



Feb. 1, 2002

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George W. Bush
President of the United States of America
1600 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President,

Since assuming the Office of the President, the world has become more aware of your blessed ability to lead and your profound understanding of fairness and justice. The Italian American Human Relations Foundation of Chicago is in the forefront of agreeing with those positive assessments of your Administration. And so, relying on your attributes, we implore you to review your decision to withhold the internal Justice Department files regarding the Joseph Salvati case.

Mr. President, Americans of Italian ancestry have for four generations suffered from bigotry, negative stereotyping, defamation and guilt by association. Our Foundation is sure that Mr. Salvati's case, along with three other individuals, is a prime example of these injustices. To deny the American Public the evidence of the misuse of power, which triggered thirty years of his wrongful imprisonment, would only sustain the travesty of justice already suffered by this human being.

The release of these files would also add to the hope that the methods used to execute this atrocity would never again be implemented.

And so, Mr. President, by all for which this country stands and in the name of the integrity you so boldly display, we beseech you to allow the House Committee on Governmental Reform to review the files on this case.

Thank you,
And God Bless America,

Louis H. Rago
President



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