

President Donald Trump
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.
Washington, D.C.

March 18, 2019

RE: Pardon Request

Dear President Trump,

A copy of this pardon request has been submitted to the Pardon Attorney, but because I am “actually innocent”, I am requesting your immediate intervention.

Why me?

Today begins the 21st year (of my 40-year sentence). Convicted of possessing (and conspiring to possess) illegal devices and weapons, my case was part of an initiative to stifle the Militia movement in the late 1990s. The government needed weapons to make the braggadocio of my fellow militia members look like a credible threat to peace and safety (they had few arms, all quite legal), so my gun collection was impressively arrayed on the evidence table.

Since I knew my equipment was strictly legal, I thought I could defend myself...

My innocence was not enough.

I was expecting to be raided so I took care that everything I had was legal. To say that I possessed illegal items, the BATF expert had to contradict BATF regulations in every instance (example: a flare gun was called a “destructive device” even though “signaling devices” are specifically exempted in the “destructive device” regulations).

If you start a case “Pro Se”, even a good attorney may not be enough.

The **Appeals Courts** can ignore any or all arguments (even my attorney seemed surprised).

They can pass the prosecutor’s remarks through as the court’s opinion. A talented prosecutor could hide this weakness in the system but this prosecutor ignored all of our legal points completely.

Since the opinion was signed only by a clerk, we are not even sure an Appeals Judge actually saw our brief.

Today’s **jury** depends on the judge.

My judge disallowed all my evidence as hearsay. Even if his evaluation had been correct, we now know that the law allows hearsay if it tends to show the innocence of the accused.

He even told the jury the story of a woman he convicted who thanked him for helping turn her life around, implying that a few years in jail might help me become a better person.

The jury was probably shocked that I received a 40-year sentence (one juror later said they thought I would get about 5 years). The government had offered a me plea agreement of 3 years.

Although my 99-year-old dad thought I could be freed if we could find \$50,000 for a more powerful legal team, I am not optimistic. My parents have already spent about \$17,000 for legal fees (much more than they could afford), to no avail.

The Constitution was not enough.

My judge said he did not want to hear “Constitutional arguments” in his courtroom and he later instructed the jury to ignore them. Without my evidence of “actual innocence”, the Second Amendment was all I had.

The Executive is our last hope.

The system has failed for twenty one years. If you don’t intervene, we have nowhere to turn.

Our faith in the Lord has been a tremendous source of comfort and protection but it looks like He will use the American Justice System to grant my freedom, if it is to be. My small ministry in prison has had its rewards but my years here seem like time “waiting on the Lord” rather than His calling for my life. I am 67 years old, so 19 more years may constitute a life sentence.

Sincerely,

Bradford K. Metcalf, reg.# 09198-040, Terre Haute, Indiana