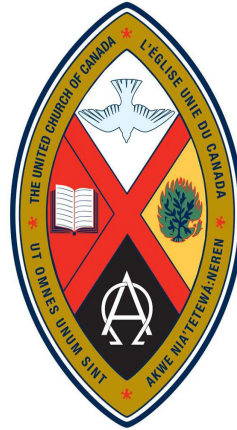




Canadian Friends
Service Committee
(QUAKERS)
www.quakerservice.ca



Major General Joseph Anderson
Public Affairs Office
1626 Ellis Street
Ste. 200, Bldg. 118
Fort Carson, CO 80913, USA
Fax: 1 719 526 1021

April 8, 2013

Dear Major General Anderson,

We are writing to ask for your intervention in the case of Private First Class (PFC) Kimberly Rivera, who is to be sentenced on 29 April 2013. We understand that a plea arrangement has been reached between Ms. Rivera's lawyers and military authorities and that her length of sentence will be determined at the hearing. We understand that, following sentencing by the judge, it is in your discretion to either approve or suspend all or part of it.

We sincerely request that you release PFC Kimberly Rivera immediately and unconditionally, as she is a prisoner of conscience, jailed for her conscientious objection to participation in the armed conflict in Iraq.

It is important to note that Ms. Rivera is a U.S. soldier who developed a conscientious objection to all war through her experience in the military. It was based on her Christian religious convictions. She fled to Canada where she made a claim for refugee status on this basis, which was refused. During her time in Canada, having considered her conscientious objector claims to be sincere, The United Church of Canada, Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) Canada, and Canadian Friends Service Committee (Quakers) petitioned the government to allow her to be able to stay in Canada.

We particularly ask for your compassion given the personal circumstances of Ms. Rivera. She has four young children, who already have been separated from their mother and primary care giver since September 2012, when she voluntarily returned to the United States. In addition, Ms. Rivera's husband suffers from medical conditions that make it both difficult for him to work and to care fully for the children. We believe that the Kimberly Rivera and her family have suffered sufficient consequences. We ask that you deeply consider suspending her sentence in full.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lesley Robertson".

Lesley Robertson
Clerk, Canadian Friends Service Committee (Quakers)
60 Lowther Avenue, Toronto, Ontario, M5R 1C7

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "P.K. Talbot".

Patti Talbot
Interim Executive Minister/Program Coordinator, Partnerships, Partners in Mission Unit, The
United Church of Canada
3250 Bloor St West, Toronto, Ontario

Cc:

His Excellency David Jacobson, Ambassador for the USA

James M Branum, Attorney for Kimberly Rivera