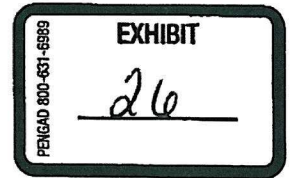


Carol Ann Seaton
2375 Adams Street Gary Indiana 46407-3012

October 18, 2017

Dear Honorable Judge James Moody:



I know that you will receive many letters from people far more powerful than me regarding John Buncich. But I believe that I know a side of him that many people may not be aware of, and it is that side I would like to share with you.

I am a child of the Civil Rights Movement. As a young child I participated in the March from Selma to Montgomery and several other marches throughout the south. I was a Freedom Rider and I was beaten by police swinging billy clubs and bitten by unleashing dogs, and on a flaming bus all because of the color of my skin. I share this because it is important you understand my frame of reference when I share my experiences with John Buncich.

I met and got to know John while campaigning in 2010. I was constantly met with racism and hatred while on the campaign trail. And even though he was campaigning as hard as I was he made sure that his workers, who far outnumbered my group, were there to help and protect me from overt racist slurs and to physically protect me when necessary. For me who grew up fearing the police and not being very trusting of people who did not look like me that was unheard of. When he was elected he did not forget me. When the Urban League of Northwest Indiana was planning to break the Guinness World Record for the most people (children) reading aloud at the same time I approached John about security for the 6,892 children, National Urban League President Marc Morial, and other people from the National Urban League offices he laughed and asked could he read too. He not only provided much needed security for the sea of school busses, children, teachers, reporters, and assorted people but offered the helicopter to take aerial photos. This event marks the only time Gary has ever been in the Guinness Book of World Records! He later became an active member of the Urban League's Board of Directors and provided my sister, Eloise Gentry the President/CEO, with constant help and assistance.

John's involvement in the African American community didn't stop there. In an area as racially polarized as Northwest Indiana have you ever wondered why there haven't been any riots, unruly marches, or racial unrest? In February, 2012 after Trayvon Martin was killed in Florida John reached out to the NAACP to ask what could he do to help prevent riots in Northwest Indiana, I repeat he reached out to prevent problems, not arm his officers, not put dogs on the streets but asked how do we work together to keep peace and build trust in a community that believes white officers would rather shoot than arrest and hoodies are targets not clothing. John "upped his game" and began attending even more community meetings than he had previously been attending. He insisted that his commanders and officers become involved in the community and become more racially sensitive to the needs and fears of the community. At some point John chose to more closely align himself with the NAACP and became an active Life Member. He became a member of the Political Action subcommittee and became one of the hardest working members of the Branch. He has attended every function, not as the Sheriff of Lake County but as

a working member. John continues to be an active member of the organization. When Michael Brown was shot in Ferguson, Missouri in August, 2014 John coordinated with all of the Police Departments in the County to ensure racial sensitivity throughout Northwest Indiana and made very sure that officers under his command respected all people and treated everyone with dignity. All of which was a far cry from my initial encounters and early experiences with white police officers.

Through good times and bad John has always been a friend ready to help. Not as the Sheriff but as a good human being with feelings and someone who genuinely cares about people. And he has quietly been my prayer partner for several years, offering prayers and strength through some rather dark and challenging times.

Again, I can only hope that my humble words will allow you to see another facet of a good man, who through his works has done many positive and good things in and for the world in which he lives. I am more than available if you would like to talk to me about anything I have written. I can be reached at 219-680-0506.

Respectfully yours,


Carol-Ann Seaton

Law Office of
I. Alexander Woloshansky

Barrister Court
9219 Broadway
Merrillville, IN 46410
(219) 769-3333
Fax: (219) 769-3875

November 3, 2017

Judge James T. Moody
U.S. District Court
5400 Federal Plaza
Hammond, IN 46320

RE: **JOHN BUNCICH**

Your Honor:

In April of 2015 I, together with my colleagues, James Clement and Roy Dominguez, were able to secure the release of Clifton Boone, who was serving three life sentences after being convicted of three counts of kidnapping in 1974. Mr. Boone was thoroughly vetted by Lake County Prosecutor Bernard Carter and his staff cooperated greatly in negotiating Mr. Boone's release.

Shortly after his release, Mr. Boone was hired by Mr. Buncich as a kitchen employee at the Lake County Jail.

In 2016, the union representing the correctional officers at the Lake County Jail raised an objection that a convicted felon was working in their midst. At a meeting that I attended, Mr. Buncich strongly defended his decision to hire Clifton Boone and indicated Mr. Boone would continue in his position in the jail kitchen where he remains today unless and until he did something that would be inappropriate.

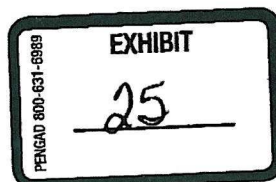
Mr. Buncich gave Mr. Boone a second chance at life after spending 41 years behind bars in Michigan City.

I thought you should know these facts about John Buncich as you fashion the appropriate sentence for this man.

Very truly yours,


I. Alexander Woloshansky

IAW/dll



To the Honorable Judge Moody,

I Davey R. Stephens a retired veteran of 31 years of the Lake County Sheriff's Department, would like to commemorate the former Sheriff John Buncich. John Buncich has done so much to ensure the safety of the inmates and the officers within the Lake County Jail. His initiative to incorporate an addition to the Lake County Jail was the best decision for its stakeholders; the officers, county civilians, and inmates. By expanding the jail, John Buncich instituted new duties for officers to make the jail's operations efficient, not only did he make the jail efficient he also made it a safer environment for the inmates and officers. He also instituted the video visitations by Telmate to remove the high traffic of civilian visitation from inside the jail, this initiative greatly reduced the numbers of trafficking within the jail, creating a safer environment for the officers and inmates. John Buncich had an open-door policy; any of his employees could walk into his office to voice their concerns about issues they've faced. John was willingly to do his best to address our concerns, he responded back to every officer that needed him. John Buncich is a fair and respectable person, he has truly ensured the public safety of Lake County.

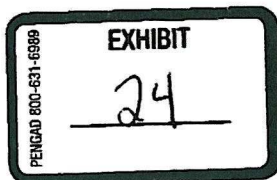
Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Davey R. Stephens", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Davey R. Stephens

140 E. 54th Ct. Apt #302 C

Merrillville, IN, 46410



October 9th, 2017

Senior Judge James T. Moody
5400 Federal Plaza
Suite 4100
Hammond, IN 46320

Dear Senior Judge Moody,

The intent of this letter is to point out some of the good that John Buncich has done for our community. I understand that this letter is written at the risk of the wrath of the Hammond Times Newspaper, but I am passionate about expressing my feelings regarding the John Buncich that I have known for many years.

I have had a working relationship with John for approximately 40 years, and he has always been an honest and credible individual. During the course of these years, he has always been a very generous and giving person. He has done many good things for the community; he founded a summer camp called "Camp Buncich," that was created for under privileged inner-city children to give them opportunity to learn, be creative, and have fun. John Buncich is also very involved with the Carmelite Catholic Religious Order and was very instrumental in making Lake County Animal Control a no-kill shelter, as well as being a positive influence on other organizations.

John has also contributed to many less fortunate Lake County families who were in need, with food donations and many other heart-felt acts of kindness. I truly hope that you will take into consideration these attributes of the John Buncich that I know when considering the punishment he receives, in hopes that it will be minimized.

In closing, I would like to include a quote; Romans 3:7 "As is it written, there is no one righteous, no, not one."

Respectfully,



Larry Wirtz

P.O. Box 249
Mount Airy, IN 47964-0249



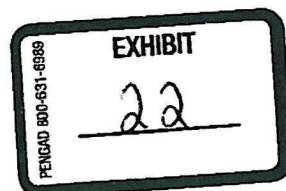
Dear JB (If I may),

I just want to thank you for all of the things you didn't have to do! I don't mean for me necessarily, but for all of the officers with a family or a medical issue. I have always admired your "family is important to" attitude.

During what I am sure is a very difficult time, please know that I extend my prayers to you and your loved ones. You know that I obviously don't know you well, but I was able to see one part of you that is a good man; a man who had to make tough decisions but still found room to show compassion at times.

May the Lord bless you as abundantly as he sees fit. Please, be encouraged to keep the good man alive amidst all of this angst.

Sincerely,

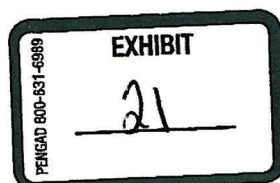
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "R. Du" or similar, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

TO THE HONORABLE JUDGE MOODY

HI, MY NAME IS ALMITA V. JOHNSON AND I'VE BEEN EMPLOYED WITH THE LAKE COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT AS A CORRECTIONAL OFFICER FOR 10 YEARS, RANKED NOW AS A CORPORAL . I FIRST MET BUNCICH PERSONALLY 20 YEARS AGO AT A COOKOUT. THEN I STARTED ATTENDING DIFFERENT FUNCTIONS AND WOULD SEE HIM AND CHAT WITH HIM. HE WAS VERY FRIENDLY, PERSONABLE AND ALWAYS INQUIRING ABOUT HOW THINGS WERE GOING IN MY COMMUNITY, ESPECIALLY AS FAR AS GANG ACTIVITIES AND DRUGS. HE ALWAYS WAS CONCERNED ABOUT GETTING THE COMMUNITY CLEANED UP. I WOULD ALWAYS HEAR PEOPLE SAY HOW FAIR HE WAS AND THAT HE IS A MAN OF HIS WORD. WELL AFTER BECOMING EMPLOYED WITH LCJ I WAS UNDER THE ADMINISTRATION OF DOMINGUEZ THEN BUNCICH WAS ELECTED SHERIFF. THERE WERE A LOT OF CHANGES MADE IN THE JAIL THAT WERE GOOD. AS A CORRECTIONAL OFFICER WE ARE ALWAYS LOOKED DOWN ON. BUNCICH MADE A LOT OF CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS DREAMS COME TRUE BY PULLING FROM THE JAIL TO CROSS OVER TO THE POLICE SIDE. HE MADE THAT PROMISE AND NEVER BROKE IT. IF YOU NEVER WORKED CORRECTIONS YOU WOULDN'T KNOW WHAT OUR LIFE IS LIKE IN A JAIL. SOMETIMES YOU FEEL LIKE AN INMATE. BUNCICH IS THE MOST PERSONABLE, HONEST AND CARING PERSON THAT I HAVE MET IN A LONG TIME. WHEN HE TELLS YOU HE IS GOING TO DO SOMETHING HE DOES AND IF HE CANT DO IT HE WILL LET YOU KNOW. NEVER ASKING ANYTHING IN RETURN BUT TO DO YOUR JOB TO THE BEST OF YOUR ABILITY AND TO REPRESENT THE LAKE COUNTY SHERIFFS DEPARTMENT WELL. HE WAS ALWAYS CONCERNED ABOUT WHAT HE COULD DO IN THE JAIL TO HELP YOU DO YOUR JOB BETTER. HE HAS A HEART SO BIG ALWAYS HELPING PEOPLE IN NEED AND WORKING DILIGENTLY WITH THE COMMUNITY AND DIFFERENT ORGANIZATIONS. I ALWAYS LIKED HIS OPEN DOOR POLICY. HE WOULD ALWAYS TELL YOU IF THERE IS A PROBLEM YOU CAN ALWAYS COME TALK TO HIM. I FEEL BUNCICH IS A GREAT ASSET TO THE PUBLIC AND TO HIS OFFICERS. I HAVE PRAYED SO HARD FOR THIS MAN AND I KNOW HE IS A GOOD PERSON AND I HOPE THAT YOU REALIZE THAT. TO LOSE HIM IN OUR PRESENCE IS ONE OF THE WORST THINGS THAT COULD HAPPEN. I WILL CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR HIM AND EVERYONE ELSE. I HAVE ENJOYED WORKING UNDER THE ADMINISTRATION OF JOHN BUNCICH AND GLAD TO HAVE MET HIM. THANKS FOR TAKING TIME TO READ MY LETTER.

SINCERELY YOURS
Almita V. Johnson
ALMITA V. JOHNSON

8778 MONROE ST MERRILLVILLE, IN. 46410



From: Dr. Louis A. Miceli
1127 Thicket Lane
Munster, Indiana
46321

To: The Honorable Judge Moody

Dear Judge Moody:

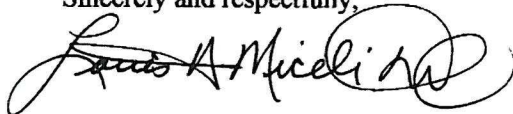
My name is Dr. Louis Miceli and I have lived and practiced medicine in Northwest Indiana for over thirty years. I am a Board Certified Pediatrician and Family Medicine specialist at Portage Primary Care in Portage, Indiana. My professional resume includes research in Biopsychology at the University of Chicago and I have been an associate professor involved in medical education at both The Midwestern University of Health Sciences and Indiana University School of Medicine - Northwest Campus.

I was first introduced to Mr. John Buncich over twenty years ago through a mutual friend, Mr. Joe Gutierrez, a union official with Inland (now Mittal) Steel Company. Mr. Buncich immediately left a very positive impression on me - and he still does. Over the years I have found him to be a very sincere, eloquent and faith-filled man and Law Enforcement Professional who sincerely cared about his officers, his staff and the people he served in Northwest Indiana.

These are not just words, Judge Moody. They are so much more because they represent my actual experiences. You see, Judge Moody, I am a physician who cares for several members of the Lake County Indiana Sheriff's Department including two officers who were seriously wounded and disabled while on duty protecting our community. In the course of their medical care these officers frequently speak to me with pride and emotion about their ongoing positive relationships with John Buncich who continued to be involved and genuinely concerned about their health, recovery and overall wellbeing even years after they were forced to retire from active duty due to their injuries. In my professional opinion Mr. Buncich was and is a remarkable and profound source of help, healing and encouragement for these officers and their families. I saw first hand how his sincere care and compassion lifted them up toward a faster and more complete recovery.

Judge Moody, Mr. John Buncich is a decent, caring and compassionate man. I respectfully request that you be kind and merciful to him as you judge and contemplate his future.

Sincerely and respectfully,



Dr. Louis A. Miceli, D.O., FAACP.

