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November 1, 1995

The Honorable Stanley S. Harris
United States District Court for the District of Columbia
c/o John Hume, Esquire
Perkins & Coie
607 14th Street, NW, Suite 800
Washington, DC 20005-2011

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SERVERS DISTRICT COMPANY TO SERVERS TO BE COLUMNIA

Re: Thomas T. Demery

Dear Judge Harris:

I take the liberty of writing you this letter in support of Mr. Thomas T. Demery, who will be appearing in your court for sentencing in the near future.

Tom Demery has been a neighbor and close personal friend for more than a decade, and our friendship has extended to our respective wives and children. For the past seven years, my family and I have suffered with Tom and his family through the very regrettable ordeal that now brings him before you. I am relieved and grateful that this most difficult time of his life is finally coming to an end.

I suspect that, like most people, the number of people I choose to count as true friends grows smaller as the years pass. I am proud and fortunate to count Tom among that very small group. He is a man I respect and can rely upon; he gives much more often and more easily than he takes, unselfishly putting others before himself. Although Tom and I do not share the same faith, I am well aware of his deep and long standing commitment to his church, its members, and the members of our community in the form of time, effort and caring whenever and wherever a need has arisen.

Notwithstanding the many dark days of the past seven years, Tom has never stopped contributing his time, energies and what resources he has had to charitable causes -- ranging from soup kitchens for the homeless, where Tom has filled the role of cook and server, to his many visits to Africa on behalf of Pat Robertson in a continuing effort to help the less fortunate. This extraordinary and unceasing charitable dedication of time, energy and talent (a quality that Tom and Carol have exhibited throughout their adult lives) has served as an example to me and to others in the community who, like me, do far less.

It is not hard to imagine the severe financial and psychological stress that these past years have placed on Tom, his wife Carol, and their two children. It is to Tom and Carol's enormous credit that through it all they have raised two of the most outstanding young adults that I have ever had the pleasure of knowing.

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Tom, Carol and their children have paid an extremely high price over the past seven years, and I know unequivocally, in my mind and in my heart, that Tom deserves every favorable consideration when he comes before you for sentencing.

Thank you, Judge Harris, for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Martin L. Artiano