Lawyers' Rights Watch Canada

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Promoting human rights by protecting those who defend them

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Thursday, June 20, 2013

Mr. Charles E. Samuels, Jr., Director Federal Bureau of Prisons 320 First Street, NW Washington, DC 20534 United States of America

Fax: (202) 514-6620; Email: info@bop.gov

Dear Sir;

Re: Ms. Lynne Stewart: Approval of Motion for Release on compassionate grounds

LRWC wrote to you on 27 May 2013 requesting you to make "urgent application under United States (US) legislation 18 USC §3582 (c) (1) (A) (i) for the release from prison of Ms Lynne F. Stewart, age 73, on compassionate grounds."

We understand the Motion for Release on Compassionate Grounds is now ready to be filed with Judge John Koetl and awaits only your signature. We urge you to sign immediately. The Warden's recommendation of 26 April 2013 and documentation have been fully vetted by the Federal Bureau of Prison. Urgently needed medical treatment arranged at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Centre in New York will begin immediately on Ms Stewart's release.

Inexcusable delays, denials and inappropriate delivery of medical treatment while in prison have worsening Ms Stewart's health to the point where further delay may result in death. As Director of the Federal Bureau of Prisons you are charged with the duty of overseeing the proper administration of prisons and ensuring the safety and security of all inmates. A primary part of this duty is to take effective measures to prevent and punish threats to the lives of inmates. The life of Ms Stewart is currently threatened not only by her illness, but also by further delay.

We urge you to immediately sign the Motion for Release on Compassionate Grounds immediately and take all other steps to ensure the prompt filing and hearing of the motion.

Yours sincerely,

Gail Davidson Executive Director Lawyers' Rights Watch Canada