

EXHIBIT K

Dear Judge Walton:

I would like to first begin by telling you a bit about my myself, my interests, and beliefs:

My name is Mariposa Castro-Acosta. I am 49 years old, married and have 3 adult children - 32, 29 and 18 and two grandchildren ages 2 and 6. I love my family and am very proud of the hardworking, kind and loving persons they are.

My Mission, Hobbies and Goals:

One of my greatest passions is to create. I want to not only create, but also to inspire and to elevate others. I don't want to merely to survive, but to thrive, and to do so with passion, compassion and humor. My greatest passion is to create. Not only to create, but to inspire, to elevate, to empower, to help restructure the consciousness of the collective. We all need more kindness, more compassion, more joy and more laughter which is definitely how I want to contribute to this world.

My Hobbies:

I love reading, researching about natural remedies, self-healing and gardening. I love collecting and reading all types of books. I love gardening. Gardening is the perfect hobby to enjoy more fresh air and grow your own produce. I love playing instruments, crystal bowls, Tibetan bowls and drumming. Playing instruments is relaxing and healing.

I also love yoga. Yoga is essentially a spiritual discipline based on an extremely subtle science, which focuses on bringing harmony between mind, body and spirit. I like hiking in nature, in a forest, on a hill or around a lake. I love cooking, baking, juicing and trying new herbal blends. I love art - crafting, painting and photography. I love helping others. I get satisfaction from helping others. I like teaching about self-healing techniques, herbalism and DIY.

Hobbies constantly push us to learn something new. Hobbies help us grow, encourage us to socialize. It turns out hobbies provide the perfect outlet for us to renew our spirit from the daily grind. Many of us need an outlet where we can relax, recharge and refresh.

My goals:

I would love to write books about, self care, self healing, self love, herbalism teas, holistic remedies and my life. I was working towards opening a business, a Yoga Studio & Tea Lounge. After the Pandemic things changed and I had to put it on hold.

TEA + YOGA = CONNECTION

Both tea and yoga offer a variety of healthy choices, with a myriad of health benefits.

MY MANTRA: Love is everything. Everything is love. Love is the highest frequency that we are able to radiate. My heart and soul continually tell me to shine the light in my heart. They say that living with a grateful heart heals us and the earth. When we are in gratitude, it is easier to remember that we are beautiful beings of light, spirits being human. As we shine our inner light, we increase the light vibration of gratitude in the

world. We can empower light, love, and thankfulness and bless our amazing planet. Grow a Grateful Heart. GRATITUDE CHANGES EVERYTHING!

I would now like to explain why I went to the Capitol on January 6:

My only intent was to attend the rally, give my support, film it, and share it. That is it. Of course, we were disappointed how things went during the election, and we were expressing our freedoms of speech and to assemble peacefully.

While I was downstairs in the lobby, A group of people had gathered and were discussing what was happening, as well as communicating on their phones. Because of the events unfolding, I decided to go take a look at things firsthand. I had no intention whatsoever of doing anything other than observing what was taking place. All I had with me as I headed towards the Capital was my iPhone and WORLD PEACE FLAG. In the past I had attended several Trump Rallies in California, and they were always peaceful. The atmosphere was always very positive and welcoming.

January 6 was different than the rallies I had attended in California. This was more of a protest to what had occurred on November 3, 2020. There is a lot of hyperbole that is used at a protest. I, too, repeated some expressions that other people were saying, which is now being used against me, such as "We are at war." Some people were saying more extreme things that I didn't care to repeat, and they just went in one ear and out the other.

I was there and wanted to film what was going on, as it was taking place. How many times do we say things in an exaggerated manner, just to show how hurt we feel? It isn't to be taken literally. We don't put it into action. That's a good and mature quality; otherwise, none of us would be standing.

In my videos, I have said, "We're going in." I was just stating what I was hearing and reporting. It's like when the movie theater doors open, and we can go in. In addition, The majority of people I was around were peaceful, just chanting the American Anthem, "We're taking back the Peoples House." I was just saying "yes, it is the Peoples house." It wasn't meant that I was going to in any way, shape or form overthrow our government. After having spent about 45 minutes outside on the steps, I noticed several people going in and out of a broken window. This is where my incredible lapse in judgment has brought me to this day.

Upon entering the broken window, I began to witness destructive behavior. The environment that I found myself in was one I knew I had to get out of. When I was in the room there was a vent up in the ceiling, and I noticed that there was some kind of smoke coming out. It looked like somebody had attempted to cover the vent with a cloth or something, but smoke was still coming out. Fortunately, I had my WORLD PEACE FLAG with me. I used it to help me breathe until I made my way outside.

I am simply not a destructive person. I have a real problem with conflict, violence, or any other destructive behavior. As I look back on that day, over a year later, it is very hard for me to describe or make sense of that moment. My regrettable lapse in judgment has had a negative affect on my family, and all concerned. Within minutes of my being outside tear gas was used. I couldn't see. Clarification, I didn't leave the room because of the tear gas. I left the Capitol room because of the violence, and didn't want to be a part of it! As I was leaving the Capitol room, a beautiful woman of color helped

me find a safe place, away from what was happening. Then I walked back to the hotel.

My head was whirling with confusion, and disbelief of what had just taken place. I still to this day find it odd that there were those people I saw in that Capitol Room that were supposedly Trump supporters rioting. It was very confusing to me. This has NEVER happened before at any of the Trump events I've attended. I have never encountered anyone in my life who wanted to riot.

I realized that this was a turning point in American politics and that this would need to be resolved, and it would be a long time before it happens. This is just my opinion. The saying, 'We are at War' means we have a lot of conflict, problems, division to resolve. I say this when members of my own family or husband's family are in conflict—"Its War now!"

As for another saying, "The best is yet to come," which I love to say, for it is a promise from God, that those who believe in Him have Hope for a better future. They will never be disappointed. I find it so sad to think that because I have said this on January 6th, or just because Trump has said this, that it has been twisted to mean more war, riots, divisiveness. This was never what I meant! 'The Best is yet to come' is an expression of Hope! It means a brighter future. I look at it also in a religious way—where the Lamb and the Lion will lay next to each other. It is not meant as a threat. There is no malice, harm, or ill intention towards anyone when I say it but only of hope for a better future for all.

Another comment that I said, and posted on social media about was how proud and brave I was. I will explain. I am actually a very quiet, and shy person who never really got out there and got involved. During the 2020 election, there were times I was standing outside looking in at myself getting involved in politics of all things, and was astounded how for the first time I used my voice. I couldn't believe how I was changing. This was so energizing for me. I was proud of myself to pick my candidate, Trump, and support him because of his standing on several issues facing our country. I felt it was important that I go to the January 6 Rally in Washington, to be loyal right to the end. As I look back and rewatch videos from "that day", I am surprised at how the crowd influenced me. I will not be in a situation like that again. Rest assured, no court in America will ever see me again. Remarkably, I made my way to safety, out of that negative experience, out of the danger. I experienced and survived a lot. This was so out of my comfort zone. If I, a very quiet and shy person had the courage to go and voice my disappointment (not knowing there was going to be violence) and surviving, anyone else could do it too. If I could do it, anyone could. I wanted to inspire others to use their voices in both a peaceful and courageous way.

I have already mentioned my lapse of judgment when I went into the Capitol room. It was unfortunate but my curiosity got the best of me. I regret that so much.

I am a very peaceful and loving person. I always have been. I have a special gift that gives me the awareness, and courage to reach out and help people. This takes place quite often. You can be the lady next door, the old man in the grocery line (who I notice is feeling distraught), the homeless group of guys in Gilroy (I would barbecue and take time talking with them), the distraught woman I noticed several rows in front of me on an airplane (she happened to have an empty seat next to her, so I moved up from my seat to sit next to her for the remainder of the flight). At Costco, there was the 80 year old man who was feeling suicidal, and asked me and my son to sit next to him while we

were eating, I spent years working with The Acosta family rebuild - due to my husband's father marrying his ex-wife. I have brought over tea and hot cocoa, over to my new neighbor next door (her husband is going through some very bad health issues, and I know I need to be there for her).

On February 9th, 2021, I was arrested and brought to the Santa Rita jail in Alameda County. I would end up spending several hours in the holding cell, while awaiting word on my situation. While I was in the jail, I began to look around and take notice of the others who were in there with me. I found myself talking to a few of the women who were incarcerated, and I listened to their stories. I felt very positive, and impactful when I spoke to these women. I felt like I was connecting with these complete strangers. They were so much younger than me, and they were involved in bad situations. I spent most of my time listening to these women - coaching, reminding them how young, and beautiful they are. That they have so much life in front of them, and to get on the right path.

Later in the evening of February 9th, as my husband and son was approaching the entrance of the jail to pick me up (I was so happy to see them I noticed one of the women whom I spent time listening to and interacting with. I went to hug her. After our hug, as the young woman of color was walking away, my husband asked me what was that all about. I told him about my experiences talking with the women while I was incarcerated. The young woman my husband saw me hugging was jailed for driving a stolen car. The youngster said that she was driving her mom's boyfriend's car and didn't know it was stolen. These are just a few examples of how I have carried myself throughout my adult life.

These days I spend most of my time with my husband, and our son. Life has changed very much over the past year, especially since our move to Tennessee. To think, I had no interest in politics until 2020, and that I didn't even know the difference between Democrats and Republicans. Life has so many surprises for us. With all that is going on, my family and me are settling into a whole new lifestyle, in a completely different set of circumstances, in a part of America that I've never even been to previously. The change has been good.

January 6, 2021 was not my best day, far from it. Most importantly, I never wanted any part of that. I have learned a very valuable life lesson, in no way shape or form will I ever put myself in that position again. I have learned this hard lesson, after all that I have put my family, and myself through. This has caused my family, my husband and children and myself such grief. I am experiencing several health related issues over the past year or so. It is remarkable what stress does, especially for one going through menopause as I am. Achy bones, hair loss, increased anxiety, arthritic pain. The impact on my family has been great. My husband, son, and I were removed from the life we had built, a very comfortable life. Just recently, my husband found out he is going to be a grandfather yet we may never see his granddaughter, because his son won't talk to us anymore. We have gone through a lot but I also recognize that I was a part of something that has affected not only me and my family but our whole nation and I am deeply sorry. Thank you very much for this opportunity to explain myself.

There is one last bit of information I would like to share, my daughters wedding will be on May 5, 2022. I hope this Court will fashion a sentence such that I will be able to

attend her wedding.

In closing, I am asking the Court to be merciful, and to please look at my life in total and consider the type of person I am, and always have been. On January 6th, all I wanted was to do good, and seek the truth yet I admit I had a lapse in judgment. I have lived my whole life trying to make myself a better person through the Grace of God - to do good for others, be a loving mother/wife and a good American Patriot. I so love this country! It has given me a wonderful life. I am so grateful, and could never do anything to hurt her. I know I will continue to do my part in helping to heal our Country. One "stranger" at a time. We, as Americans, all need to do our part in picking each other up, and pulling us back together. I am a healer at heart. I am a child of GOD. We are all children of God, and I believe we all have beautiful gifts to share with humanity. How we heal is to forgive and embrace one another.

With Deep Gratitude & Love,

Sincerely, Mariposa Castro - Acosta

