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**REGISTERED MAIL**

**The Honorable Barack Obama**  
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**Sholam Weiss - Extradition**  
**Our file: 3/2014**

Dear Mr President,

I am writing you regarding the following extradition case:

Mr. Sholam Weiss (reg. number 32610-054) is currently serving an 835-year prison sentence for a non-violent financial crime<sup>1</sup> and I am respectfully requesting that you commute his sentence.

I was the Austrian Minister of Justice who granted the extradition of Mr. Weiss to the United States in 2002. During the extradition proceedings, the Republic of Austria relied on communications from the United States, declaring that if Mr. Weiss was extradited, with Austria denying one or more Counts of his conviction, then Mr. Weiss would be provided a full resentencing on all remaining counts of his conviction, and an appeal of his conviction and new

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<sup>1</sup> Based on the judgment in absentia of the U.S. District Courts for the Middle District of Florida, Orlando Division, dated 1.11.1999, 98-99 CR-ORL-19A, confirmed with judgment of this court dated 15.2.2000, 6:98-Cr99-ORL-19A

sentence.

Austria extradited Mr. Weiss on June 9, 2002, denying Count 93 of his conviction.

Mr. Weiss received his appeal. However the full re-sentencing did not happen apparently because of the district court's misunderstanding of an Austrian diplomatic note (due to a mis-translation). The district court of Ocala, Florida decided only to remove Count 93 (for which extradition was denied) and reduced the concurrent sentence by the respective 10 years, thus from 845 to 835 years.

In Austria, a non-violent financial crime carries a maximum sentence of 10 years.

Mr. Weiss has serious health conditions. He is still suffering from the impact of a very invasive emergency surgery due to colon cancer. Further health problems are chronic reflux and a high blood pressure. Attached please find Mr. Weiss' medical records as of 2015.

Due to his age of 61 years, his poor health condition and that Mr. Weiss has already served 15 years of his sentence, one may appreciate from a humanitarian point of view Mr. Weiss' utmost concern not to die in prison, but to enjoy the remainder of his life with his family.

To my knowledge Mr. Weiss received no financial benefit from the financial crimes for which he was sentenced.

In your official capacity as President of the United States of America I respectfully request, based on the above considerations, that you support a humane reduction of his sentence to 15 years.

Most sincerely,

  
Dr. Dieter Böhmendorfer

Attachments:

- United States District Court (Middle District of Florida, Ocala Division, Case No. 5:02-cv-204-Oc-10GRJ), Order of July 16, 2009.

- Mr. Weiss' medical records.