

November 4, 2009

Re: **Hamedah Hasan**

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter on behalf of Hamedah Hasan, whom I have had the privilege of getting to know during the past two years, while I have been incarcerated at the Victorville Federal Prison Camp.

I first met Hamedah during a chance encounter at commissary not long after I arrived. I was immediately struck by the strength of her character as she gave me a brief synopsis of her journey through the federal legal system. I marveled at the attitude with which she approached her situation. Not during that conversation, not anytime since, have I detected a hint of bitterness in Hamedah, which I view as nothing less than remarkable. I am convinced that any lesser woman would have surrendered in the face of such injustices as she has experienced, to a vile bitterness. I believe this, because I have been witness to just such occurrences in women with trials and tribulations of far less significance.

Though I suspected this steely strength of character in her from our very first conversation, I had it confirmed beyond any doubt when I had a front row seat to the way she handled herself after being the subject of one of the most repulsive perversions of justice. After fighting for many years, she was finally given the sentence reduction she deserved, only to have the order rescinded several days later. I fully expected her to be reduced to an incoherent emotional mess, but instead, she stood strong in the face of the tragedy, while those of us who love her and care about her leaned on her and borrowed her strength, while we grieved for what had been done to her. I have never in my life been witness to bravery any greater than that, which she demonstrated when she held her head high and carried on with her fight.

Ten years ago, I completed my coursework at the University of Utah for a bachelor's degree in Computer Science while working full-time in the medical industry. I then proceeded to enjoy a successful career in the very demanding field of computer programming and software development. I tell you this to help you understand that I am no stranger to hard work, myself, and I have had the pleasure of working with amazing, driven, successful people with extraordinary work ethics. Therefore, when I say that Hamedah has earned my tremendous respect on a professional level, it should be understood that I do not give that easily or frequently, not outside of prison, and definitely not inside.

We work in a warehouse that supports factories in three institutions, and she performs one of the key positions that keep the warehouse functioning properly. She does it with a degree of professionalism that I have only ever seen equaled, never bettered. There is not a doubt in my mind that she would be an asset to any company for which she works and that she would be an extremely productive, well-respected member of society.

Her stalwart character, personal consistency and strength make her an excellent friend and an outstanding coworker. She deserves a chance at freedom, and anyone giving her that chance will not be disappointed in the choices that she makes in her personal life and in the contributions that she makes to her community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tamara Y. Jones". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Tamara Y. Jones