



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

KAREN FREEMAN-WILSON
MAYOR

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July 26, 2018

Dear President Trump:

Please consider this letter in support of a Sentence Commutation for Charles "Duke" Tanner. I met Mr. Tanner once prior to his sentence but did not know him well. However, I was familiar with his career and the hard work he exhibited as a boxer and the respect he garnered in this community. This respect stemmed from his perseverance and his efforts in the boxing ring. Unfortunately, his activities outside of the ring derailed a promising career.

While this could have been a side story with a tragic ending, Mr. Tanner has accepted responsibility for his conduct and has endeavored to better himself. He has exhibited exemplary conduct while incarcerated and worked to prevent others in this community from going down the same path. As a former Indiana Attorney General and Lake County Deputy Prosecutor, I understand the importance of ensuring that citizens adhere to our laws. I also understand the need to ensure that just laws govern the conduct of citizens. The sentencing disparity that led to Mr. Tanner's sentence does not serve as an appropriate deterrent but as a hyper punitive measure that flies in the face of rehabilitation. Mr. President, recently, you granted clemency to Alice Johnson. I would implore you to treat Charles "Duke" Tanner in the same manner and grant clemency to him.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and if you have questions, I can be reached at 2192935329.

Sincerely,

Karen M. Freeman-Wilson