

Beth Curtis
100 Hale Road
Zanesville, OH 43701
ph. # 740 452 2867

Honorable Maurice M. Paul
401 S. E. 1st Ave. #307
Gainesville, FL.

January 2, 2000

Dear Judge Paul,

I am writing to you about my brother John Knock, a Federal Prisoner, currently being housed in the Marion County Jail.

I would like to tell you a little about the circumstances of his confinement during the past year. He is in solitary confinement in a very sensory deprived environment (no television or radio or contact with others). I understand he is moved and searched nightly. His family is not allowed to send him books, magazines, articles of interest, or family pictures. He is searched and moved daily. I understand that every hour during the night he is checked. As difficult as this is for me to understand, the visitation process is more difficult.

All family members live quite a distance from Ocala and must travel to see him. This visitation protocol (for John) is very involved and seems to be designed to limit his contact with those who care about him. It is not possible to arrange visits in advance. They must be booked at the beginning of each eight hour shift. In other words, not only can we not arrange a visit for next week, we cannot arrange for a visit in the morning for that evening. Two of these visits are permitted a week and the visits last 15 minutes. They take place behind glass with a small screen at the bottom and you must bend over to communicate. John's hands are chained at his waist and his legs are

shackled. A guard is also present during the visit.

John has family members who love and care about him. We do have memories of wonderful family visits in France before his extradition and had hopes that we could continue to see him in the same way. His mother is 86 and his son is 9. This protocol does not lend itself to any positive interaction.

John has never been convicted of a crime. He has never been violent. He is not physically overwhelming. We know him as a caring, considerate, interesting, introspective, son, brother, husband and father. Please help us.

Sincerely,

Beth Curtis

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*submitted
for sentencing
hearing*

Honorable Maurice Paul
401 S.E. 1st Ave.
Gainesville, FL.

Dear Judge Paul;

I am writing to tell you about my brother, John Knock. To the criminal justice system he seems to not have a human face so in some way, I hope this letter may explain who he is and why people love and care about him.

John is a person of great character and integrity. As a child he was like a ray of sunshine and he remains so today. He is a man who has always loved hunting, fishing, dogs, children, life and family.

He is modest, unpretentious, and common. He drives old cars, shops at K-mart, fixes plumbing, fixes leaky roofs. John is the person who stops when you have a flat tire on the highway, or you're stuck in a snow drift. He always has confidence, good humor and know how. He is interested in people and ideas and is blessed with an ability to see life's ironies and contradictions. He is a student of human behavior and can tell wonderful stories of adventure about people, pets, and nature.

John has had only one love relationship throughout his adult life - his wife Naomi. He is immensely proud of her and his son Aaron. I just wanted to let you know why his family and friends love him and think of him as a gentle soul.

Sincerely,
Beth Curtis