

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

**v.**

**GRADY DOUGLAS OWENS,  
Defendant.**

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**Case No. 21-cr-00286-BAH**

**DEFENDANT’S MOTION FOR REVOCATION OF DETENTION ORDER  
PURSUANT TO 18 U.S.C. § 3145(b)**

Grady Owens is a 21-year-old college student with no criminal record who has led a remarkable life helping others. During the January 6th riot on the West Lawn of the U.S. Capitol, his skateboard became a defensive shield in a split second encounter with an unknown force that surprised him. He did not seek to incapacitate or injure a police officer. Grady has never advocated violence against any person or government.

Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3145(b), Grady Owens respectfully moves this Honorable Court to revoke the detention order issued by Magistrate Judge Daniel C. Irick in the Middle District of Florida (MDFL) on April 2, 2021. *See* Order of Detention Pending Trial (MDFL 6:21-mj-1286-DCI, ECF No. 13). We respectfully request that the Court release Grady to the third party custody of Joy Towell in Blanco, Texas under 18 U.S.C. § 3242(c)(1)(B)(i). She serves as Worship Pastor and Music Leader at Community Bible Church Bulverde in Spring Branch, Texas. *See* Letter to Court (Exhibit A). We also request the Court order Home Detention and GPS Monitoring with courtesy supervision by Pretrial Services in the Western District of Texas (Austin Division).

## **I. PROCEDURAL HISTORY**

On April 1, 2021, federal agents arrested Grady in Winter Park, Florida on a Complaint warrant filed in this Court on March 30th (ECF No. 1). That same day, an initial appearance and temporary detention occurred in the Middle District of Florida (Orlando Division). On April 2nd, Judge Irick held a detention hearing in accordance with the Bail Reform Act (BRA), 18 U.S.C. § 3142(f) and, based on the government's proffered evidence regarding an alleged violation of 18 U.S.C. § 111(b), Assaulting, Resisting or Impeding an Officer by Using a Dangerous Weapon (Statement of Facts, ECF No. 1-1), ordered Grady detained pending trial because "No condition or combination of conditions of release will reasonably assure the safety of any other person and the community." *See* Order, *supra*. This conclusion was based on findings made after reviewing the factors listed in 18 U.S.C. § 3142(g). There was no evidence proffered that would justify detention due to a serious risk of flight.

A six-count indictment was returned on April 7th with the second count containing the detention eligible offense of 18 U.S.C. § 111(b) which is a "crime of violence" under 18 U.S.C. § 3142(f)(1)(A). On April 16th, this Court arraigned Grady Owens via video conference and granted his consent motion to delay transport pending resolution of the instant motion. He is being held at the Orange County Jail in Orlando, and a virtual status / motion hearing is set for May 10th at 10 a.m.

## **II. LEGAL STANDARD**

Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3145(b), a defendant ordered detained by a magistrate judge may file "a motion for revocation or amendment of the order" with "the court having original jurisdiction over the offense." Although the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia

Circuit has not ruled on the issue, every circuit to analyze the matter has found that a magistrate judge's detention order is subject to *de novo* review by the district court. *See United States v. Hunt*, 240 F. Supp. 3d 128, 132 (D.D.C. 2017) (collecting cases). To determine whether pretrial detention is warranted for dangerousness, the district court must "take into account the available information concerning--" (1) "the nature and seriousness of the offense charged," (2) "the weight of the evidence against the person," (3) "the history and characteristics of the person," and (4) "the nature and seriousness of the danger to any person or the community that would be posed by the person's release." 18 U.S.C. § 3142(g)(1)-(4).

### III. *MUNCHEL* GUIDANCE ON DANGEROUSNESS

At the Court's suggestion, we focus primarily on recent guidance from our Circuit Court on detention orders in the wake of the January 6th riot.<sup>1</sup> This exercise will overlap with some of the § 3142(g) factors. As to the critical issue of whether Grady Owens currently endangers others, "to justify detention on the basis of dangerousness, the government must prove by 'clear and convincing evidence' that 'no condition or combination of conditions will reasonably assure the safety of any other and the community.'" *United States v. Munchel*, 2021 WL 1149196, at 4 (D.C. Cir. March 26, 2021) (quoting 18 U.S.C. § 3142(f)). It is the *government's burden* to show that the defendant presents an ongoing "*articulable threat* to an individual or the community" that cannot be sufficiently mitigated by release conditions. *Id.* (emphasis added) (quoting *United States v. Salerno*, 481 U.S. 739, 751 (1987)). "Thus, a defendant's detention based on dangerousness accords with due process *only insofar* as the district court determines that the

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<sup>1</sup> According to a timeline of the January 6th events, the Metropolitan Police Department declared the assembly at the Capitol to be a riot at 1:50 p.m. <https://www.npr.org/2021/01/15/956842958/what-we-know-so-far-a-timeline-of-security-at-the-capitol-on-january-6> The alleged assault in this case occurred 10 minutes later when approximately 33 members of the Civil Disturbance Unit (CDU) progressed through the West Lawn to quell the riot. Statement of Facts (ECF No. 1-1).

defendant's history, characteristics, and alleged criminal conduct make clear that he or she poses a *concrete, prospective threat to public safety*.” *Id.* at 11 (emphasis added).

Any determination of dangerousness depends on the specific circumstances of each defendant. “[W]hether a defendant poses a particular threat depends on the nature of the threat identified and the resources and capabilities of the defendant.” *Id.* at 7. But for his surprise collision with the CDU officer, there is little to promote the government's dangerousness claim against Grady. He made no threats of violence in person or on social media before, during or after the January 6th riot at the Capitol. Grady dressed casually that fateful day with no body armor or tactical gear. He used the skateboard for transport around the City. Shortly before the alleged assault, he picked it up as the crowd pressed against him. Indeed, the pictures in the government's statement of facts show him holding it in front of his body and face in a defensive posture. (ECF No. 1-1). On this heartbreaking day, the West Lawn was a moshpit where good and bad actors were hard to discern. As to this unique defendant's history and characteristics, the admiration and support in the letters from family and friends confirm that Grady Owens is a kind young man devoted to his family, friends and church and is most certainly not an ongoing threat to anyone or the community. *See* Letters to Court (Exhibit B - Family; Exhibit C - Friends).

We are mindful of *Munchel's* observation that “those who actually assaulted police officers and broke through windows, doors and barricades, and those who aided, conspired with, planned, or coordinated such actions are in a different category of dangerousness than those who cheered on the violence or entered the Capitol after others cleared the way.” *Munchel*, 2021 WL 1149196, at 8. But even if Grady's alleged conduct puts him in this category, it should not be an automatic justification for detention. There are other defendants facing § 111(b) charges for



assaulting officers who, like Grady, did not engage in planning activities and were released without objection from the government. *See* Statement of Facts (Jan. 18, 2021), ECF No. 1-1 & Min. Entry (Jan. 19, 2021), *United States v. Gossjankowski*, 21-cr-123-PLF (D.D.C.) (defendant used taser within tunnel multiple times as he pushed towards the police line); Statement of Facts (Feb. 9, 2021), ECF No. 1-1 & Min. Entry (Feb. 17, 2021), *United States v. Blair*, No. 21-cr-186-CRC (D.D.C.) (defendant struck an officer in the chest with a lacrosse stick).

Other § 111(b) defendants have been released over the government's objection. *See, e.g.*, Statement of Facts (Jan 13, 2021), ECF No. 1-1 & Min. Entry (March 2, 2021), *United States v. Sanford*, 21-cr-86-PLF (D.D.C.) (defendant threw fire extinguisher that hit one officer and careened off two other officers' helmets); Statement of Facts (Feb. 16, 2021), ECF No. 1-1 & Min. Entry (April 9, 2021), *United States v. Coffee*, 21-mj-236 (D.D.C.) (defendant used a crutch to assault an officer at the archway to the tunnel and charged at several other officers in the tunnel with the crutch). Statement of Facts (March 2, 2021), ECF No. 1-1 & Memo. Op. (April 12, 2021), *United States v. Klein*, 21-cr-236-JDB (D.D.C.) (defendant shoved a plastic riot shield into the bodies of officers attempting to break the police line). In contrast to Grady's instantaneous event, these alleged assaults by other defendants appear to be sustained and deliberate attempts to injure or incapacitate officers.

We also direct the Court's attention to the case of *United States v. Mark Jefferson Leffingwell*, 21-cr-005-ABJ (D.D.C.), Statement of Facts (Jan. 7, 2021), ECF No. 1-1 & Min Entry (Jan. 8, 2021). Mr. Leffingwell is charged with assaulting an officer (18 U.S.C. § 111(a)(1)) but *inside* the Capitol building and allegedly used his fists to strike the officer in his head and chest. Mr. Leffingwell was released on January 8th without objection by government.

## **I. SECTION 3142(g) FACTORS**

### **A. Nature and Circumstances of the Offense**

The first factor to consider is “the nature and circumstances of the offense charged.” 18 U.S.C. § 3142(g)(1). In *United States v. Chrestman*, 2021 WL 765662, at 7 - 8 (D.D.C. Feb. 26, 2021) (Howell, C.J.), this Court set forth six “guideposts” for assessing “the comparative culpability of a given defendant in relation to fellow rioters.” Whether a defendant:

(1) “has been charged with felony or misdemeanor offenses” - Grady Owens faces 4 felonies (§111(b) is a crime of violence but no count earns a rebuttable presumption of dangerousness under the BRA) and 2 misdemeanors.

(2) “engaged in prior planning before arriving at the Capitol” - Grady made no plans regarding putative criminal conduct prior to the January 6th riot.

(3) “carried a dangerous weapon during the riot” - Grady used the skateboard as designed until the crush of the crowd forced him to pick it up.

(4) “coordinat[ed] with other participants before, during, or after the riot” - in all candor to the Court, Grady’s father was charged last week with assaulting an officer during the January 6th riot but neither is charged with conspiracy and counsel is unaware of any alleged conspiratorial acts done by father and son.

(5) “assumed either a formal or a de facto leadership role in the assault by encouraging other rioters’ misconduct” - No evidence to date.

(6) “the nature of “the defendant’s words and movements during the riot” including whether he “damaged federal property,” “threatened or confronted federal officials or law enforcement, or otherwise promoted or celebrated efforts to disrupt the

certification of the electoral vote count during the riot” - Grady never entered the Capitol building, did not celebrate the chaos of the riot on social media or elsewhere and although he allegedly injured an officer in an abrupt confrontation, his posture was defensive.

These guideposts also inform the § 3142(g)(4) factor analysis on “the nature and seriousness of the danger to any person or the community that would be posed by the person’s release.” *Id.* at 9. The sole guidepost for the government is that Mr. Owens has been charged with 4 felonies and 2 misdemeanors.

### **B. Weight of the Evidence**

At this early juncture of the case, counsel is relying exclusively on the Statement of Facts (ECF 1-1) to assess the government’s evidence. In fairness to my worthy adversary, an agreed protective order awaits Grady’s signature but efforts to send this document to him have been unavailing. Hopefully, we will get it signed shortly and robust discovery will soon follow.

Obviously, the parties have two divergent perspectives on the facts and motivations embedded in this case. To be clear, the defense view is that Grady reacted instinctively to protect himself against an unknown threat. The lack of clearly incriminating evidence against Grady that exists in other January 6 riot cases, such as violent social media postings, sustained battles with multiple police officers, and coordination with other agitators, bolsters our take on this case. The recent outpouring of love and goodwill for Grady Owens comforts and inspires us as well.

### **C. History and Characteristics of Grady Owens**

We hope the Court will gain a better understanding of Grady Owens through the letters of support from family and friends. By all accounts, he is a gentle non-violent person.

The strong ties to his parents, siblings, grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins are

wonderful. His friends confirm Grady's peaceful and selfless nature. His devotion to the church community, leading music services and missionary trips abroad, is particularly inspiring. On top of all this, he has no criminal record, not even a speeding ticket. His candor in admitting to periodic use of alcohol and marijuana exemplifies his truthful character. Grady hopes to complete his college education at Full Sail University by attending virtual classes so he can pursue his musical dreams.

#### **D. Nature and Seriousness of the Danger**

The last factor the Court must consider is “the nature and seriousness of the danger to any person or the community that would be posed by the [defendant's] release.” 18 U.S.C. § 3142(g)(4). “Consideration of this factor encompasses much of the analysis set forth above, but it is broader in scope,” requiring an open-ended assessment of the ‘seriousness’ of the risk to public safety. *United States v. Taylor*, 289 F.Supp. 3d 55, 70 (D.D.C. 2018).

The government bears the ultimate burden of proving that no condition or combination of conditions is sufficient to negate the risk of the accused's dangerousness by clear and convincing evidence. 18 U.S.C. §3142(e)(1); *see United States v. Bell*, 209 F. Supp. 3d 275, 277 (D.D.C. 2016) (*citing United States v. Simpkins*, 826 F.2d 94, 96 (D.C. Cir. 1987)). Clear and convincing evidence means proof that the defendant *actually poses a danger to the community*, not that a defendant “in theory” poses a danger. *United States v. Patriarca*, 948 F.2d 789 (1st Cir. 1991). Only when there is a “strong probability that a person will commit additional crimes if released” is the community interest in safety sufficiently compelling to overcome the criminal defendant's right to liberty. *United States v. Ploof*, 851 F.2d 7 (1st Cir. 1988). The government is unable to establish a probability that Grady will commit crimes if released, let alone a *strong probability*.

We humbly suggest to the Court that a fair application of the § 3142(g) factors above to the unique facts and circumstances of this case will safely permit the return of Grady Owens to his family and friends in Blanco, Texas. These people will love, nurture and fully support him during this difficult time.

Finally, we note that Grady is currently prescribed medicine for asthma. The Center for Disease Control (CDC) has confirmed that people with even a moderate condition are more likely to be hospitalized from a COVID-19 infection.

See <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/asthma.html>.

During the Pandemic, the Court has released dozens of previously detained defendants due to similar vulnerabilities to COVID-19. And as the Court knows, Judge Kollar-Kotelly has found that the D.C. Jail facilities have not provided adequate care for pretrial detainees during the pandemic. *Banks v. Booth*, No. 20-cv-849-CKK. We beseech the Court to keep Grady safe and not subject him to potential peril by transporting him to this District.

Wherefore, we ask this Court to revoke the detention order and release Grady Owens to a third party custodian, Pastor Joy Towell, with Home Detention and GPS Monitoring supervised by Pretrial Services in the Western District of Texas.

Respectfully submitted,

/ s /

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**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on this 23rd day of April 2021, I electronically filed the foregoing pleading with the Clerk of Court using the CM / ECF system, which will send an electronic notification of such filing to all counsel of record.

                    /s/                      
Pat Munroe Woodward, Jr., Esq.  
Counsel for Mr. Owens

April 20, 2021

The Honorable Beryl A. Howell  
Chief Judge  
United States District Court  
333 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20001

Re: Grady Douglas Owens, 21-cr-00286-BAH

Dear Chief Judge Howell:

My name is Joy Towell. I am the Worship Pastor at Community Bible Church Bulverde in Spring Branch Texas. I am also a close friend/adopted family member of the Owens family. I am writing on behalf of Grady Douglas Owens who I consider my nephew. I am hoping for a brief opportunity to provide you with some insight to the character and nature of Grady, and give you a greater picture of the person and young man that he truly is. Thank you for your time and consideration regarding his upcoming case.

I have known Grady since he was in middle school. I have literally watched him grow up before my eyes from a short, stocky, middle school kid to the young man that you are looking at today. Grady has always been very creative and a natural musician. I can remember sitting outside his bedroom door on the floor with his mother listening to him create a song on the piano (no one ever gave him formal lessons; no one showed him how the notes created chords; he just very naturally heard music and created it). I can remember the Christmas that he got his first guitar, and I sat on the couch with him and showed him a few chords to get him started...and within a week he was already playing songs and creating his own. I have had the privilege of leading missions groups of young teenagers from our church multiple times. One of the most memorable moments and one of the proudest discipleship moments for myself was leading worship alongside Grady in Guatemala. I witnessed God work through him and sing through him and play through him, and before he even realized it, he was leading people to Jesus. He has always been a natural born helper. He would let his younger brother sleep in his bed at night because Jack, his younger brother, didn't like to be alone. He would pick up the guitar and play for his sister, Ashlynn, when she was a baby and having a bad day - there are pictures of him sitting on the couch with her lying next to him listening to him play to her. I have watched him go out of his way to help friends in need. He is always encouraging them to be better and to stay away from crowds or groups that might not be doing the right thing.

Over the past year with Covid-19, Grady was able to spend a good amount of time at home with his family. I can remember on many occasions where his parents asked what his plans were and his response was, "I just want to be with my family today." I watched him grow so much that year in his faith, his relationship with God, and he became even closer to his family in such a sweet way. He diligently continued online classes at Full Sail University and kept a positive attitude about his future. I wrote him a letter at Christmas and told him how proud I was of him for his persistence and perseverance during a year when so many people just stopped trying and gave up. He is not afraid to work hard and he is not afraid of hard things.



Grady is someone I trust completely with my own 3 year old daughter, Finley. She adores him and loves when he plays tag or hide and seek. Finley has grown up without her birth father in her life, and Grady is a role model for her of what a man should look like, how a man should treat people and love and care for them. He is purposefully present for his family and friends. Grady will do great things for the Kingdom of God one day; God has a unique and powerful purpose for his life that I believe he will be stepping into in the very near future. Our whole family loves Grady so much; we have not stopped praying for him. I am encouraged by the things he says to his parents when they speak to him on the phone - he is not bitter or enraged by his current situation. Instead, he is embracing it and allowing God to speak to him in a new and more personal way. I am so proud of him and I hope you are able to see some of these characteristics in him when you see him in person.

Thank you for taking some time from your day to read this and consider the things I have written. I appreciate the opportunity to share this character reference with you today.

Sincerely,

Joy Towell  
Worship Pastor MyCBCB



The Honorable Beryl A. Howell  
Chief Judge  
United States District Court  
333 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20001

Re: Grady Douglas Owens, 21-cr-00286-BAH

Dear Chief Judge Howell:

My Name is Shannon Michelle Owens, I'm 44 years old and I'm the wife of Jason Owens, he's the love my life and we will celebrate 23 year of marriage in June. Together we share the joy of raising 5 miracle children Grady (21), Max (19), [REDACTED] (17), [REDACTED] (13), [REDACTED] (4) 2 of our children are biological and came into this world against all odds and we share 3 who've been born in our hearts through adoption. I'm also a musician. I have lead worship in the church for the past 24 years. I have a passion for entertaining house guests and for loving people. We reside in the small town of Blanco, Tx.

I'm writing this letter on behalf of my son Grady Douglas Owens. I pray you see and recognize the young man presented to you and can see his true character. He is an incredibly kind young man with a high moral character. He has never been in trouble with the law and respects it and has never even receive a traffic violation. He loves his family deeply, he is a loyal friend, incredible brother, and he lives his life filled with integrity. I know one day he will become an incredible husband and father and only contribute good on this earth. He has a passion for God, Music and loving people of every background regardless of race, religion or political stance. He truly is a kind soul and would never intentionally hurt anyone.

Grady is one of my biological children. His birth was a miraculous one. He was not expected to make it into this world with life and against all odds God blessed us with him and allowed him to live. As soon as he was able to talk he began to ask for brothers and sisters. We knew we wanted a large family but I was told I would never be able to birth another child from my womb again so we began the process of adoption to grow our family. Adoption comes with incredible challenges and often times children come into families incredibly broken and abused. Our family has definitely shared the challenges of loving and helping to bring healing to hurting adopted children. Two of our adopted children (Max and [REDACTED]) came to us with incredible scars from their past. Grady has always shown incredible compassion to his siblings over the years and has a loving relationship with each of them. He has always been someone they can go to when they're hurting, make them laugh when they need to laugh, listen when they need to talk or just give them encouragement through their struggles. He has loved them all unconditionally even though they are not of his blood or even his race. His siblings share different mixed races from caucasian/asian to African American/hispanic/ caucasian. They all miss him terribly and await the day when we can all be together as a family again.

Grady is a loyal friend and lover of humanity. He makes it his mission to help those in need. His junior year in high school Grady came to me and asked if one of his friends could live with us for a period of time. That friend was from a broken home and was homeless. During that time Grady loved him in his hurt state and helped with food, clothing, shelter and showing him the love Christ and helping him with his faith. Grady was his encourager and friend through that difficult time. I can't even list the many times in his life he's extended a hand, lent a couch or invited a friend for dinner who needed it.

He has always had a passion for travel and experiencing the world and enjoying Gods creation. He was blessed to go on a Mission trip to Guatemala when he was in high school. He had to raise his own money to pay his own way to be able to go to a different country and serve others by building shelters, praying and bringing music to people. His compassion and love for humanity has only grown from that experience.

Grady has served in our church since he was a teenager. He is a gifted musician who plays every instrument, sings, loves sound engineering and has always used his talents to serve his community and church. Through his teen years he volunteered and worked Summer camps, and Vacation Bible school events. Between his junior and senior year He spent his summer volunteering at Camp Glorieta in Glorieta, NM to serve and work a youth camp. Anyone who takes the time to talk with him can see his true character quickly. He's an easy person to love and his tenderness and loyalty are amazingly beautiful.

He is a young man who thinks of others before himself. He has always been concerned with others well being and comforts before his own. Throughout his life the parents of his friends have always reported back to me about how kind and loving he is. I Trust that you are a Just & Fair Judge and will consider these true and honest accounts of his character when making your decision to release Grady.

Chief Judge Howell - May the Lord Bless you and protect you. May the Lord smile on you and be gracious to you. May the Lord show you his favor and give you peace. Numbers 6:24-26

Sincerely,

Shannon Owens



Phyllis Burton

~~████████████████████~~  
Humble, TX 77346  
pkburton4u@yahoo.com

April 21, 2021

The Honorable Beryl A. Howell  
Chief Judge  
United States District Court  
333 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20001

RE: Grady Douglas Owens, 21-cr-00286

Dear Chief Judge Howell:

My name is Phyllis Burton, and reside in Humble, Texas. I'm writing to you on behalf of Grady Owens who is my grandson. I feel it is important that you have a little insight into the person that he genuinely is and for who he has been for his twenty-one years of life.

Being his grandmother, I have known him all his life. Grady has never been in any kind of trouble with the law, with his peers at school, or in his community. Grady, along with his family at large, is a law abiding citizen, patriotic american, and God fearing individual. He has attended and participated in church worship services his entire life. He has been actively involved in the worship team at his church and has recently been a help to our church worship team. He enjoys spending time with his family and friends both at the same time which has always impressed me. He has been raised in a godly home by parents who exhibit hospitality to everyone who enters in. Because of that, a lot of Grady's friends frequently enjoy hanging out at his home with his family.

To his character, Grady has never exhibited hostility to anyone. He's never been in a fight or been disrespectful to anyone. Grady is the one who seeks out the less fortunate and tries to encourage him. When he was an only child, he welcomed his adopted brother and sister from Russia. Not long after that, his youngest brother ~~████~~ was born. His siblings all look up to him because he is kind and tenderhearted and of course fun to be around. There is no maliciousness in his 6'2" frame. To this day, when he walks into our home, he seeks us out for a hug and when he leaves, the hug is even longer because with him in college, we're uncertain of when we'll see him again.

On that note, I do hope we'll see him again soon. His family desperately misses him. His siblings need him. He's not a threat to anyone, and we believe God has a greater purpose for him.

Sincerely yours,

Phyllis Burton

The Honorable Beryl A. Howell  
Chief Judge  
United States District Court  
333 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20001

Dear Chief Judge Howell,

My name is Dr. Michael Burton. I am a Senior Pastor of a church in Houston, with over 40 years of ministry experience. I have had the privilege of observing thousands of people during my 40 years of ministry. I am also a Veteran serving in the Army before my Ministry calling. I am writing this character reference for Grady Douglas Owens, who is 21 years old. I have had the opportunity to watch Grady develop into one of the most incredible young men I have ever met. He is a truly kind and humble person. I would like to speak about three areas I have observed him.

First, his spiritual walk, some people talk about spirituality, very few people live out their spirituality. Grady has followed in the model of his family, where loving God is the most important thing. The Bible teaches us to love the Lord our God with all our heart, soul, and mind, within our strength, and to love our neighbor as ourselves. I have observed Grady practicing this his whole life. Examples, I have seen him work in and with numerous youth groups in worship, taking mission trips, and help in the areas of the poor. He has always been kind to all people. He has the support of loving parents and family. If you asked Grady, who was his greatest role model he would say Jesus Christ and his family.

The second area I would like to speak about is his moral character. I have never known Grady to do anything that would violate the principles of scripture. As far as I know, he has never participated in any group with negative impact on our society. He willfully speaks out against any group that harms another group of people. He believes that all people are important and valuable in God's eyes. Grady believes in a moral law giver who is bigger than mankind, and that is God Himself. The only group socially that he participates in, is his circle of friends and family. The idea of a big night on the town is going out to eat, a movie or bowling, and then gathering back at his home in Blanco Texas to play music. Music is his passion, and he hopes to use that gift in the area of contemporary Christian music. He is about to finish his degree at Fullsail University in Orlando, Florida. Grady's crowd is a music crowd that believes in God.

The third area I would like to speak to is his physical and public demeanor. I have never heard nor seen any aggressive behavior expressed by Grady whatsoever. When he tried out for the High School Football team, the coach told him he just was not aggressive enough for the sport, even though Grady was 6 ft 2. He was told to try baseball or basketball, something less aggressive. The reason I mention that is because there is no aggressive nature that I have ever observed, he is a peacemaker and a

non-confrontational individual. I have seen him be an encourager to the downtrodden and friend to the less fortunate.

I have seen Grady allowing friends into his social circle that would normally be outcast from other circles, just so that they could be treated kindly. That is the type of individual Grady Owens is. He is the type of person that most fathers would be proud for him to date or fall in love with their daughters. He is hardworking, he is spiritually steady, and he has a great moral compass. I could write page after page about the good qualities of Grady.

I pray that mercy will follow him in this difficult time, and that one day does not define this young man's lifetime of good and kindness. I feel the character of this young man is extraordinary. Our country needs young men with these unselfish character traits. It is a privilege to know him as his Grandfather and Life Pastor.

Sincerely,

Dr. Michael Burton Th.D.



April 22, 2021

The Honorable Beryl A. Howell  
Chief Judge  
United States District Court  
333 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20001

Re: Grady Douglas Owens, 21-cr-00286-BAH

Dear Chief Judge Howell:

We are the paternal grandparents of Grady and are writing this letter to support him during this unbelievable ordeal.

Of course, we have known Grady during his entire lifetime and his family has even lived with us at times over the years. What we know is that Grady is passionate about his faith in God, his family, his country and his music. He was about to complete his music studies at Full Sail University in Winter Park Florida when this tragic event unfolded.

Grady does not have an aggressive bone in his body and it is inconceivable that he has committed an act of aggression against any person. He was never very good or interested in sports activities and his coaches attributed this to his non-aggressive nature.

Grady was raised up in a Christian home that has made God and the Church the centerpiece of their daily lives. He was a part of his church's music ministry for some time before he left home to pursue his education in music. His mother Shannon has been an integral part of the music ministry at their church and his father, our son Jason, has been involved in sound and lighting for the worship services.

We think it unusual for kids in college these days to be passionate about what is taking place in their country. They think that it doesn't affect them. That is not Grady! That is the reason that he and his dad were present in Washington D.C. on January 6, 2021, along with thousands of others of us to peacefully protest the direction we see our country headed. Before departing for D.C., and while there, our son repeated that they were going in order to pray for our country on the capitol steps.

It is our hope that you will take into account all of the support that Grady is receiving from those that care about him.

Jim and Nancy Owens  
College Station, Texas

April 21, 2021

The Honorable Beryl A. Howell  
Chief Judge  
United States District Court  
333 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20001

Re: Grady Douglas Owens, 21-cr-00286-BAH

Dear Chief Judge Howell:

I am writing this letter to you on behalf of my nephew, Grady Douglas Owens in hopes that you will see the Grady I know & love. I have known and been a part of Grady's life since the day he was born. He was the first to make me an aunt. I have enjoyed watching him grow over the years into a young man.

Since Grady was a little boy, he has always had a kind and sweet disposition. I was reflecting on him growing up & thinking about all the cousins in our family. He is close to my older two kids who are 25 & 26 years old, #3 out of 13. The little cousins get into scuffles here & there, and I was thinking how I had never seen Grady get angry or in a fight with his cousins. He just wants to get along with everyone, and enjoy spending time with his family.

Grady is the oldest of five siblings, three of them were adopted. He was so excited when the first two were adopted & couldn't wait to be a big brother and have someone to play with. However, adoption isn't easy and comes with differences & struggles. His siblings being from another country & having a horrible first months of life came with challenges no one expected, but Grady learned to adapt and accept his adopted siblings as his own. He has a big heart for each of them, and has been a good big brother to them.

My younger son & I took a trip to Disney last year close to where Grady was attending a very rigorous college schedule. He took time out of his busy schedule to come meet us for a little while. Being a college student, I really didn't expect to see him, but he was so glad to see family - it made me feel loved that he would take the time to come see his "old" aunt. We enjoyed catching up and just getting to spend a little time together.

I witnessed some deep conversations between him & his parents around the time he graduated high school, and admired how he handled himself. Though they were in disagreement, he didn't yell or get disrespectful. He listened - taking time to hear them out, and respectfully gave his point of view. He has a very close relationship with his parents.

Grady is a very gifted and talented young man. He has a love for music, playing instruments, and mixing music. I have always been impressed by his talents, but what I love most about him is his love for others, how he sees the best in people, and his love for family.

It is my hope that you will see Grady as the kind and loving person that his family and friends know him to be. He has a loving family that will support him and do whatever is needed to get him on his feet & living out his purpose in life successfully.

Sincerely,

Jennifer McClanahan



The Honorable Beryl A. Howell

Chief Judge

United States District Court

333 Constitution Avenue, N.W.

Washington, D.C. 20001

Dear Chief Judge Howell,

My name is Katie McKnight, the Aunt of Grady Owens. I know you have not met Grady personally, so my prayer is that this letter finds you, and will give you a glimpse of the kind of young man my nephew is. I have known Grady since birth. There are so many good things I have observed in Grady's life over the last 21 years, but I think the thing that has stood out the most to me is his tender heart and kind spirit. He is one of the sweetest humans I have ever met. And I know so many others would say the same. Grady has always loved people and getting to know them. He has done this since he was a child. When he was 4 years old, he opened his heart to a brother and sister that were adopted from another country. They did not look like him and they did not speak the same language as him but, he was so excited to welcome them into his heart and home. This also carried over into his teenage years. He went on mission trips to other countries to visit children in orphanages and share the love of Jesus with them.

Grady has always been able to light up a room just by being in it. He has never liked to see people hurting. I recall one time when he was younger, he asked to tag along with me shopping. Grady did not know this, but I was smack dab in the middle of a battle with postpartum depression and anxiety that I had been struggling with since the birth of my youngest son. I think Grady could see it on my face that I was feeling down, and he was so determined to make me smile. He did just that, I was laughing so hard by the time we left the store. There are more moments like that, but that one has always stuck with me. He really helped me that day whether he knows it or not. That is part of his tender-hearted nature.

Grady was the kid at youth summer camp, that would reach out to the kids who did not know anyone. He was the kid who would invite that friend over from school who was having a rough time at home, so that they would have a safe place to stay. He is the type of person who will drop anything to be there for you. If you need someone to talk to, he will lend an ear. If you need a place to crash, his couch is yours. If you did not have a family to spend Thanksgiving with, he would be bringing you home to spend it with his family. That is just who Grady is. He does not care if you have different beliefs or views than his and trust me, at the College he has been attending there are many who have different views than his. But that has never mattered



to him. He tries to be friends with everyone. He genuinely tries to get to know people for who they are. He trusts people so easily and gives them the benefit of doubt. Honestly, this was something I was kind of nervous about when he left his small town in Texas to attend college in Florida. Because he is so trusting of people, I was afraid he might get taken advantage of. Maybe that is just me being a protective Aunt.

Something I have observed in Grady consistently is, he always tries to see the best in people. My prayer as his Aunt is that others would try to see the best in him. Anyone who takes the time to talk to Grady, will quickly see how genuine and tender his heart is. We hope you will see his true character.

Thank you for taking the time to read this.

Sincerely,

Katie McKnight

The Honorable Beryl A. Howell

Chief Judge

United States District Court

333 Constitution Avenue, N.W.

Washington, D.C. 20001

Re: Grady Douglas Owens, 21-cr-00286-BAH

Dear Chief Judge Howell:

My name is Sean McKnight. I am 39-year-old bass guitar player and deacon at Grace Family Church in Spring, Texas and employed as a Captain with the Houston Fire Department serving since 2003. Grady is my nephew by marriage since 2006 when I married his mother's youngest sister, Katie. I call him nicknames like "G-rated" and "G-man", and he knows me simply as "Uncle Shawny".

I am writing in hopes that you might get to know the incredible person that is my nephew, Grady.

Grady was just a toddler when I first met him. I wasn't part of the family yet, but even back then, I knew this kid was special. He wasn't much more than a couple years old and an only child. I spent the weekend with him, his parents, and Katie (my future wife) getting to know the family that would soon become my family. As a toddler, Grady was energetic and full of life and a lover of music. That has always been our primary connection. Even at the age of 2, Grady was keen on making music as he would lay out pots and pans to play drums on the kitchen floor. Eventually, he would get his first child-sized drum set and play for anyone who would listen. For such a young kid, his rhythmic talent was incredible! He took lessons as he got older and stayed immersed with music as he spent countless hours at the church with his mother Shannon. She is a gifted singer on the praise team and, even as a little boy, Grady loved to go with Shannon to church and sit behind the "big drum kit" with the drummer, Paul, while the praise team would practice. Those early years at church with the praise team inspired Grady a desire to use music for a Godly purpose and fulfill a spiritual call on his life.

As Grady got older and more confident to play comfortably in front of people, he began playing drums in his youth group. Even at a young age with all his musical talent, Grady's desire was never to go out into the world and try to start a band or be in the spotlight. Rather, his desire was to make music at church and lead others into worship. I was very impressed with Grady personally that he would follow that call. He never wanted to go out and run the roads or get into trouble like the typical teenager. He wanted to be home with his family, rehearsing his music for the Sunday service. Before you knew it, Grady was playing on Sunday mornings behind the very same instrument that he sat behind as a little boy...the drums! That same boy that time at church with his mother as she was involved now plays music with the praise team too. He is so musically talented that he could literally go anywhere and do anything with those musical abilities, but he chooses to use those talents to praise Jesus and lead others in

worshipping the Lord. Not everyone makes the conscious decision as a youth to use their talents for God, but Grady did.

Today, Grady is working on his bachelor's degree in Music Production as a full-time student. There is no doubt in my mind that he will continue to use those talents and abilities to help further the message of Love and Hope which is the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Some have the ability to preach, some have the ability to play music, but Grady has the ability to lead others in worship. He is well respected in the community, loved by his friends and family, and seen as a person that will do something awesome with his life. Grady is a good and truly decent young man that has a heart for ministry and service.

Please, strongly consider that I am only one in a very large support network of family and friends that will continue to be there for Grady. Thank you for your time and consideration and know that Grady, along with our entire family, are continually praying for you, your staff, and everyone involved in this process.

Sincerely,

Sean McKnight



The Honorable Beryl A Howell,  
Chief Judge  
United States District Court  
333 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20001

Re: Grady Douglas Owens, 21-cr-00286-BAH

Dear Chief Judge Howell:

I work as an accountant in Houston and have a one year old daughter with my husband who is a police officer. I was extremely shocked and devastated to find out about Grady's recent case, as he is a kind and caring person who has not been in any trouble before. Grady is my first cousin, who I have grown up with and known his whole life.

Grady has always been a trusting, thoughtful, and caring person at heart. He is someone you can rely on for support and is a selfless and a good human being. Our family has always been so proud of him, and he is an absolute a joy to be around. He has much patience when helping with and caring for his younger sibling and younger adoptive siblings. Grady has always had a helpful and giving spirit. Throughout our time spent together I've seen him give to the homeless in the community and travel to developing countries to serve others and help feed the hungry. He is quick to help anyone in need and I know he will continue to do so. Having someone like Grady in your community would be a blessing.

I was very surprised to find out about Grady's actions, and thought his arrest had to have been a mistake. I do believe that this bad decision is not a reflection on who Grady is as a person and I trust in his abilities to uphold his character and do his best to pay his debt to society. I understand the seriousness of the actions he took, but hope that the court can show some leniency. I was more than willing to write a letter in support of Grady and genuinely hope that this letter may be considered in the decisions made with his case to show that he is a good, kind, and caring individual.

Sincerely,  
Tess James

The Honorable Beryl A. Howell  
Chief Judge  
United States District Court  
333 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20001  
Re: Grady Douglas Owens,  
21-cr-00286-BAH

Dear Chief Judge Howell:

I've had the privilege of being Grady Owens' girlfriend for almost a year and a half now, living near him in Florida while we both attended Full Sail University on campus, and moving back to Texas- four hours away from him- to continue our schooling online and our relationship from a distance. I'm writing you today to articulate as best I can how gentle, kind, and sweet of a man he is, and hopefully providing the Court with some better insight into who he is as a person. I first met Grady two years ago on the set of a film some Full Sail students were shooting. We were cast as husband and wife, and I could tell just from talking with him briefly between scenes just how kind and respectful he was. Initially, he was very soft spoken and truly just wanted to know more about me, sitting back and listening intently as we got to know each other. As I walked back to my car that night, he ran up after me, smiling bashfully, and asked if he could have my number. From there, we've become closer than I ever thought we could. Every day we're together, and every day we're not, he makes sure to tell me that I'm beautiful and that he's thankful for me. He's never shown any sort of disrespect to me, and I'm confident he never will. In the time we've been dating, we've never had an argument. He's never even come close to raising his voice. We settle things by sitting down and talking, usually cracking a smile or a laugh in the end and going on with our day like normal. For Christmas, though we didn't have much money to buy each other gifts, he went out of his way to buy a book we could write letters in to each other, and he'd prefilled at least half of it with compliments and memories and truly heartfelt words. We traded that book back and forth and wrote notes to each other the entire time we were away. He even went so far as to surprise me one day with a box of candy at my doorstep. He'd had a package delivered to me full of things he knew I'd love purely because he thought I'd been feeling down about the distance between us. A few days ago, as he was sitting in jail, he actually made sure to buy a candy bar with his commissary money and saved it for when I could have one with him, so we could have a semi-normal date over the phone with our candy bars. Grady even told me to find the wallet he has in his room and take all the money in it for myself because he still wants to be able provide for me through



all this. The first time he got to talk to me after his arrest, he was only concerned with me, asking if I was okay, if I was scared, and if I was hurt. I truly and wholly believe that Grady is a sincere, gentle, compassionate and thoughtful man. The best man I know. And as he sits in that cell- inarguably in a worse situation than everyone who knows him- all he concerns himself with is his family, his friends, and my own personal wellbeing. He's so selfless, and kind, and genuinely good, that I've been brought to tears multiple times a day trying to wrap my head around the happenings of these past few weeks. I ask as humbly as I can that you consider who he is as a friend, a partner, a brother, a son, and a person. I trust him with my whole being, with my life, and with my future. I'm grateful for the opportunity to speak about him, and hope that this has given you some insight on how I've known him to be since we've met. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Hannah Halvorsen

The Honorable Beryl A. Howell

Chief Judge

United States District Court

333 Constitution Avenue, N.W.

Washington, D.C. 20001

Re: Grady Douglas Owens 21-cr-00286-BAH

Dear Chief Judge Howell:

My name is Tiffany Halvorsen, I am 57 years old, a single mother of one beautiful young lady, and I am a special needs elementary school teacher in Texas for the past 15 years. There is no one more valuable to me than my daughter. I have nurtured, guided, and loved her every step of her life. She has character, the kind that comes with compassion, empathy, thoughtfulness, thankfulness, discipline, kindness and love of God and people. I mention my Hannah because for over a year now she has been Grady Owens' girlfriend. I trust Grady with my most cherished, precious gift.

Grady is kind, thoughtful, caring, loving, supportive, funny, super talented and loves God and people. When meeting him for the first time he was very laid back and happy, relaxed, and a little shy. He loves music and shared with me some of his favorites. He has great conversation and continually educates himself on topics of interest. I like that his talk is clean, respectful and nice. Haven't ever heard him talk badly about anyone.

He is constantly growing and learning and becoming an even more beautiful soul. His time was about creating music in his studio (many hours), working and going to school, staying close to family and friends, being there for Hannah and always making her feel special. They did a lot of creating together since they both play multiple instruments and sing. I think they are also spending time designing a video game together... Hannah is a game art major. So many ideas and friends, he's just such a nice guy.

I enjoyed hanging out with him and I appreciated him enjoying that time too. We took a road trip from Houston to Austin and Grady, Hannah and I

had so much fun... talking, laughing and lots of great music that we all took turns choosing. On a vacation I laughed as he and Hannah tried to figure out how to get a fish in using a broken reel, lots of line pulling. He took a horse ride that day even though he didn't feel the best but didn't complain because he wanted to make Hannah happy. There was a time I was meeting Grady to drop off Hannah to him for a visit and he was a few minutes late because he helped a car that had run off the road. I think he saved the driver.

What has happened is shocking. Grady is a responsible, gentle, helpful, beautiful soul with so much to offer this world, life and people. He has a heart of love and even through this craziness he thinks of others before himself. He is a light in a lot of darkness and if you talk to him I know you will see it. I hurt for his situation especially because he is such a good person. Wrong place wrong time but good person without a doubt.

Sincerely,

Tiffany Halvorsen



The Honorable Beryl A. Howell  
Chief Judge  
United States District Court  
333 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20001

Re: Grady Douglas Owens, 21-cr-00286-BAH

Dear Chief Judge Howell:

I am writing this letter in support of the character of Grady Douglas Owens. Grady was a student of mine in my youth group throughout his high school years and I have known him years prior and his years after high school.

Over the course of the many years I have known Grady I have seen him in many different capacities including student, student leader, missionary, musician, and friend. In all of those areas I have seen Grady demonstrate a very consistent, kind, and selfless approach. Whether he was sitting in a group learning, leading a group of kids at vacation Bible school, helping build homes for those without in the mountains of Guatemala, or playing his guitar at or around church, Grady took great pride in always striving to get better and always striving to mirror the actions of Jesus with a great passion and persistence. I have seen these actions of Grady met with respect, love and even some finding their own faith as a result.

Obviously, when you know someone as long as I've known Grady, at the ages I've known him, you see them have teachable moments when they fall short of what they are trying to accomplish. Along with witnessing these "failures", however, you also get to see how they will respond to them. Because of Grady's strong faith and support system at home and with his church family, I can confidently say that Grady is a person who, while young and passionate, not only learns from his mistakes, but takes great pride in making sure a correction gets made to not repeat. I've seen this done by Grady learning things on his own, and I've seen this done by Grady leaning into his support system to keep him accountable and walk beside him in correction.

I am confident that when this case comes to a close the character of Grady Owens will not change, nor will the support and love he has around him, and he will learn from the things he should have done differently on his own or through those around him holding him accountable.

Thank you for taking the time to read this.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael Andrews', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Michael Andrews  
Executive Pastor  
Community Bible Church Bulverde

HERE'S A PLACE FOR YOU HERE!

SPRING BRANCH, TX 78070

The Honorable Beryl A. Howell  
Chief Judge  
United States District Court  
333 Constitution Ave, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20001

Re: Grady Douglas Owens, 21-cr-oo286-BAH

Dear Chief Judge Howell,

My name is Larry Andrews. I have been the senior pastor of Community Bible Church Bulverde for 15 years, and lived in and around this area for 30 years.

During that time I have had the privilege to get to know, and serve alongside the Owens family. They have been active members of CBCB since, I believe - 2012 (when Grady was just a young boy). This family has been a faithful and consistent part of our church for the last 9 years. Jason has been a reliable volunteer in our media/sound department and Shannon has been one of the best and most consistent singers on our worship team. I, along with our community, have come to know and love this family. They are well thought of, and loved in this community - often opening their home to friends and neighbors on Sunday nights for a meal. They not only have two boys of their own - Grady and ~~Grady~~, they've also adopted three children, two of whom have medical struggles. In keeping with their family's character, they have sacrificially provided for, cared for, and loved these adopted children as their own. I know there were times Grady must have felt some normal sibling rivalry for the younger kids - especially when they required so much attention. But you'd never know it - he is always loving and kind and gentle with them.

It has been a special joy to watch Grady grow up and grow into ministry. Even as a teenager, he went with a group that our church sent to Guatemala to serve the impoverished people there. Grady raised the money himself for the trip. Like his family, Grady has a passion and a gift - not only for his faith, but for music. He has also served on our worship team. Singing, playing guitar, running sound - whatever was needed to serve the church. Most recently, Grady has been in school in Florida where he is learning about music production, and has high hopes of pursuing a career in music - possibly leading worship. He has grown up in a loving, Christian home in the quiet little town of Blanco, TX - and taught to love and serve his church, his family, and his community. I believe that he has learned those lessons well.

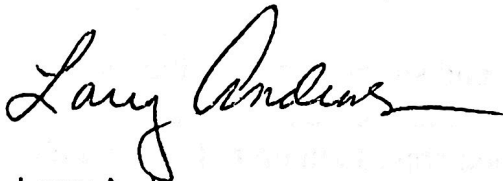
**MUSIC**  
THERE'S A PLACE FOR YOU HERE!

**SPRING BRANCH, TX 7807**

Along with his family, Grady is well respected in our church, and in this community for his character, compassion, and integrity. They are known as good neighbors, good friends, good citizens, good Christians - just good people.

If there is anything I can clarify, or questions I can answer - please let me know.

Sincerely,



Larry Andrews  
Senior Pastor  
Community Bible Church Bulverde



The Honorable Beryl A. Howell

Chief Judge

United States District Court

333 Constitution Avenue, N.W.

Washington, D.C 20001

Re: Grady Douglas Owens, 21-cr-00286-BAH

Dear Chief Judge Howell:

I am writing to you to share my experiences with Grady Douglas Owens.

My name is Jason Murphree and I am a High school and Middle school teacher and coach in Blanco Texas. I have been teaching for 24 years.

I first met the Owens family when they moved to Blanco about 7-8 years ago. Grady Douglas Owens was in my freshman Algebra 1 class. Grady is a normal young man with excellent manners. I can tell that his parents have raised him to be respectful. He always addressed me as sir and there was never a time when he was not courteous. Through my years of teaching, I have learned what parents stress respect and manners, versus those that do not. Grady was raised by good parents, that care about what their family name stands for.

I have never seen Grady act in an aggressive manner. In fact, I have seen just the opposite in class. Grady would always make a point to talk to or say a positive word to kids that did not fit in. He would also be one that would get in the middle of a conflict and try to talk sense into two boys about to have a fight. Grady's actions always led me to believe that he cares about how other kids feel. Caring for other people's feelings is a character trait that most students in high school lack. Compassion!

I have also seen Grady's actions at church. Grady is a musician and his love for music led him to get involved with the church band. There were many days that Grady played the drums, or guitar at church during the service. Giving up his time to practice and rehearse with the band, and not getting paid for it, showed me his passion for music. His passion also inspired other kids to get involved in music as well. The Owens family made their own recording studio at their home. The recording studio was a place that many kids would come to listen or to make a tape in hopes of making it big. Grady did not care what genre of music you liked, he was there to help you play your songs. This is not the behavior of a violent person.

Grady is also involved in many other ways in his church, from mission trips, to playing music for the youth on Wednesday nights. He is not a violent person.

Sincerely,

Jason Murphree

US Army Veteran

Middle School Algebra Teacher, Blanco Texas

The Honorable Beryl A. Howell  
Chief Judge  
United States District Court  
333 Constitution Avenue N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20001

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In Re: Grady Douglas Owens, 21-cr-00286-BAH

Dear Chief Judge Howell:

I am writing this letter to bring light to the kind of person Grady Douglas Owens is and to share with you some personal experiences I have had with this fine young man.

I am Paige Murphree, a close family friend of the Owens family from Grady's hometown of Blanco, Texas. I have known Grady since he was in middle school. He is a true delight to our town and loved by his classmates. Grady has always strived in excellence in music, devotion to the Lord and his family. His enthusiasm has led to many good works in our community. Grady has used his musical talent and leadership to lead worship at our church. He is an asset to the entire team and has been an influential part of mission trips abroad where he has sought out communities in need of help.

Grady has learned to LOVE BIG from his family. His mother and father have five children total. Two of which are their own blood and three have been adopted from various countries and ethnicities. The Owens are the most kind and compassionate people I know and have taught these traits to their children. Grady is the oldest of his siblings and they look up to him. I pray the courts will consider these truths about this family and specifically Grady.

My most recent memory of Grady was this past Christmas Eve. My family was invited to the Owens home for Christmas Eve dinner and to hear the Christmas Story. Grady led us in prayer and carols. His entire family took turns sharing the story of Jesus's birth. What a blessing to be surrounded by loving people of all ages learning and singing about Jesus. It was a very special night, and I am thankful that I was able to spend it with Grady. This is just one of the many times my family has spent with the Owens family.

It is my sincere hope the court takes this letter into account at the time of Grady's hearing. I believe, Grady Douglas Owens is an honorable individual, a valuable member of our community and a fine young man that anyone would want as a friend. I am glad he is mine.

Sincerely,

Paige Murphree



To: The Honorable Beryl A. Howell

Chief Judge

United States District Court

333 Constitution Avenue, N.W.

Washington, D.C. 20001

Re: Grady Douglas Owens, 21-cr-00286-BAH

Dear Chief Judge Howell:

My name is Todd Trammell and I am a friend of Grady Owens and his family. I live in the same home town of Blanco, Texas, just about 50 miles west of Austin. I'm almost 53 years old and have lived in Central Texas my entire life. After earning my B.S. in Electrical Engineering as well as M.B.A from the University of Texas at Austin, I've been in the semiconductor ("chip") industry for the last ~30 years doing various forms of business development, product management and marketing. Over the 30 years I've had the fortune to work for some great Fortune 500 companies such as Intel and Broadcom, as well as other large companies such as NXP (Motorola Semiconductor), Digital Equipment Corporation (DEC), AMD, and Marvell Semiconductor. During this time I've been able to travel and work internationally quite extensively, including hundreds of business trips across the USA and Canada, Western Europe, and various parts of Asia. Given this, I've been exposed to many different cultures, types of people and personalities. I am a law abiding citizen and have never had any issues legally nor with law enforcement (just the occasional traffic violation, which I've also had very few of).

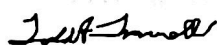
The purpose of this letter is to provide you with my unique perspective on the character and person Grady Owens. I've known Grady and his family for approximately the last 5 years, having met them when we first started attending the church where the Owens family belongs and serves, Community Bible Church Bulverde ("CBCB"). I guess he was about 16 years old at the time and a sophomore in high school. Even though he was young, anyone could clearly see Grady had a real gift for music. He was up on the main stage at church playing guitar and also helped with the sound control/mixing in the back some times. Grady played in the church worship group for several years, almost every week, until he left for Full Sail University in Florida a couple years ago. It is one thing to have a gift like he does with music, but quite another to use it to serve others in his community and church. In addition to serving on the worship team, Grady went on a mission trip to Guatemala with several other teenagers from the area. During their time there, they focused on helping and serving local orphans, who are tragically a forgotten group in Guatemala. That mission made quite an impression on Grady to the point he has vowed he will always try to be a "father to the fatherless."

The Owens family is a very caring and giving family within the community of Blanco. Grady is the oldest child and has one younger "birth" brother [REDACTED] (~ 13); however the Owens also adopted three additional orphans into their family over the years – Max (~ 18), [REDACTED] (~ 16), and [REDACTED] (~ 4). One thing I've noticed about Grady is his loving attitude and acceptance of Max, [REDACTED] and especially [REDACTED]. Max and [REDACTED] were adopted from another country and have struggled mightily to adapt mainly due to the poor treatment they received in/from their orphanage, while [REDACTED] is a multi-racial bundle of energy and joy. Grady treats them ALL like they are just part of the family and loves them just as they are. He is extremely tender with Ashlyn (who was a toddler prior to Grady leaving for college) which is not very common for teen boys in my experience.

Grady is really what I would refer to as a "gentle giant"...he's of slight build (on the thin side) but on the taller side as he is well over 6 feet. During his time at Blanco he joined the basketball team his senior year and even though he didn't get to play much, he was very much a team player and helped out whenever asked by coaches. He had a very unselfish team attitude, just what every coach looks for. I've certainly never seen even the slightest hint of any aggressive nor violent behavior from Grady. I would describe him as extremely laid back and non-aggressive, and I would expect he would be the last guy to get physical with anyone out of just about any group of young males. Grady is certainly a well-liked, "good kid" within the community of Blanco and within the CBCB church. My son, Tate, was behind Grady in high school by one year, and he also has a very positive view of Grady. Other than at school, he would occasionally see Grady at high school get-togethers and they shared several of the same friends. These were all great kids and they had a lot of fun together...never causing any issues / trouble with the law.

Of course Grady left to pursue his dream career in the music industry at Full Sail soon after high school, yet I still would see him over the holidays and breaks. He has been consistently respectful, kind and courteous every time I have been around him over the time I've known him. I do not believe Grady wishes any harm for anyone, and to the contrary I believe his goal in life is to help and serve others and make a real difference. I hope you will strongly consider my perspective and I am more than willing to jump on a video call or plane to reiterate any of this to anyone if helpful.

Respectfully,



Todd A Trammell

April 22, 2021

The Honorable Beryl A. Howell  
Chief Judge  
United States District Court  
333 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20001

RE: Grady Douglas Owens, 21-cr--00286-BAH

Dear Chief Judge Howell:

We moved to Blanco, Texas almost seven years ago. We've had the privilege of getting to know the Owens family and Grady! Both Grady and his family are dearly loved and one of the most highly respected families in this community.

Grady has always been a kind and likable person. He always has a smile on his face and is nice to everyone. He's a talented musician and has played guitar for our church band. He has helped his family with his 3 adopted siblings through the years and has gone to Guatemala with our church youth group to support orphans.

Grady and his family bought a house in town and named it "Blanco House ". They converted it to a coffee shop and tea room to bring the community together. Grady was a big part of that development.

Grady is one of the most peaceful and kind kids I know. I pray that truth is realized here. I would do anything to help Grady. He's a special person . Please know he doesn't deserve to be confined. He is not a threat to anyone, but rather a blessing to others.

Sincerely,

Leslie Trammell



April 22, 2021

The Honorable Beryl A. Howell  
Chief Judge  
United States District Court  
333 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20001  
Re: Grady Douglas Owens, 21-cr-00286-BAH

Dear Chief Judge Howell:

My name is Jack William Tierney. I've been friends with Grady ever since I started taking classes with him at Full Sail University in Winter Park, Florida and I would like to write to you and the court in regards to his character, and a little bit about him as a person. Since the day we met Grady has continued to impress me with not only his virtuosic musical abilities but also his kind spirit and virtuous nature. Grady has a kind of warm and inviting demeanor that endears him to just about everyone that he comes across at Full Sail and that makes me revere him so much as a person. He truly believes and lives the philosophy that if a friend asks for help, you help them. There was never a time that I was in need of a friend and Grady didn't extend a warm invitation to be there and help in some capacity. On April 1st of this month and the days that followed, I was deeply saddened and shocked to hear what had happened during his time in Washington D.C. That a brief moment of recklessness landed my friend, whom I love, in so much trouble. While I know that his actions must not go unpunished, I sincerely ask you to keep in mind the kind of person Grady really is when ruling on your verdict. That being the kind of person who was there for me when my mom was diagnosed with breast cancer and the kind of person who has always supported his friends in their musical endeavors. There is really no way to accurately put into words the dedication that Grady has to his work, I don't think it can be done. It's the kind of dedication that inspires people around him to try harder and to be better. It's the kind of dedication that has made him so revered in this community of musicians and inspires them to write letters gushing over him like this very one. I hope that these words have helped to give you some insight on my beloved friend and colleague, Grady Owens.

Sincerely,

Jack Tierney

The Honorable Beryl A. Howell  
Chief Judge  
United States District Court  
333 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20001

Re: Grady Douglas Owens, 21-cr-00286-BAH

Dear Chief Judge Howell:

We are writing on behalf of our close family friend, brother in Christ, Grady Owens.

First, we would like to introduce ourselves, Jeff and Michelle Jacobs. We have been married for sixteen years and have five children ages fourteen to six. Jeff is a full-time student and pastor at Revolution Church, while Michelle stays at home with the children. Jeff grew up in St. Louis, Missouri, and moved to the area when his father transferred for work. Michelle grew up mostly on the East Coast, as her father served on Presidential Staff in the United States Navy, but moved to San Antonio when he retired.

Our intention of writing this letter is to provide the Court evidence that Grady Owens is a man of God, who possesses the character traits necessary to live a life that demonstrates genuine intentions of doing good.

Over the ten years we have known Grady, his positive outlook on life shines in every encounter we have with him. Although Grady is facing his challenges right now, he continues to inquire about our son, who is critically ill, and pray for him daily. We have always seen Grady's love for people around him, on one occasion specifically, when leaving the family home, he embraced his parents in a way we could only hope our children would as they leave our nest. At that moment, Grady recognized and thanked his parents for their love and support, demonstrating his grateful heart and honorable character. During our weekly family gatherings, Grady not only interacts with the other children as a loving brother but also speaks of his goals and dreams in a way that brings us hope as adults that he will be a part of the next generation encouraging others to respect those who have gone before them and be a light that shines no matter what life brings.

Please consider our reference of Grady's character, as we have known him not only through fellowship at church, but welcomed him into our home and spent the appropriate time with him that we can attest to his true character as a man.

Sincerely,

Jeff and Michelle Jacobs



Pat Woodward <patmwoodwardjr@gmail.com>

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## Grady Owens

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Erin Rogers <erinfrogers@gmail.com>  
To: Patmwoodwardjr@gmail.com

Fri, Apr 23, 2021 at 11:08 AM

The Honorable Beryl A. Howell  
Chief Judge  
United States District Court  
333 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20001

Re: Grady Douglas Owens, 21-cr-00286-BAH

Dear Chief Judge Howell:

My name is Erin Rogers and I have lived in Blanco, Texas for the past five years. My oldest son, Zach Rogers and Grady Owens have been friends since we moved to Blanco five years ago.

I am writing this letter on behalf of my oldest son's friend, Grady Owens. Grady spent numerous hours at our home his senior year of high school. He was respectful, helpful and kind while visiting our home. He would reach out to our younger son and include him in activities while spending time with his friend, my son, Zach at our home. Not all of Zach's friends would do this. Zach, also spent numerous hours at the Owen's home his senior year. Grady and his family were always gracious to share their home, time and meals with Zach and his friends. They are an inclusive and loving family.

Grady took a gap year after high school and helped his parents with his younger siblings. I think it must have been hard staying home while his friends went off to college or left Blanco for a job. Grady also had a DJ business and was highly sought after for birthday parties. He was very easy and accommodating to work with. His spirit of giving and putting others first was shown through this business. He also volunteered at his church with his family most weekends.

Thank you for considering what I have to say about Grady Owens.

Sincerely,

Erin Rogers

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Erin Rogers



The Honorable Beryl A. Howell  
Chief Judge  
United States District Court  
333 Constitution Avenue N. W.  
Washington, D.C. 20001

Re: Grady Douglas Owens, 21-cr-00286-bah

Dear Chief Judge Howell,

Hi, my name is Kay Kuebel, I am a mom of three, work a part time job and am the Vice President of the Blanco Education Foundation. Grady has been a very close family friend for over eight years. Grady has always been a sweet kid with amazing parents who have raised him in a Christian environment filled with love and support. He has volunteered in our community in city and River clean ups, food drives, and fund raisers for families in need. He has never been in trouble in school. He was active in Boy Scouts, and his church and church youth group. Grady is a great young man. He has gone on vacations with my family and has always been kind, genuine, respectful, and compassionate.

Thank you for reading this and I would be happy to answer any questions regarding Grady and his character.

Sincerely,  
Kay Kuebel

The Honorable Beryl A. Howell  
Chief Judge  
United States District Court  
333 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20001

Re: Grady Douglas Owens , 21 - CR -00286-BAH

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Dear Chief Judge Howell:

My name is Mary Lee Towell and I have been a friend of the Owens family and to Grady Owens for five years. I am 63 years old, a wife, a mother of six, and a teacher for 42 years. I live in Boerne, Tx. and have celebrated birthdays, graduations, and holidays with Grady Owens.

I am writing this letter to provide the Court with positive and spiritual information about Grady Owens for the court to consider.

In the five years that I have known Grady, I have watched him grow from an upstanding high school students, to a very fine and honorable young man. I have seen Grady in his home, at our church, and in the workplace, and he is a true encouragement to all people and someone who spreads love and joy to everyone he meets. Grady has a way of making everyone feel that they are special and have a God given purpose for their life. I have seen Grady treat his adopted brother and sisters with the same kindness and caring that he treats his biological brother. I have witnessed Grady speak words of wisdom and hope to his siblings that struggle in any way, and Grady has been a tremendous support to his mother and father as they work hard to take care of these abandoned children that he now knows as family. I have watched Grady reach out to my own adopted boys that came from hard starts, and motivate them to keep hope alive and never give up, that God has a plan for them. Grady has been a wonderful son to his parents, and has always respected their wants and wishes as he was growing up. I personally have had many conversations with Grady about his life and his dreams and the good that he wants to be able to do in the world. Grady is loved and trusted by me, his word is good and honest.

Grady has been a member of the worship team at our church, and is admired by our congregation as a young man of integrity, and a good role model for their children. Grady Owens has given his time to teaching others guitar, helping with sound and media, and doing hard labor at our church and for members of the church who are in need. Grady has been a part of athletics at his school and was a good student.

Grady Owens is a gentle, intelligent, and peaceful young man. He loves life, and always sees the best in everyone and all situations. I hope and pray that this very special person, Grady, will have the opportunity to follow his dreams. We need many more people like Grady leading our country.

Sincerely,  
Mary Lee Towell

04/20/2012

The Honorable Beryl A. Howell  
Chief Judge  
United States District Court  
333 Constitution Avenue N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20001

In Re: Grady Douglas Owens, 21-cr-00286-BAH

Dear Chief Judge Howell:

Thank you for the opportunity to share with you, our thoughts, our experiences and close personal relationship with Grady D. Owens, and the entire Owens family.

I am retired General Manager of a cluster of Salem Communications radio stations in San Antonio, Texas, my husband retired from his former business life, and he is an ordained senior Elder in our church. Our close friendship with the Owens family goes back to the time when Grady was about 7 years of age. We are 80 and 81 years of age, almost a sort of "great-grandparents" part of the family.. sharing frequent dinners together, we are very proud of the growth of this solid family. We are also members of the same church family, many years of knowing the family's friends, the children's associations and activities.

The Owens family of 5 children, 2 natural children, 3 adopted children, have been close knit, loving, well cared for, Mom and Dad active in rearing these children, all of them active, encouraged to find their highest and best for their individual talents and interest.

Grady is no exception. He has shown ability and talent in music, he has been a good student, moreover Grady is a good example to his siblings, to his friends, and a leader among leaders in the youth of our church. He has shared his musical talents as part of the music team for the entire church, and has also helped others in their own talents.

We were dismayed to learn that the prosecution asserted this young man to be a travel risk, having traveled out of the country. It is vital for the record to reflect his travels; He, along with other junior and senior students in our church, have (prior to Covid) been given the honor to work jobs to earn money to help pay their own expense on mission trips. Grady,



along with youth pastor, other students in the church, traveled to economically depressed area in Guatemala, there along side the Operation Blessing (national and international ministry), where they helped build housing and schools for the needy. They worked with the locals, helped families as they could, shared friendships with them.

Other out of country travels included the celebration of his graduation as the entire family went to Cancun Mexico, 2 occasions of the family going together to those beaches. I also recall a cruise with the family.

The family home has been a magnet and safe gathering place for the children and friends of theirs. Parents always present and involved. A home filled with laughter, music, food, prayer. Without a scintilla of any doubt or question as to the leadership with youth for good that Grady has exhibited as long as we have known him. His example of respectful, good citizenship, hard work, openhanded, smiling greetings, easy friendship with elders, peers, and little ones, all have earned this fine young man the highest regard of all with whom he comes in contact. NEVER HAS HE BEEN INVOLVED IN ANY VIOLENCE AGAINST ANOTHER! Never so much as a traffic citation on his clean record.

Grady and his Dad visited with us regarding the trip to DC on January 6<sup>th</sup>. I can best describe their intention as "A-Political" Seeing the division in the nation, this family is committed to unity. Grady's elderly grandparents were also in attendance, their stated goals and purposes were to pray for this nation, for the leaders, for peace and unity. We pray this honorable court consider these truths about this family and specifically this young man, Grady Douglas Owens. This nation and this court can trust in his reliability, his sincere commitment to truth and integrity as has been his lifelong example.

With respect,  
Yours Sincerely,

Mary and J. Ken Dockery  
Spring Branch, Texas 78070