

The Honorable George W. BUSH  
President of the United States  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW  
Washington DC 20500  
United States of America

Vienna, 22 October 2008

Mr. President,

Our respective justice departments have been seized with the matter of Mr. Sholam Weiss for almost a decade.

In 2002, the Republic of Austria granted the extradition of Mr. Weiss, trusting in assurances from the United States that Mr. Weiss would receive both a re-sentencing and a full appeal of his conviction and sentence. However, after 6 years he has received neither a re-sentencing nor a full appeal, resulting in ongoing correspondences between our governments.

One possibility to solve this issue rapidly would be a Presidential commutation of the sentence handed down to Mr. Weiss to 10 years. This would correspond to the maximum sentence had he been tried in Austria for the same crimes.

I would be most obliged if you could positively consider such a step.

An additional consideration for the commutation is that, as I have been informed, Mr. Weiss has had surgery for colon cancer and is in poor health, and is willing to accept a commutation to 10 years.

Sincerely yours,

