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Board of Prison Terms
428 J street, 6th floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: P. F. Lazor C-73842

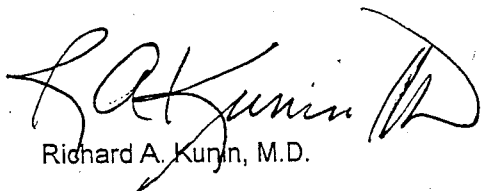
This letter is to update my previous letters to support the granting of parole to Mr. P. F. Lazor. Since his last parole hearing the coroner, Dr. Angelo K. Ozoa, who had testified against Mr. Lazor, was ruled incompetent by the Medical Board of California after it was discovered that he had a pattern of not saving or photographing key evidence and of overlooking important details. He lost his job as coroner and lost his medical license as well. In Mr. Lazor's case Dr. Ozoa, who was new on the job at that time, testified that bullet hole evidence showed the victim was shot in the back. This was totally contrary to Mr. Lazor's story and it obviously discredited his contention that he acted in self-defense. This flawed forensic evidence was a key factor in his conviction and it has affected his credibility ever since.

Mr. Lazor has always believed that he acted in self-defense and out of fear for his life. Therefore, he refused his defense counsel's advice to 'cop a plea' despite the fact that by such deceit he might have been rewarded with a lesser charge of manslaughter instead of murder. I called the defense attorney, Mr. Wesley Schroeder, a year ago and he said Mr. Lazor refused to state that he had used a 'throw down gun' to make it look like Mr. Allred was brandishing. Mr. Lazor was overly confident that Mr. Allred's footprints on the door and the testimony of a telephonic witness, who heard the loud commotion and curses of someone other than Lazor, would exonerate him. He was confident that a jury would take his side because his assailant had kicked in the door and there was a witness who heard the events.

I personally witnessed Mr. Lazor's expression of grief and remorse over the death of Mr. Allred. His contrition made a powerful impression on me when I visited him at San Quentin prison in October 1986. He has no prior criminal history and has never used drugs or alcohol. He consulted me in 1979, primarily for non-drug, nutrition-health advice. Now, after twenty years of prison life, Mr. Lazor continues to maintain an intelligent and compassionate dialogue with his friends and supporters, including me. I am confident that he will fit in society upon his release from prison and that he is equipped to be self-supporting and productive.

Mr. Lazor has complained of numerous evidence errors for years but no one took him seriously because he lacked credibility. I believe in P. F. because I knew him as a physician before this tragedy. Violence and deceit are not his nature. The hundreds of friends who wrote letters to the Court on behalf of Mr. Lazor also know that. I urge you now: please grant parole to P. F. Lazor.

Respectfully yours,



Richard A. Kunin, M.D.