

March 4, 2005

Margarita Perez Board of Prison Terms 1550 K St, Suite 600

BOARD OF PRISON TERMS

Dear Margarita Perez, C - 738 47

PF Lazor is a good man who has been imprisoned for about 22 years, and his only crime was to defend himself in his own home after his attacker hacked down his door and lunged at him with a meat cleaver. I first came in contact with his story in a Church of God publication, "The Journal, News of the Churches of God" in 2003. I read how he was being denied bottled water he required due to Chemical Sensitivity to fluoridated prison water. It made my blood boil! I contacted his friend whose phone number was in the article, and simultaneously started corresponding with PF, and became more and more convicted that he is an innocent man watching his life waste away. He should not be in prison, and this is why.

PF Lazor had no prior criminal record up until the self-defense incident. Indeed, beforehand he served his community well, and a number of times saved lives. A complete list of accomplishments is too long to be contained here, but a few are working for his church, fundraising for the handicapped, helping establish neighborhood crime watches, visiting the elderly and ailing in hospitals, and volunteering his time for emergency rescue work. He did this despite Chemical Sensitivity, and growing up poor.

He sounds too good to be true, but as one person said, "PF believes in God, and lives by [His] rules." He has continued living by God's rules, being an exemplary inmate. Yet, despite numerous letters attesting to his sterling character, INCLUDING 20 documents written by guards and administrators in a 1year period, and job offers when he gets out, he remains in jail 12 years after parole date. Why?

Prison is for those needing rehabilitation. They are provided "betterment programs," which are rated to determine parole. More intelligent inmates are not given this opportunity, denying them an improvement rating and parole. Also, inmates like PF not fitting this typical prisoner mold are singled out for oppression and abuse, some of it, I understand, in the form of fabricated bad-conduct reports used to deny parole. This has resulted in PF's file being 7,000 pages long two years ago. Plus, he hasn't been allowed to see his file for 17 years. How can he defend himself against unseen reports?

In conclusion, there is only one solution to this incomprehensible miscarriage of justice. While you can't give Mr. Lazor back the 21 years he has lost, I urge you to review and independently investigate his case (outside of the parole system which, in my understanding has been prejudiced) against him, and act on a forthcoming Petition for Full Pardon for Lazor based on his innocence. You, and only you, can pardon him. Thank you.

Sondra Kele