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October 28th, 2025

Optometrist Eriolanda Bretas,
President
Brazilian Confederation of Optometry and Optics (CBOO)

Dear Mrs Bretas, and colleagues of the CBOO,

VOSH/International sends our deepest sympathy to you and the Brazilian optometric community regarding the tragic circumstances surrounding the loss of Optometrist Marcelo de Souza Nogueira.

VOSH/International strongly condemns all acts of violence against optometrists and optometry students. We stand for mutual respect, safety, and collaboration between the professions of Optometry and Ophthalmology. Our humanitarian efforts serve communities that cannot afford or access eye care services, often with VOSH optometrists in collaboration with ophthalmologists, in a framework of professional respect and appreciation for each other's competencies for the benefit of our patients.

As a global network of 122 chapters in 33 countries worldwide, VOSH/International advocates for strengthening optometry's role as a primary eye health care profession and calls for respect toward optometrists and their important role in global eye health.

No optometrist should practice in fear of losing their life or mental well-being.



Dr. Victoria Molnar Weiss, OD, FVAO, FVI
President
VOSH/International (Volunteer Optometric Services to Humanity)

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