

EXHIBIT THREE

Charlotte B Phillips

Portland, ME 04102

The Honorable Christopher Cooper
The US District Court for the District of Columbia
333 Constitution Ave NW
Washington DC 20001

May 26, 2023

Dear Judge Cooper,

This letter is written in support of my nephew, Noah S Bacon, found guilty of a felony and misdemeanor charges for his role in the US Capitol insurrection on January 6, 2021.

The prosecutors are asking for 3.5 to 5 years of prison time. I am hoping that through this letter, you will get to know Noah better and it will favorably influence your sentencing decision.

By way of introduction, I am one of Rob Bacon's older sisters and Noah's aunt, currently living in Portland, Maine. My husband and I raised three sons in Ipswich, MA, and Rob is my middle son's godfather. Now retired, I previously worked in clinical research administration at Brigham and Women's Hospital, Maine Medical Center Research Institute, New England Baptist Hospital, and the Hospital for Special Surgery. Prior to that I was a Registered Nurse in Washington DC. In retirement I have volunteered my time serving in the clinic and on the Board of the Friends of the Portland Community Free Clinic.

Noah and I have known one another since the time of his birth. Energetic, athletic, kind and easy going, he was always very sweet and gracious with me.

More recently Noah seems to have stalled in his transition to adulthood — not searching for a job or financial independence, withdrawing from the world with somewhat unrealistic goals, and lacking the motivation to change — instead foot-dragging, delaying, or flat-out refusing to participate in life. Though he has attended college several times, he has not completed a consistent course of academic study all the way to matriculation.

His occupation has been focused on teaching Meditation and Yoga. Though somewhat fragmented in getting his business launched, he is very talented in these pursuits.

Despite the above comments, it is important to point out that Noah has never displayed any aggressive, destructive, threatening or violent behaviors. He is the opposite — peacefully spiritual and calm. As a certified yoga instructor and teacher of meditation, he seeks to bring serenity and tranquility to the lives of his clients. My brother attests to his deep spirituality, and he is one who would know about that being a priest himself.

Noah's decision to enter the Capitol building on January 6th is astonishing but I sincerely doubt he was intending to commit insurrection.

Charlotte B Phillips
14 Bowdoin St.
Portland, ME 04102

My view is that digital media can influence some individuals' beliefs. Perhaps Noah's frequent use of the internet can help to explain his behavior. Through the social isolation imposed by the COVID-19 Pandemic and his use of marijuana, Noah may have followed media websites that took him down a rabbit hole, exposing him to mistruths similar to those espoused by President Trump. So when the President encouraged those who attended the rally in Washington on January 6th to march to the Capitol and take back our country with strength, it made sense to naive and impressionable Noah.

I ask myself, how could he believe such things? Maybe Noah was excited by the opportunity to feel like he had access to secret knowledge — a chance to seem smarter than others. Perhaps he wanted to feel like he was doing something good, like he was part of the solution.

The psychological appeal of conspiracy theories sometimes helps to fulfill social needs, replacing the ambiguities of life with a sense of certainty. That certainty might work to produce a sense of control in place of helplessness, and a feeling of personal pride — that he is not only in the right but saving the world, in place of his nagging sense of alienation.

To me, Noah *has* appeared to be drifting of late, perhaps due to anxiety or some similar psychological condition. Now that he has quit smoking marijuana, and is faced with the reality of this serious predicament, I hope Noah will turn himself around, become aware of his potential and take steps to build a future for himself.

Finally, I can say without a doubt that Noah has experienced deep shame and regret for his behavior on January 6th. This speaks to his current level of understanding about the serious nature of his actions.

In my view, Noah does not deserve a prison sentence — something intended for people who need to be locked away to protect the public. Time in prison makes sense for violent antisocial people, not for someone like Noah.

Prison time might irretrievably break him, whereas community service, home detention, fines, and/or probation would serve the goal of retribution, and help him mature and find his way in life. He deserves this chance.

As you get to know him through this letter, I urge you to be thoughtful and sensitive as you consider his sentence.

Sincerely,

Charlotte B Phillips