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Re: Commutation Petition for Ferrell Damon Scott

To Whom It May Concern:

Previously, I served as an Assistant United States Attorney in the Southern District of Texas. In 2008, I was the co-trial prosecutor in Ferrell Scott's case. Mr. Scott was one of several individuals involved in a large-scale marijuana conspiracy. He received a mandatory life sentence after he was convicted by a jury at trial.

Based on his role in the offense and his criminal history, we made a plea offer where the government would have recommended a sentence of approximately 12 years if he pled guilty. Additionally, if Mr. Scott had pleaded guilty he could have cooperated with the government and potentially received a further sentence reduction under Rule 35. Tragically, he chose to go to trial and subject himself to a mandatory life sentence.

While Mr. Scott deserves to be punished for the offense, I strongly do not believe that he deserves a mandatory life sentence.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'SSS', with a stylized, flowing script.

Sam S. Sheldon