

November 25, 2024

President Joseph Biden
President of the United States of America
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

We are recipients of clemency from the last five presidential administrations, including yours, and we write urging you to be bold and compassionate during your remaining time in office and grant clemency to the deserving applicants referred to you by the Office of the Pardon Attorney.

Clemency is one of the most powerful tools at the president's disposal to correct injustice and grant mercy. All of us were, at one time, buried under long, unjust sentences. Many of us were serving life sentences. Others among us had decades-long sentences. All of us were incarcerated for a very long time before clemency freed us. Despite our reality, we all endeavored to change. We reconnected with family, we engaged in rehabilitative programming, we furthered our education, and we did this all knowing that we may never walk out of the prison doors.

Thankfully, the president of the United States has nearly unfettered power to grant commutations to people who are worthy of such justice and mercy. You and your predecessors used that power to give us a second chance. We have done all we could to demonstrate that trust was not misplaced. We have graduated with advanced degrees, created art that now hangs in museums across the country, walked streets in our communities as violence interrupters, launched advocacy groups to help the people we left behind in prison, and headed up the kitchens of some of the finest restaurants. We have cradled grandbabies and helped our children buy their first cars. We have started ministries in our communities and spent countless hours counseling the youth in our neighborhoods on how not to make the mistakes we made. We are enjoying every moment of our freedom, and we have the power of clemency to thank.

We appreciate the clemencies you have already granted. However, we know there are many more people who deserve your grace. Even in freedom we never forget that we left a lot of good people behind – people who deserve justice and mercy.

In April 2024, after granting five commutations and 11 pardons, you stated, "...my Administration will continue to review clemency petitions and deliver reforms that advance equal justice, address racial disparities, strengthen public safety, and enhance the wellbeing of all Americans." While you have granted three commutations since then, many more deserving individuals await your decision. As your service to this country comes to a close, clemency represents your last opportunity to make good on this promise and cement a legacy on criminal justice reform to which you can point with pride.

This is why we are calling on you, President Biden, to lead with justice and mercy and grant clemency to the many deserving candidates now!

Sincerely,

Lori Cross
Granted clemency by President Biden

Stacie Demers
Granted clemency by President Biden

Vickie Sanders
Granted clemency by President Biden

John Bolen
Granted clemency by President Trump

Jimmy Romans
Granted clemency by President Trump

Craig Cesal
Granted clemency by President Trump

John Knock
Granted clemency by President Trump

Michael Pelletier
Granted clemency by President Trump

Jodi Richter
Granted clemency by President Trump

Judith Negron
Granted clemency by President Trump

Alice Marie Johnson
Granted clemency by President Trump

Kenneth Winkler
Granted clemency by President Trump

Sherman Chester
Granted clemency by President Obama

Christopher Gulley
Granted clemency by President Obama

Keldren Joshua
Granted clemency by President Obama

Derrick Timmons
Granted clemency by President Obama

Exdonovan Peak
Granted clemency by President Obama

Tyrone Sturdivant
Granted clemency by President Obama

Ronald Bilbrey
Granted clemency by President Obama

Donel Clark
Granted clemency by President Obama

Dewayne Comer
Granted clemency by President Obama

William Dekle
Granted clemency by President Obama

Ernest Eads
Granted clemency by President Obama

Paul Fields
Granted clemency by President Obama

John Gargano
Granted clemency by President Obama

Stephanie George
Granted clemency by President Obama

Douglas Lindsay
Granted clemency by President Obama

Arlana Moore
Granted clemency by President Obama

Mandy Martinson Morrison
Granted clemency by President Obama

Erineo Perez
Granted clemency by President Obama

Patrick Plumlee
Granted clemency by President Obama

Evans Ray, Jr.
Granted clemency by President Obama

Almos Starks
Granted clemency by President Obama

Israel Torres
Granted clemency by President Obama

Connie Avalos
Granted clemency by President Obama

Antonio Lopez
Granted clemency by President Obama

Max Plumlee
Granted clemency by President Obama

Sandra Avery
Granted clemency by President Obama

Norman Brown
Granted clemency by President Obama

David Correa
Granted clemency by President Obama

Jamal Hanson
Granted clemency by President Obama

Timothy Tyler
Granted clemency by President Obama

Fulton Washington
Granted clemency by President Obama

Eric Wilson
Granted clemency by President Obama

Reynolds Wintersmith
Granted clemency by President Obama

Stephen Hardridge
Granted clemency by President Obama

Aaron Glasscock
Granted clemency by President Obama

Phillip Emmert
Granted clemency by President Bush

Loretta De-Ann Coffman
Granted clemency by President Clinton

Dorothy Gaines
Granted clemency by President Clinton

Peter J. Ninemire
Granted clemency by President Clinton

Kemba Smith Pradia
Granted clemency by President Clinton

Serena Nunn McCullers
Granted clemency by President Clinton

Loretta Fish Liegel
Granted clemency by President Clinton