FR: Eric D. Powell, Maj, USAF, BSC

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TO: The President of the United States of America

The White House

1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW

Washington, DC 20500

RE: Clemency Petition for Ms. Michelle West (Inmate # 17809-039)

Dear Mr. President,

I'm writing to you on behalf of Ms. Michelle West (Inmate # 17809-039).

I have known Michelle for most of my life going back to the late 1980s before she was incarcerated in 1993. Michelle has been like an older sister to me from the moment that we met. Hence, her incarceration, roughly 26 years ago, has been nothing but a personal tragedy for Michelle and all of those that love and care for her.

Michelle has made a significant impact on my life. She was there to mentor me in my teen years when I was unsure of my future goals. Her wise counsel, assisted me in focusing on aspirations towards higher education, a career in the military, and a devotion to community service. I am now a military officer and scientist in the United States Air Force, I have highly technical degrees from several well-respected schools, and many other accolades to my name. With that said, I can look back at my life and clearly point to Michelle West as a personal inspiration that led to these accomplishments.

Michelle is a natural born leader. She is intelligent, hardworking, and has a very big and kind heart. Given a different set of circumstances, I know that she would've devoted her life to being a model citizen, mother, sister, and friend. I wholeheartedly believe that a commutation of Ms. West's life sentence will be in the best interest of Michelle, her family, and to the public at-large. Michelle is simply NOT the kind of person that deserves to be behind bars let alone for "life".

Hence, I would respectfully ask that you, please, consider her petition for clemency with great care and attention to detail. She deserves to come home. Her family, friends, and community need her.

Thank you for your time and God Bless America

Eric D Powell