

EXHIBIT ONE

The Honorable Christopher Cooper [L] [SEP] *The U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia* [L] [SEP] *333 Constitution Avenue N.W.*

Washington D.C. 20001

Re: United States v.Noah Bacon

Dear Judge Cooper,

I am Noah Bacon's uncle. My wife, Kate, is Rob Bacon's sister. I graduated from the University of Maine School of Law in 1977 and then spent one year as a law clerk for the Maine Superior Court before entering private practice in Camden Maine, which is a small town on the coast. I practiced in Camden until 1995 and approximately 2/3 of my work related to various forms of litigation, including criminal defense work. In 1995, I went to work at the Maine Attorney General's Office and spent most of my years there regulating professional licensees. I've been retired since 2016.

It is hard to know where to start a letter like this. But, I guess I will start in early August, 2021 when Kate and I were in our boat with Rob and Sonia having the usual summertime catch up on what's going on with the fam. "So, you probably heard about Noah?" "No, what?" "Well two weeks ago he was arrested by the FBI related to January 6th." I just about fell out of the boat! It simply did not compute.

I last had extended time with Noah in 2017 in Hawaii at the wedding of one of his cousins. My strongest impression of him was that he was so thoughtful, quiet and peaceful. He would literally pause to think what he was going to say, not that common a human trait. He was in the midst of his time in Hawaii focused on spirituality. There were no great revelations in that conversation, other than I could tell how seriously he was trying to find his way on the journey to a life that is kind to others and the planet. That may sound pretentious, but it was very genuine.

Later, Kate and I were riding in the car with Rob and Sonia when there was one of those speaker phone calls with Noah from Hawaii and, again, I was so impressed with how he was journeying to try to find a path through life that was peaceful, serene and not damaging to others. I also knew that he was having a hard time gaining pragmatic traction in life with things like finishing school and acquiring a way to pay for that spiritual, small-scale life.

When I heard that he had been arrested for his involvement in the activities inside the Capitol building on January 6th, it simply did not compute. I understand that he went by himself to Washington to attend the Trump rally in front of the White House and that he then went up to the Capitol, like many others, to engage in a protest in the area around the Capitol, which is a long respected activity. I have no explanation for how he let himself get swept up in the events and going into the building. When I heard that he had meditated for a while in the Senate gallery, that was about the only thing that did sound like the Noah Bacon I knew.

When I asked Noah his reaction to the verdict and to the proceeding, he essentially said that he was surprised that the jury had not understood and accepted his explanation of his actions. If one was lying to get out of responsibility for what he did, Noah's testimony is not what most people would come up with. I believe that Noah testified with complete subjective integrity as to his understanding of his actions and how they would be interpreted. I'm not sure that he understands how his thinking is viewed by others.

I talked with Noah about the idea of a psych evaluation to see if there is anything that would help explain his overall failure to gain traction on pragmatic things since high school and how that might relate to his conduct here, but he did not want to get an eval. I believe that he did not want to be "labeled" but, more important to your sentencing decision, he did not want to feel that there was some excuse being given for his actions. He thought he had explained himself in terms of what he did and why he did it and that's what he wanted to rest on. Noah is a very serious, conscientious and ethically principled person, even when it is to his own detriment.

I will not pretend to understand the Noah Bacon/Donald Trump phenomenon. But, on the simplest level, I think it gave him a sense of community when he was lost in the wilderness. However, this whole experience has led to a reunification of Noah with his family and a sense of healing, which I believe will outlast whatever is coming down the sentencing pike in this case.

From my professional background, I am aware that one element of sentencing is simply to make a statement about the inappropriateness of certain criminal behavior and that is something you will have to take into account. Actions have consequences. But I also believe that the law is not just a series of principles from on high. Ultimately, the law is about our human connections and how we all fit together to improve society as a whole and create contributors for society.

I have little concern that Noah will be involved in criminal behavior in the future. I am concerned with the potential negative impact of a lengthy prison sentence on one's ability to

overcome the problems that got the defendant into court. Ideally, a defendant comes out at the far end more likely to contribute to society rather than to harm society. Noah has things to work on, but I strongly feel that he is motivated to re-find that person he was working to be and atone for the disruption that he was part of.

I know that most defendants want to argue that they are different from everyone else, but Noah Bacon actually is different from most people and that has not always helped him out! All that I ask is that you genuinely look to see Noah in the courtroom and not just another January 6th defendant and do what you feel is true justice in this case.

Sincerely,

Robert C. Perkins