

# **EXHIBIT**

# **TWO**

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[REDACTED]  
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June 15, 2023

The Honorable Christopher R. Cooper  
District Judge  
United States District Court for the  
District of Columbia  
333 Constitution Avenue N. W.  
Washington, DC 20001

Re: United States vs. Noah Bacon  
(Docket No. 1:21-mj-00509)

Dear Judge Cooper,

I write to express my support of Noah S. Bacon who is my nephew. Apart from my relation to him as aunt, my authority to write derives from having raised five sons and six daughters to adulthood. I wish now to come to Noah's defense and help him in his hour of need.

Noah has no need of convincing me that he is at heart a gentle soul. His principal interest lies in meditative pondering; he is a person who strives to live in peace; I have never seen Noah angry, I have never known him to confront another in vigorous opposition.

I believe Noah's actions on January 6th, 2021 reflected a period in his life, a prolonged period, when he was lost and searching. At that time, when he was 28 years-old, he was more like a teen-ager than a man. A pacific wanderer would describe Noah then. He lagged behind other young men his age. His father, my brother, lamented privately over Noah's delayed development. When Noah's father was that age he was an officer in the United States Navy. It is hard for dads whose sons are slow to mature, slow to commit; kind, yes, but naïve; polite, yes, but vague; and all too often alone.

My experience is that one of the ways young men find themselves is by affiliating with friends who are also searching. Noah's childhood friends surpassed him when they were finishing college and starting careers. Additionally, Noah has no brothers. As the mother of a large family, I am certain that brothers and sisters play a huge role in the raising up of mature adults. But Noah was not ever in thrall to bad or subversive influences. He simply was drawn to meditation, a very solitary pursuit, and to yoga, which is a meditation of the body. He was "an accidental tourist" in Washington, D.C. on January 6th when he followed a crowd into the Capitol. He told his family he did not even know the Senate was gathered to certify the Presidential vote.

May I add some quotes I have culled from a book, a memoir, about a convicted murderer who was sentenced to the death penalty in France in 1957? The book is called Light Over the Scaffold, the convicted murderer was 27 years-old when he was guillotined, and these are words he wrote:

“As far as I was concerned, and without overlooking the gravity of my case, there was such an incoherence in all my actions that I hoped things would work themselves out naturally.... I felt exhausted and knew beyond all doubt that I would have to pay for this involuntary murder as for an unforgivable crime, in order that an example might be made of me...”

The crime that Jacques Fesch committed in no way resembles Noah's crime. But I was struck, forcibly, with his use of the word "incoherent" to describe his actions and also his understanding that an example would be made of him.

This is Noah's case too.

He was just following the crowd that day, he had no connection whatsoever to any divisive groups, he was unlucky to be caught on video. Is he now to be sentenced like one whose actions were deliberate, premeditated, and designed to wreak havoc?

This young man is growing up. He is trying to redirect himself, to engage purposefully in everyday life, to complete an online degree, and to move forward. Surely he can be punished in a manner that fits his crime, mercifully.

Very truly yours,

/s/

Elizabeth Bacon McNamara