



Santiago, 14 April 2008
Letter No. 8

Ms. Dawn G. Blasko
Chair
Penn State Erie
University Faculty Senate
The Pennsylvania State University
101 Kern Graduate Building
University Park, PA 16802
PENNSYLVANIA-USA

Dear Ms. Blasko,

On behalf of Mrs. Michelle Bachelet Jeria, President of the Republic of Chile, allow me to respond to the matter you raised concerning the investigation of the disappearance of Mr. Boris Weisfeiler, which occurred in 1985 in this country.

Currently, the disappearance of Mr. Boris Weisfeiler is being investigated by Justice Jorge Zepeda Arancibia of the Santiago Court of Appeals, case 2182-98, "Boris Weisfeiler."

Allow me to inform you that our country's National Congress is now discussing the bill to establish the Human Rights Institute. One of the provisional articles of that law establishes the creation of an agency responsible for classifying new cases of those arrested or missing from September 11, 1973 to March 10, 1990. New information obtained in relation to the disappearance of Mr. Boris Weisfeiler may be presented to this commission.

If the Commission recognizes Mr. Boris Weisfeiler as a victim of human rights violations, the Government of Chile, through the Human Rights Program under the Interior Ministry, may be named as a contributing party in his case, as it has been in most cases involving the death or disappearance of victims recognized by the National Commission for Truth and Reconciliation and the National Corporation of Reparation and Reconciliation.

In regards to the inquiry about possible records that the Army of Chile may possess, I can assure you that through the office of the Chief of Staff, the Army may send records of court proceedings as required by the judge appointed to hear each case.

All requests for action by the parties involved, whether the plaintiff or defendant, for the purpose of expediting the case should be submitted to the presiding judge. Similarly, if the judge requires the assistance of other organizations, national or international, he may obtain it by issuing the appropriate ruling.



In accordance with our Constitution, the branches of government act independently of one another. Thus, the Executive Branch, represented by the President of Chile, may not under any circumstances interfere in matters entrusted to other branches of government, such as the Judicial Branch.

Yours faithfully,

María Luisa Sepúlveda Edwards
President
Presidential Advisory Committee for
Human Rights Policies