



The Honourable Jason Kenney, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Citizenship, Immigration and Multiculturalism
Citizenship and Immigration Canada
365 Laurier Avenue West
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 1L1

August 31, 2012

Dear Minister Kenney,

We are writing to ask for your intervention in the case of Kimberly Rivera. Yesterday, a removal order was issued to her and her family following a negative decision on her Pre-Removal Risk Assessment (PRRA). She and her family are to leave Canada no later than September 20, 2012.

Ms. Rivera is a U.S. soldier who developed a conscientious objection to war, based on her Christian religious convictions, and fled to Canada where she made a claim for refugee status (which was refused). We are very concerned about her return to the United States, where she will likely face prosecution and a lengthy prison sentence.

This is the second negative PRRA decision that Ms. Rivera has received. On the first occasion, in March of 2009, The United Church of Canada, Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) Canada, and Canadian Friends Service Committee (Quakers) petitioned the government to allow her, and the other US war resisters, to be able to stay in Canada (see attached correspondence). The concern of Canadian Christians for these cases continues to grow, as evident in a recent letter to you from the Canadian Council of Churches (May 15, 2012).

In August of 2009, following a request for a judicial review of the decision, the Federal Court quashed Ms. Rivera's PRRA decision and referred it back for consideration by a

different officer.¹ Three years later, that reconsideration has been completed with the same result – rejection and a removal order.

We once again petition you to allow Ms. Rivera and her family (which includes two Canadian-born children) to stay in Canada on humanitarian and compassionate grounds.

We look forward to your earliest possible response to this request.

Sincerely,



Lesley Robertson
Clerk, Canadian Friends Service Committee (Quakers)



Donald G. Peters
Executive Director, Mennonite Central Committee Canada



Rev. Alan Hall
Acting General Secretary
Executive Officer, Ministry and Employment
The United Church of Canada

¹ <http://decisions.fct-cf.gc.ca/en/2009/2009fc814/2009fc814.html>