

Donna Willmott

November 25, 1998

Dear Judge Kopf:

I am writing on behalf of Hamedah Hassan, whose case is now under consideration in your court. I met Hamedah three years ago while I was in prison in FCI Dublin. She impressed me with the depth of her deep religious convictions, and with the way she conducted herself within the obviously difficult conditions of prison life. Hamedah was always a positive influence on the people around her, a real role model for younger women coming into the institution. She was a peacemaker and unifier in the unit where we lived together. She has a deep respect for other people, a quality that allows her to deal easily with people from many walks of life and many different experiences. Her contribution to the community around her could be characterized by one word: *positive*.

The other thing I remember most about Hamedah is her relationship with her children. The separation from our children is very difficult for most incarcerated mothers. Hamedah loves her children very deeply, and has worked hard to maintain a strong relationship with them, overcoming many obstacles to remain a strong influence and support for them.

It seems to me a real waste to keep Hamedah in prison any longer. She has valuable contributions to make to her community; her children have suffered enough with the separation they have experienced. I urge you to be as lenient as possible when she appears before you for resentencing.

Sincerely,

*Donna Willmott*

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