

JOHN E. HUNT  
1ST DISTRICT, NEW JERSEY

COMMITTEE:  
ARMED SERVICES

NANCY SOHL  
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

August 22, 1973

WASHINGTON OFFICE:  
ROOM 1440  
LONGWORTH BUILDING  
TELEPHONE: 225-6501

CAMDEN DISTRICT OFFICE:  
114 N. 7TH STREET  
CAMDEN, NEW JERSEY  
TELEPHONE: 365-4442

GLOUCESTER COUNTY OFFICE:  
67 COOPER STREET  
WOODBURY, NEW JERSEY  
TELEPHONE: 845-0200

Mrs. Mary Wilson  
Woodbury Country Club  
Cooper Street  
Woodbury, New Jersey 08096

Dear Mary:

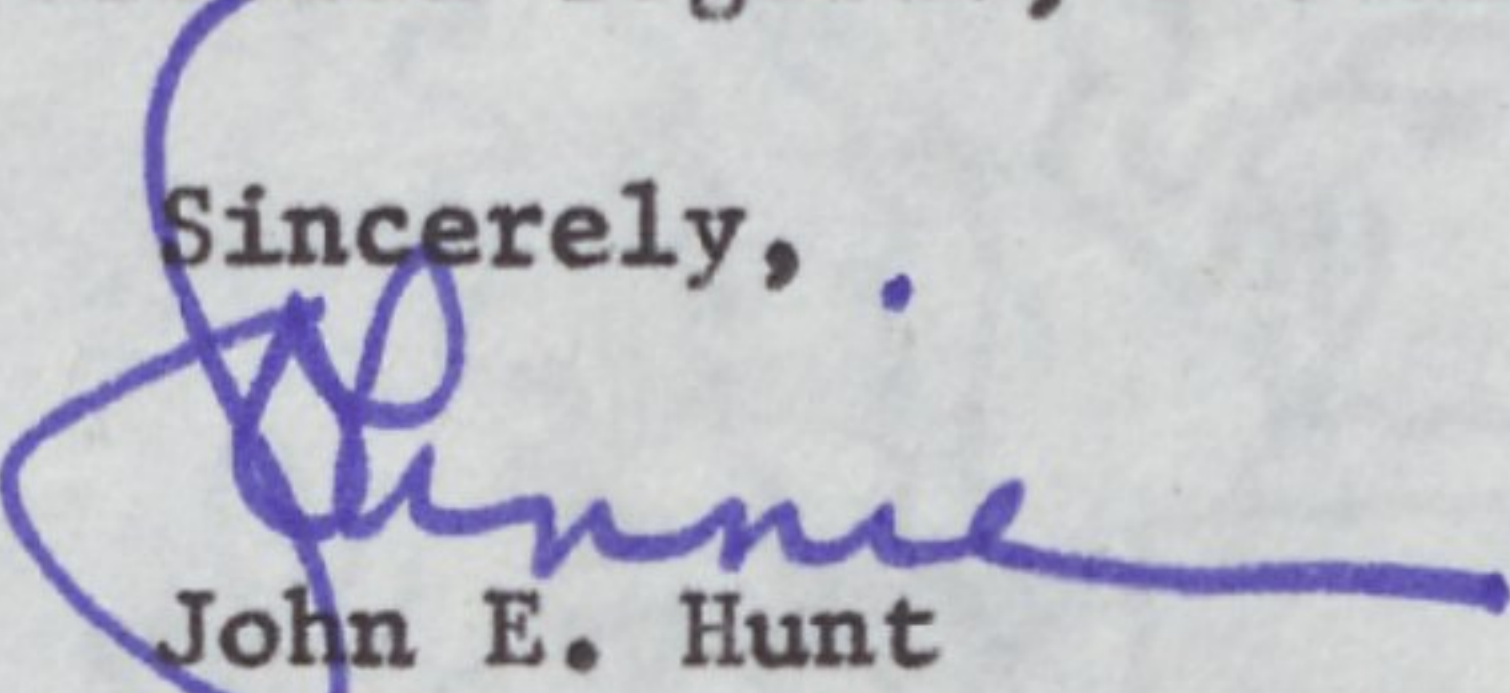
With reference to Stephen's case, I have been advised by the State Department that he was arrested June 24 in Mexico on charges of possession, transporting and trafficking narcotics. The case is consigned, which means it can come up for a hearing and sentencing at any time between the time of arrest and one year from that date. It is my understanding that he is scheduled to be transferred in the near future to Nogales, Mexico.

Now as to the financial points you raise in your letter. Any fee between a lawyer and client is personal and there is no way to gauge what a normal charge might be. As for other payments, if a person is sentenced to less than five years and if the prosecutor and defense attorney agree they do not intend to appeal the decision, under Mexican law, bond can be set by the court. This also varies, depending upon the judge and the seriousness of the charges. The prisoner may then elect to serve his sentence or to pay the bond and be set free. Technically, the prisoner is supposed to report to a parole officer once a month but it is my understanding that if the prisoner leaves the jurisdiction of the court, this is not enforced.

That is the status at the moment, Mary, and I am sorry it is not a more encouraging report. The only thing I can advise you is not to pay any money to anyone without first checking to make sure it is legitimate. The lawyer's fee, of course, is a personal matter and the only other payment possible would be the bond, if Stephen's sentence is for less than five years and if he decides to pay the bond rather than serve the sentence.

With warm personal regards, I remain

Sincerely,

  
John E. Hunt  
Member of Congress