

Carina Laguzzi

From: Valerie Higgins <pennywindfield@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 1, 2021 4:07 PM
To: Carina Laguzzi
Subject: Reference letter for Dawn Bancroft

To The Honorable Judge Sullivan,

I have known Dawn Bancroft for over four years. In that time, I have only seen Dawn as a very caring and responsible person. I admire her in so many ways including her parenting three terrific grown children, her concern for others, and in volunteering in civic affairs, most recently, standing out in the freezing cold helping out all day at her voting location. She always puts others ahead of herself and truly has a great passion for her civic duty, always educating herself about what is happening locally and worldwide.

Dawn and I have discussed January 6th and she told me she regrets her actions that day and absolutely meant no harm to Nancy Pelosi. I know Dawn would never harm anyone. She is a fine person who I admire very much.

Sincerely,

Valerie Higgins

Dear Honorable Judge Sullivan,

I am writing this letter on behalf of my mother-in-law, Dawn Bancroft for your consideration when determining sentencing for her part in the insurrection that took place on January 6, 2021. My name is Patrick Armstrong, and I am married to her daughter, Krystin; I have known Dawn for over five years and I truly believe she is a good person who made a severe mistake, that I must say I couldn't disagree with more.

I brought a child from a previous relationship into my relationship with Krystin and Dawn had accepted her without question and has always treated her with love and respect. Even when Krystin and I had our own baby, nothing changed with her view of Ella being her granddaughter and that has meant the world to me. I know this might sound like a simple thing, but I think that it shows the true loving nature of her.

As far as the comments she made while in/around the Capitol, I must admit that I was very troubled when I heard what she had said, and I do not condone her actions or words in any form. To be honest, I know that Dawn is completely against physical violence of any kind and I truly believe that she was caught up in the moment with the other insurrectionists and just said something extremely stupid, but never had or would ever have any intention of harming anyone. I do know how bad her words were, but I don't believe that to be the true Dawn. And if I did believe she could/would be violent, I certainly would not want or allow my children to spend time with her; not only for their safety, but also for their mental and emotional wellbeing. My children are by far the most important people in my life, and I feel good about them being around their grandmother and I believe they only receive positive things from her.

I understand that adults are held to a certain standard and need to face the consequences of their actions, but I know that Dawn knows what she did was extremely wrong and that she regrets her part in that horrific afternoon. She owned up to her actions when the investigators approached her and was as helpful as she could be with immediately providing everything they asked for – photos, videos, names of people, etc. She has faced public and private humiliation and I am sure she will have to pay a hefty fine, but I do request that you show mercy to her and do not sentence her to any jail time. I believe that in this case, a sentence that includes community service/outreach would be much more productive for her and the community than to put her in jail.

This country has been greatly divided and those divisions were exploited and exasperated by a man who held the highest seat in our government; who nearly half of us Americans voted for to stay in office which I must say is unbelievable to me. I believe that Dawn thought she was being led by Trump and did what he asked her to do, along with many other Americans. I know this doesn't excuse her behavior, but it certainly is a fact that must be considered as many of us Americans somehow agree with and sympathize with him (not me!).

In summary, I know that Dawn is a loving person who would never condone violence and as simple and stupid as it seems, she got caught up in the frenzy of Trump's time in office. I also know that she regrets her part in the January 6th insurrection and has faced and will face consequences that she is prepared to accept. I do not think that the public is in any danger from her and that her sentence could actually serve the community rather than put her in jail.

I am extremely thankful for your time and consideration of this letter and if you would like to discuss anything further, I can be reached through Dawn's lawyer, Carina Laguzzi.

Sincerely,

Patrick Armstrong

Kristen Metzger
4211 Wismer Road
Carversville, PA 18913

December 9, 2021

Re: Dawn Bancroft

To the Honorable Judge Sullivan,

I have known Dawn Bancroft for 5 years and, in that time I have spent a couple hours per day, 5 to 6 days per week, in her company as a member of her CrossFit gym, a small business that she owns. I have come to consider Ms. Bancroft a close friend, and an upright member of the community. It is for this reason I am happy to, and feel qualified to, write a letter of character reference for Ms. Bancroft.

Dawn Bancroft is a loving mother and grandmother, and has dedicated her life to helping people; through coaching, training and overall wellness support in her 30+ years of fitness instruction. She is a source of consistent encouragement, a shoulder to lean on, and her clients' biggest advocate. Over the past 15 years, as a single woman, she has been a local business owner and positive influence in our small town, hosting fundraising events, holiday open houses, and of course fitness and nutrition challenges for beginners through professionals. She would give you the shirt off of her back if you needed it; in fact she sponsored a client for legal permanent residency and volunteered for missionary work in Haiti.

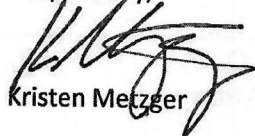
Dawn is a passionate person in all that she does; she has a strong sense of patriotism for her country, expects good to triumph over evil, and has a huge heart.

We speak often about the events of January 6th 2021. What began as an innocent day trip to a rally in Washington has changed her life forever – she has lost her business, affiliations and livelihood, has been ostracized by lifelong friends, and is regularly harassed by people who do not know her.

She expresses profound regret for her decision to enter the Capitol and is consistently working to not let those short 30 seconds define her sense of self. It does not surprise me that she is willing to accept responsibility for her actions.

I understand the seriousness of this matter, and it is my heartfelt hope the court takes this letter into consideration and will show leniency at the time of sentencing. Dawn Bancroft is a good person, and a needed member of the community. She deeply regrets the decision she made and has already paid a great price for her actions on that fateful day.

Respectfully,


Kristen Metzger

December 12, 2021

Kenann Kelly
8 Scott Road
Doylestown, PA 18901
215-272-0258

Dear Judge Sullivan,

My name is Kenann Kelly. I am a 54 year old married mother of two children. I have lived and worked in the Doylestown, PA area for 24 years. I have a successful career in Technology Sales as a Field Account Manager. My hobbies include reading, travel, cooking and CrossFit. I met Dawn Bancroft when I started CrossFit. We have known each other for almost 10 years. I am writing this letter in the hopes that you will have a better understanding as to who she is as a person.

Dawn and I met in February 2012, when I first began my fitness journey with CrossFit. Dawn owned and coached at CrossFit Sinepari in Plumstead, PA. It was the first CrossFit affiliate I tried and I never looked back. Dawn was and still is a great fitness coach. She knows how to encourage people to try harder in order to achieve their goals, both mentally and physically. I have personally witnessed members lose as much as 80lbs and become more confident in themselves with what they could do. I myself lost at least 20lbs.

When I first started CrossFit, I was sadly out of shape. I remember my first workout with existing members who were at least 10 years older than me. They were out running me, lifting heavier weights and basically kicking my butt. I could not do a pull-up, push-up, handstand, power cleans, snatches or Double Unders. Now at 54, I can. It might not seem like a big deal, but it is to me. It has not only transformed my physique, but my mental health as well. I have stamina, confidence and a "can't wait to tackle my day" feeling after a CrossFit workout. All of these achievements I owe to Dawn.

Dawn cares about her members, her family and her community. When I first started CrossFit I remember certain days we would do a Hero WOD (Workout of the Day). The hero was named after a soldier or first responder who gave the ultimate sacrifice. Dawn would read the story of each hero to the class and would always tear-up and struggle to finish. It was very touching. She would then end it with "No complaining about this WOD. You're alive. They are not!!"

Dawn is patriotic. She loves her country and those that fight for it and protect it. This past summer, she asked for contributions for a high-school gym member who graduated in June and joined the army. Joel Campos had joined the gym so that he could get ready for boot camp. He really liked the Apple Watch that other gym members had to track their fitness. He did not have money to buy one so she started a collection to buy him one as a send-off gift. It was very sweet as he was really touched by the generosity of the gym. However, I strongly suspect she paid for most of it as her gym members are significantly lower since January 6th.

Dawn is very social as well as a motivator. Every year (pre-Covid), she would host fun competitions; such as the CrossFit games at the gym. Members would compete against each

other on teams in a fun and spirited environment. This was always followed by a social event at her house. She would also organize groups to participate in other CrossFit competitions, Tough Mudder's or other running events that were outside of CrossFit. She would have nutrition challenges at the gym with prizes to motivate everyone to eat healthy.

Dawn has a generous and compassionate heart. She organized fundraisers and social events for members who have lost loved ones to cancer, addiction etc. She had t-shirts made up for one fund raiser event with the quote: "Tough times don't last, but tough people do!" It was a really fun event but had a special meaning to everyone. This type of camaraderie and genuineness always resonated with her members and even when they left due to life events they would come back. A perfect example is her famous 12 days of Christmas WOD where former members who moved away would come by on Christmas Eve to do this special workout. It was always packed with members past, present and future. That speaks a lot about the positive effect she has had on her clients.

Besides her leadership in fitness and health in her community, she has been a great friend. We have had countless conversations of her remorse over the January 6th event. She has stated that she wished she could undo what she did. She talks about it all the time. It hurt her reputation (she lost her CrossFit affiliation), she lost close friends, gym members, and more importantly it has taken a toll on her children. I have witnessed the close bond she has with her kids. I have attended her oldest daughter's wedding this past May. They love their Mom very much and she loves them. She is truly a good person who did a really stupid thing which she freely admits all the time.

For the reasons above your honor, I ask that you show Dawn mercy. She realizes what she has done was wrong. The emotional toll it has taken on her with the loss of friendship and disrespect in the community has been the worst punishment she could receive. It is something she now has to live with the rest of her life and it weighs on her tremendously. Please take this into consideration as you determine her sentence.

Thank you,

Kenann Kelly

Courtney Bancroft
Philadelphia, PA
courtneybancroft@icloud.com

December 14, 2021

To the Honorable Judge Sullivan,

My name is Courtney Bancroft, I am Dawn Bancroft's third and youngest child. Knowing Dawn for my entire life, I feel adequate and qualified to submit a character reference in support of Dawn receiving a light sentencing for her offenses committed on January 6, 2021. I want to be clear that I do not condone or support my mother's actions or words displayed on January 6, 2021, but Dawn is so much more than what she demonstrated on this day.

Dawn is incredibly loyal and reliable. I have moved across the country two times in five years and really struggled with organizing and managing such a stressful experience. My mother, Dawn, volunteered to drive my car from Philadelphia to Los Angeles, and back again five years later, when I decided to settle on the east coast.

Dawn is a strong and independent woman. After my parents' divorce, my mother started and opened her own business, and flourished in the role of entrepreneur. While growing up, Dawn displayed so many important admirable qualities, and taught me valuable lessons about moving through the world as a woman, which has helped shape me into the resilient person I am today.

Dawn is passionate about philanthropy and giving back to underserved communities. When she came to visit me in Los Angeles for Christmas in 2018, we decided to volunteer our time on Christmas Eve at a local food shelter organizing "holiday food bags" for folks to utilize for their holiday dinners. While at the shelter, Dawn became friends with everyone – inquiring about where they live and who they were spending the holidays with – making each person feel recognized and accepted. During my studies at Penn State, I participated in fundraising for the Penn State Dance Marathon. My mom supported me in a variety of ways to help raise money for kids with pediatric cancer. On several occasions, Dawn organized a variety of fundraisers at her gym, raising thousands of dollars for the cause.

It is my sincere hope that the court takes this letter into consideration when sentencing Dawn Bancroft. Despite the current case, I still believe Dawn to be a worthy individual with love in her heart.

Sincerely,

Courtney Bancroft

Carina Laguzzi

From: Krystin Bancroft <k_bancroft@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, December 16, 2021 11:12 PM
To: Carina Laguzzi
Subject: Letter for Dawn Bancroft

Hi, Canina I am resending the letter because I sent you my unedited one by accident her is my revised copy, thank you!

Dear Honorable Judge Sullivan,

I am writing you in regards to my mom, Dawn Bancroft, I want to start off by saying I do not agree and or condone the actions that occurred on January 6th 2021. With that being said I do know Dawn very well as she is my mother, I understand her words on that day were beyond unforgivable, however they were just words. She has never been a violent person and never would be. She has always taught me to never use violence when dealing with any situation. My mom is the type of person who would give you the shirt off your back if you needed it. She also has always instilled in me that it's okay to make mistakes as long as you can own up to them, which she definitely did in this situation. When she was asked and questioned she was very straight forward, honest and gave them everything they needed. I believe the community would benefit more by my mom helping out and giving back, than being in jail. My mom is good person and does mean well, she can sometimes just get caught up in the moment and I believe that is what happened January 6th and I do know if she could go back she would have never said what she said nor gone inside the capital. I do hope you take all of this into consideration when making your decision. Thank you for your time.

Krystin Bancroft

Sent from my iPhone

Elizabeth Ratcliffe
1605 Durham Road
Langhorne, PA 19047

December 30, 2021

Dear Judge Sullivan,

I am writing this letter to you on behalf of Dawn Bancroft with whom I have had a close personal friendship for more than 30 years. I believe knowing her for so long can help me shed light on her moral character.

I met Dawn when our children were in first grade together. That year, Dawn spearheaded a fundraiser to get a new playground for the elementary school. Her dedication to the project made it so successful, it completely covered the cost of the new playground and became a yearly fundraiser. This is when I learned that Dawn is a caring, hard working and dedicated person. In the next 30+ years, I got to know her even better and she has continued to display these traits.

I have known Dawn while she has raised her three children. She is a wonderful mother and a recent grandmother. In fact, the last time I saw her, she was caring for her newborn grandson. Dawn is also a thoughtful friend who is always there to support any one of us in our close group of friends called "The Dinner Club". She is always on board to help out when someone in the group is going through something, good or bad.

Dawn is also a hard-working member of her community. She is passionate about health and fitness and owns and operates a Cross-Fit gym. When the pandemic started, Dawn offered free zoom classes to anyone who wanted to keep in shape while gyms were shut down. I participated in these classes and found the routine helpful during those uncertain times. I believe the fact that Dawn gave her time and energy to help others without accepting payment speaks to her character. Dawn has also been known to have luncheons for veterans on Veteran's Day to show her unwavering appreciation for their service. She is passionate about her community and her country and I have always found this to be admirable.

I hope you will take this letter into account during sentencing as Dawn has always been a good, caring and hard-working person in my eyes.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Ratcliffe

December 20, 2021

Your Honor,

I, Stephanie Poltorak am writing this letter to provide to you a character reference for Dawn Bancroft. I have know Ms. Bancroft as a personal friend for going on ten years. I am providing this letter with full understanding of the seriousness of this matter. I believe I am in a position to speak to Ms. Bancroft's moral character and I hope you will consider my letter when handing down your decision on the matter.

In short, Dawn Bancroft is a good person. I have always known her to be a morally strong woman. During the time that I've known her she has always been an honest and trustworthy person. As a friend, she is someone you can count on for unconditional support when it is needed.

In addition to our friendship Ms. Bancroft has always been an upstanding member in the community. Her business has consistently held fundraisers for local animal shelters in need, members facing any sort of personal hardship, as well as hosting many, many military/ wounded warrior fundraisers and volunteer work days with the local Habitat for Humanity branch throughout the years.

During our personal conversations Dawn has discussed the possible consequences that she faces and has expressed great remorse. Since knowing Dawn she has always had a strong will for self-improvement. I have full confidence that she has and continues to learn from this.

It is my sincere hope that the court takes this letter into consideration at the time of sentencing. Despite the current case, I still with my whole heart believe Dawn Bancroft to be an ethical individual, a valuable member of the community and a good human being.

Sincerely,


Stephanie Poltorak