meeting with President Bachelet.

With great respect and appreciation,



Handwritten signature of Edward M. Kennedy in black ink, written over a horizontal line.

SENATOR EDWARD M. KENNEDY



Handwritten signature of Barney Frank in black ink, written over a horizontal line.

CONGRESSMAN BARNEY FRANK

BF/mr