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Dear Judge Gaitan,

My name is, Denita Parker, and I am writing this letter to give you a glimpse of who Delbert Roberson is to me and our family. I first meet Mr. Roberson in March 2001 as I was home on break from school at Oklahoma Christian University, where I was a pre-med student the semester before. From the moment we meet we just kind of had this connection with each other and I know that we would be friends for a very long time. At the time I had an 18 month year old daughter named Destiny, who I had at the age of 17. From the beginning Delbert was always there for me and Destiny no matter what I needed. As I got my own place Delbert made sure to assist me with my rent and other financial needs because I wasn't working at the time and found myself struggling as a single parent. As my daughter, Destiny's, father was absent all of her life Delbert stepped in and became that consistent male figure for her in her life. Honestly Delbert is all that Destiny knows as a father. He would always say how he wished he was her real father because hers didn't deserve to be. As Delbert and I dated off and on again over the year no matter what our status was as far as our relationship went, one thing never changed and that is that he was always there for me when I needed him.

In 2002 we split up and I began to live a life I am not proud of. I sent my daughter to live with my aunt and began stripping, prostituting and doing drugs and alcohol. I had spiraled into a party life that I honestly thank God today for saving me from. Things were bad for me, I never was around my daughter, Delbert was in jail at the time and I felt like I had nobody to turn to. As time went on Delbert was released and came to check on me. I can remember the look in his eyes when he found out what I had been doing. He was so disappointed in me! He made sure to do all he could as a friend to try and get me to see what I was doing and help me get my life back together. Unfortunately there was not much he could do because I just wasn't ready to give up every aspect of it. I did clean myself up a bit, by stopping doing drugs because I knew that was one thing Delbert would not play about. In 2003 I found out that I was pregnant with our son Deaven Roberson, Delbert and I were excited because he really wanted to have a child. I had our son in Feb. 2004 while Delbert was in prison on a parole violation, he could not wait to be a part of his sons' life so when he came home in May he spent all of his time with us. That joy soon came to a halt in August of that year when we found out that Deaven was not Delbert's biological son. It was heart wrenching for myself but especially for De. As we discussed what to do next, I discovered that I had become pregnant from one of my clients while I was working as a prostitute. I am telling you all of this because this event truly changed Delbert and I. Even though he could have left me, my daughter and my new son, he stood up instead as a man and decided that he would not do that. He would not let my children grow up without a father because of my mistake. For that decision I owe him my life. To this day my son does not know the truth and Delbert and I agreed that he never will. Delbert looked him in the eye and told him he would never leave him and vowed to do all that he could to make sure to provide and protect him and his sister.

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From that moment Delbert has done just that, he got his first real job as a collector with NCO Financial and was doing all he could to provide for us. I was so proud of him because I know it took a lot of commitment for him to do that; hustling and the streets was all he knew. Everything was going great after that, De was making good money, I was working full time, and we just had our youngest daughter Angelique and had just bought our first home. Even though we had our ups and downs we were both proud of each other and how far we had come. In late 2009 things changed; I could see De was struggling to keep up with our lifestyle, his mom had become ill and things began to just become overwhelming for him. He had to take off of work a lot to be with his mom so he took leave and ended up having to file bankruptcy. I know that is no excuse for his actions that lead to the charges he has pleaded to so I will not attempt to use it as one. I often blame myself because when he really needed me I was not there for him to make sure he saw what he was doing and how it affected others as he was there for me when I made bad choices in the past. In the back of his mind he would never allow us to go without and decided to do something that he knew was wrong.

Now that I have given you some background let me start by saying that on June 9th, 2010 our lives as we knew them crumbled in front of us. As DEA, FBI, ICE and KCPD agents stormed our home while my children slept and screamed from fear all I could do is cry. As one of the agents allowed Delbert to call me all he could say was to tell our son how sorry he was and that he loved us. At that time I felt like my heart had been ripped out of my chest and destroyed. Delbert means everything to our family and after almost ten years I didn't know when I would ever get to see him again. That night I had to tell our then six year old son that the father who made sure to see him every day, that took him everywhere he went, that he looked to as a hero and superman, that was at every football game and track meet, birthday and holiday would not be home and I didn't know when he would be back. I had to tell our ten year old daughter that the only father she has ever known since she was one years old, that made sure she practiced her school work daily, that attended every track meet, that treated her like his biological child, that played with her daily would not be home that night and I didn't know when he would be back. I had to tell my four year old daughter that her dad, that dropped and picked her up from daycare every day, that took her shopping to spend time with her, that put her in bed every night and called her his princess would not be home that night and that I didn't know when he would be back. It was the hardest thing for me to do in my entire life on this earth. Even though Delbert and I were not in a relationship at the time we lived together for our children and tried to make sure we did all we could to have a set family life for them, something neither of us had growing up.

The last two years Delbert has been incarcerated has been very hard for our children and me. It is truly only by Gods grace that we have made it this long without him. He is our life; our foundation; our protection; the priest of our home and our everything. The hardest part for Delbert is not that he has to pay for his poor decisions because he knows that he has to do that, but being away from him children who mean the world to him and making them suffer as well. He is an awesome father and these last two years have been punishment for him and have really opened his eyes to what is important his family! Missing those important days in their lives like birthdays, holidays, first day of kindergarten and etc... have humbled him into the man that will stand before you soon for sentencing. I know that you get a lot of these letters but I ask that if you have never considered one before, please do so today. Delbert and

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our family have grown so much over this time and it has been a blessing in disguise. As Delbert and I have given our lives back to the lord, we are now mature adults ready to live our lives as a true family. We plan to marry once he is released, I have a new career in education as a counselor at a university for two years now, Delbert is writing a business plan for a mentoring program her is starting, and I will be purchasing a home soon and will be completing my associated degree in business next year. All of this is because of Delbert and his decision to not only change the course of his life but ours as a family as well. Even while in jail it pushes me to be the best that I can be and accepts nothing less.

For our children it has not been that easy for them to move on with life. They miss their dad very much especially our son. Even though his dad calls daily, writes and does all he can to make sure that he is present in his life, he is still missing the time they spent together. He cries often, wakes up from nightmares that his dad will never come home and asks his dad daily when he is getting out of jail. When our daughter Destiny has an accomplishment she smiles and always says how she wishes daddy could have seen it or been there. You see Judge Gaitan, Delbert is our foundation and without him we can't stand long. He is remorseful for his decisions and I know there are consequences. I just ask that you consider Deaven, Destiny and Angelique in your decision ahead of you. The same man that stood before you in 2010 is not the one standing before you today. He is a new man, **focused, determined and renewed** to live his life in this community and willing to do all he can to give back what he caused and took from it. He is no longer a victim of his past, a violent criminal or a threat to his community. We are all here to support him when released and to insure that your decision will not be in vain. His plan is to work for Jayson Ayers at the Farmers insurance group and has other options as well as a position with the company I work for. As my spouse he is able to obtain his degree all the way to a Masters degree at no cost, which I know he plans to take advantage of. I will continue to support him in his youth mentoring program and have many resources in the community to make sure it will be successful. Most importantly I will support him in being the best father and husband he desires to be.

As an admission counselor, I work with military and veterans students daily assisting them with making education decisions that may change the course of their and families lives over time. At Grantham University we consider ourselves "Life Changers", but today I give that title to you Judge Gaitan. As a life changer your decision will not only effect the life of Delbert Roberson but Deaven Roberson, Angelique Roberson, Destiny Davenport, Denita Parker and a host of family and friends that are all touched by Delbert in a major way in their lives. I can only pray that you will be lenient on Delbert's sentence to allow our family a second chance at life this year. I can't express enough how much we need him home.

Respectfully,



Denita J. Parker
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