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CA/OCS/ACS/WHA JANIE A. FRIEDLEIN AND IAN BROWNLEE

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: CASC, PHUM, KWMN, MX (KIECKER, CYNTHIA LOUISE)
SUBJ: ARREST UPDATE: CYNTHIA LOUISE KIECKER

REF: A) CDJ 0891 B) CDJ 0379

1. SUMMARY: On July 01, 2003 Post learned through media reports that, on June 30, 2003 at a press conference in Chihuahua City, the two main witnesses in the homicide of a 16-year-old girl in Chihuahua City retracted their initial testimonies, claiming they, like the accused, had been tortured by the State Police authorities to implicate AMCIT Cynthia Kiecker and her LPR husband, Ulises Perzabal. The couple's defense attorney stated that charges would have to be withdrawn now that the main evidence against them no longer exists. END SUMMARY.

2. BACKGROUND: AMCIT Cynthia Kiecker and her husband were arrested on May 31 for homicide in Chihuahua City. The evidence against them consisted of supposed eyewitness statements given by friends of the couple. Ms. Kiecker claims she, her husband and their friends were all tortured in an attempt by State Judicial Police to implicate them in an unsolved disappearance and murder of a young woman in that city in March. Post visited her twice in June and found her story to be credible. Post officially protested her mistreatment on June 10 and formally requested a full investigation. END BACKGROUND.