

## ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office of the Archbishop

Post Office Box 1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979

April 21, 2006

Mr. Edward F. Reilly, Jr.  
Chairman  
U.S. Department of Justice  
U.S. Parole Commission  
5550 Friendship Boulevard  
Chevy Chase, Maryland 20815-7201

Dear Mr. Reilly,

I am writing to recommend the transfer or parole of a Croatian citizen, Mr. Zvonko Basic, (03941 158), who is completing his thirtieth year in a U.S. federal prison. Mr. Basic is eligible to be transferred to Croatia, and has been qualified for parole since 1979.

Mr. Basic is sixty years old and has spent more than half of his life in prison. He is a devout, practicing Catholic and has led a life of exemplary adjustment in prison. His plight is strongly supported by Cardinal Bozanic, Archbishop of Zagreb, along with many Croatian clergy and religious who believe that his situation deserves humanitarian consideration.

In light of Mr. Basic's commendable conduct in prison and our present awareness of the events that took place over the years of his incarceration, a parole or a transfer to confinement in Croatia to be nearer his family would be a compassionate and humanitarian act by the United States.

Thank you for your consideration of this endorsement.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Francis Cardinal George".

Francis Cardinal George, O.M.I.  
Archbishop of Chicago

cc: Carmen Hernandez  
717 D. Street N.W. Suite 310  
Washington, DC 2004

Reverend Jozo Grbes  
St. Jerome Croatian Church  
2823 S. Princeton Ave.  
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