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June 5, 2017

Glenn W. Holmes  
State Representative  
House District 63  
77 South High Street  
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Dear Glenn:

Approximately two months ago, the Supreme Federal Court of Brazil ruled by a 4–1 vote to send Claudia Hoerig back to Trumbull County to stand trial for the murder of her husband, Air Force Major Karl Hoerig. This is important and welcome news to law enforcement here in Trumbull County and the Hoerig family who have waited over ten years to see justice done in a Trumbull County courtroom. As Trumbull County Prosecutor, I have repeatedly requested officials of Brazil to allow fugitive Claudia Hoerig's extradition and return to the United States. Therefore, as my attached news release of May 4, 2017 states, the United States Department of Justice and the State Department are at the present time working with Brazilian officials solidifying a final executive decision to be made by Brazil that could bring about Claudia Hoerig's return in the near future. Diplomacy, at this point, must be given a chance. Hopefully, Brazil and the United States will reasonably resolve this case and finally our respective people will see a just and reasonable solution which will set a standard for the future.

Because of the efforts by you, Representative John Boccieri, Congressman Tim Ryan, Congressman Bill Johnson, and other elected officials, the flame of hope for justice in the Karl Hoerig Case and others across America has been kept alive. I give special mention and credit to Tim Ryan who, for ten years, has tirelessly supported this office and the people of Trumbull County in keeping this matter in the public's eye. This matter will not be forgotten – because in the long run both the people of Brazil and the people of the United States benefit by doing the right thing!

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dennis Watkins".

Dennis Watkins  
Trumbull County Prosecuting Attorney

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

### **DENNIS WATKINS, TRUMBULL COUNTY PROSECUTOR**

Recently the Office of the Trumbull County Prosecutor has been in contact with officials of the Brazilian and United States Government regarding the extradition of Claudia Hoerig. As announced in March, the Brazilian Supreme Court ruled that Ms. Hoerig was subject to extradition to the United State and the State of Ohio. Under the ruling and law of Brazil, there are still two steps pending prior to her surrender to the United States. First, an appeal by Hoerig for the sole purpose of clarifying the ruling. Second, the final decision which will be made by Brazilian's Ministry of Justice as to whether Brazil, after considering all the circumstances, will in fact surrender her.

On March 29, 2017 I talked and communicated with a Brazilian official working for Mr. Rodrigo Janot, Brazil's Attorney General, about the case. Further, on April 27, 2017, I had a private meeting with United States Justice and State Department officials under President Donald Trump, who flew from Washington, D.C. to meet with me about the case. These communications and meeting dealt with the role of my office and Ohio law if she would be returned to Ohio for trial. Because this matter is being handled on Trumbull County's behalf by the United States Government, I will not disclose the substance of our communications at this time. Diplomacy must be given a chance to work in this matter especially after the effort by American prosecutors, diplomats, and elected officials serving during the Bush, Obama and present Trump administration.

The Karl Hoerig Family, one of America's best, have patiently waited for over 10 years to see justice done in an Ohio courtroom and they still wait today but they will never forget or be silenced. They have been encouraged by the effort done by the Brazilian Attorney General and the Brazilian Supreme Court ruling that Claudia Hoerig is a United States citizen subject to extradition.

It is our hope that the two Giants of the North and South American continents are trying to work this out and finally our respective people will see a just and reasonable solution which will set a standard for the future.

**DENNIS WATKINS  
TRUMBULL COUNTY PROSECUTOR  
MAY 4, 2017**