

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 7, 2013

The Honorable Mauro Vieira
Ambassador, Federative Republic of Brazil
Brazilian Embassy in Washington, D.C.
30006 Massachusetts Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20008

RE: Hoerig Case

Dear Ambassador Vieira:

We are writing you regarding the case of *State of Ohio v Claudia C. Hoerig*. You may recall that according to an April 12, 2007 affidavit, Mrs. Hoerig purchased a Smith & Wesson .357 five shot revolver and practiced shooting the weapon the same day. Three days later, she shot her husband, Karl Hoerig, three times in the back of the head. Mrs. Hoerig took advantage of her murdered husband's status as a pilot to flee to Brazil where she has since found sanctuary.

We appreciate your 2011 letter to Congressman Tim Ryan regarding this topic, and we understand your constitution currently prevents extradition of Brazilian nationals. However, Mrs. Hoerig freely and willingly renounced her Brazilian citizenship in 1999 to become a U.S. citizen. We understand that in order for this fact to allow for Mrs. Hoerig's extradition your domestic courts must take additional action revoking her citizenship.

We were very encouraged to discover what appears to be an August 23, 2012 posting from the Minister of Justice putting Mrs. Hoerig on notice that if she does not present a defense within 30 days she may lose her citizenship. This development gave us the impression that we would be able to work together soon to ensure Mrs. Hoerig stands trial in the United States for the crimes she was charged with almost six years ago. The family of Karl Hoerig deserves as much.

Would you please respond and provide as much information to us as you can regarding the citizenship proceedings concerning Mrs. Hoerig, and an update on the status of the U.S. request for her extradition. Given the circumstances, we are hopeful that Brazil will cooperate with U.S. authorities to ensure that justice is served. We hereby request your prompt assistance in bringing justice to this case and look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,



Tim Ryan
Member of Congress



Bill Johnson
Member of Congress



Steve Stivers
Member of Congress



Bill Pascrell, Jr.
Member of Congress



Walter B. Jones
Member of Congress



Trent Franks
Member of Congress

cc: U.S. Department of State, Secretary John Kerry