March 8, 2006

Condoleezza Rice  
Secretary of State  
2201 C Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Secretary Rice:

We are writing to urge a renewed focus on the part of the Administration on the case of Boris Weisfeiler, the United States citizen who disappeared in Chile in the Colonia Dignidad area in 1985.

As you are aware, the investigation into Mr. Weisfeiler's disappearance was reopened in the Chilean courts in January 2000. However, in the period since then there have been few additional developments in the case despite the investigation by four separate judges, and the relatively recent arrest of Paul Schaefer, the former leader of Colonia Dignidad.

It is our understanding that you are expected to travel to Chile for the March 11 inauguration of Michelle Bachelet, the new Chilean President. We ask that you place the Weisfeiler case on the list of key outstanding issues in U.S.-Chilean bilateral relations. Specifically, we ask that you personally raise the issue with President Bachelet as an expression of Washington's continued interest in bringing about a full accounting of Mr. Weisfeiler's fate. His relatives discussed the case with Michele Bachelet in 2002, when she was Minister of Defense, so she is likely to already have some appreciation of the importance of this case from an American perspective, but if it were mentioned specifically in your meetings with her it would be a particularly effective way of underlining its significance.

Thank you for your attention to this request. We would be pleased to answer any questions you may have or provide additional information.

Senator Edward Kennedy
Representative Nancy Pelosi

Senator Arlen Specter
Representative Barney Frank
Senator John Kerry
Representative John Peterson
Senator Robert Menendez
Representative Eliot Engel
Representative James Moran

cc: Chilean Ambassador Bianchi
    U.S. Ambassador Kelly

Senator Rick Santorum
Senator Christopher Dodd
Representative Edward Markey
Representative Debbie Wasserman Schultz
Representative Sheila Jackson Lee