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Charlotte, North Carolina 28277

Office of the Pardon Attorney  
U.S. Department of Justice  
500 First Street, N.W.  
Suite 400  
Washington, D.C. 20530

Dear President Bush:

Please seriously consider Hamedah Hasan's request to receive clemency.

I am an independent documentary filmmaker. For the last three years, I have been making a film about Hamedah Hasan and her children. In the course of this production, I have done extensive research and spoken with hundreds of judges, lawyers, activists, prisoners and ordinary citizens about Ms. Hasan's case. I have not spoken with a person yet – including conservative Judge Richard Kopf – who has not been shocked that Ms. Hasan received so much prison time. No matter what their political persuasion, age or race, they think that Ms. Hasan should be given another chance. I do too.

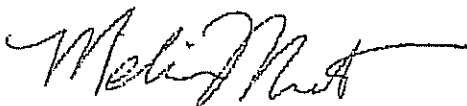
I did not know Ms. Hasan at the time of her arrest. I have heard from many people that Ms. Hasan was then terribly angry and bitter. Ms. Hasan has said herself that she has changed immeasurably.

Yet I have had the privilege of getting to know Ms. Hasan personally since 2001. In my experience, Ms. Hasan is a person of faith, deeply committed to leading a spiritual and ethical life. She is a devoted mother to her three daughters while she has been incarcerated. She is highly intelligent and intensely motivated to be a productive citizen when she is released from prison. I have absolutely no doubt that if released, Ms. Hasan will be a law-abiding citizen, a caring mother, and will give back to her community. At the risk of sounding hyperbolic, Hamedah Hasan is one of the finest human beings I have ever met. There are many people who will be supportive forces in her life when she is released from prison, including myself.

My film will be released at the end of 2004. I expect that it will reach the homes of several hundred thousand viewers. I have imagined the last scene a thousand times. Ms. Hasan receives a letter from your office and learns that her nightmare is over. She walks out the prison camp into the arms of her daughters who have been waiting so long for their mom to come home.

You have the power to make things right and to write a happy ending for this family. As a citizen of this country I love so much, I respectfully implore you look carefully at Ms. Hasan's case and make the only appropriate decision; send Hamedah Hasan home.

Sincerely,



Melissa Mummert, M.Div.

