

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF TEAMSTERS

JAMES P. HOFFA
General President

25 Louisiana Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20001



KEN HALL
General Secretary-Treasurer

202.624.6800
www.teamster.org

April 23, 2018

Sergio Silva Do Amaral
Brazilian Ambassador to the United States
3006 Massachusetts Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20008

Dear Ambassador Amaral,

On behalf of the 1.4 million members of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, I write to protest of the imprisonment of former president Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, in violation of the Brazilian Constitution. This arbitrary arrest only serves to undermine democracy by denying the people of Brazil the right to choose who they want as president.

Lula has been subjected to a political persecution. The regional appeal court which found him guilty, Judge Sergio Moro and the "Car Wash" Federal Prosecutors have violated Lula's rights to privacy, right to a fair trial, freedom from arbitrary arrest, the right to freedom of movement and right to be presumed innocent until found guilty.

The actions of the Brazilian judiciary in conjunction with the national media and political right demonstrates to the world that Brazil does not operate under the rule of law, but the rule of expediency. To use the law to thwart the aspirations of the Brazilian people is, at best, a cynical exercise. To those of us outside Brazil, it looks like a continuation of the unwarranted impeachment of Dilma Rousseff in an effort to stop the hopes of an improved life for millions of Brazilians.

April 23, 2018

Page 2

We call on the government of Brazil to comply immediately with its treaty obligations, and customary international law, and protect the fundamental rights to due process of law and to a fair trial, by pursuing immediately the release of Lula until the appeals process has been completed in accordance with the Brazilian constitution. An impartial review of Lula's case by judiciary not connected to the Temer government must be undertaken. And Lula must be allowed to run for the presidency in this year's election.

Sincerely,



James P. Hoffa
General President

JPH/tb

cc: Michel Temer, Presidente da República Federativa do Brasil:
gabinetepessoal@presidencia.gov.br
Eunício Oliveira, Presidente do Senado e do Congresso Nacional:
eunicio.oliveira@senador.leg.br
Cármen Lúcia Antunes Rocha, Presidenta do Conselho Nacional de Justiça:
presidencia@cnj.jus.br
Cármen Lúcia Antunes Rocha, Presidenta do Supremo Tribunal Federal:
secretariageral@stf.jus.br
Raquel Elias Ferreira Dodge, Presidente do Conselho Nacional do
Ministério Público e Procurador-Geral da República:
presidencia@cnmp.mp.br