

EXHIBIT J

October 26, 2022

Luke Lints #22-cr-259-TNM

Your Honor Trevor N. McFadden,

I am Ronald Hale writing in reference to Luke Lints who is a friend of mine. I first met Luke at Redeeming Grace which is a church. He volunteered to help run the sound for the church on that Sunday. I was introduced to him by another friend Austin Fletcher. I have known Luke for the last five years and have moved away from Michigan last year so I communicate by phone and facebook messenger at this time. At the time I met Luke he was working at a restaurant and was struggling with finances so he was asking for advice as I was a Branch manager for PNC Bank at the time. My wife Kayleen Hale, Austin and myself were helping to mentor him in different areas as he was struggling to find his way through life. Luke is a very sweet person that unfortunately does not have the best support from his parents or the money to help himself. Both of his parents have struggled to find their footing and it is amazing that Luke has been able to accomplish what he has without strong parents along with his learning disabilities. Luke really likes to try to learn new things and is easily excited but I found myself repeating foundations of setting a budget which should have made sense within a few conversations. He was truly interested and asked great questions in our conversations about how to handle money every time I saw him but I found a lot of the same questions were coming up. I was able to talk to my wife and Austin to confirm this was happening in their conversations as well. Through Lukes actions I saw that all he wants to do is fit in and help others around him. Unfortunately in my opinion due to his parents and learning disability he is unable to fit in and rely on the ones around him for direction. When I was able to spend time with Luke he made great life changes! He went from struggling from paycheck to paycheck to finding a career he loves and saved money to buy a car. I remember when he called me to tell me he had saved up \$500 in a savings account. He was very happy to take the first step in handling money better. That \$500 ended up going towards that first car! He would call me with every update as he was looking for acceptance and congratulations. As far as how I know that he loves people, it is easy to see in his day to day life with others. He is the first to pray for others for healing. He also rearranged his schedule to help Austin reroof his house in Michigan. Luke is always offering to help the others around him including the ones that continue to use him for his time and money. I fear that if he does not receive the care he needs and is surrounded with the wrong people he will be led on to a path that is not good for him like what happened on Jan. 6th. Luke has always spoken highly of law enforcement so I was surprised when he commented to grabbing a shield from an officer. He went on to tell me that the reason why he did it was that others were being hurt and he was trying to help them. I could see that in a crowd where he wanted to help and be accepted in the moment he thought it was the right thing to do. Mr. Lints really needs good people around him to support him at this time. With a large crowd of that nature and with the escalation around him he made a choice that was not right, but should not define him as a person or his future!

Thank you so much for your time your Honor Trevor N. McFadden, I look forward to hearing about your fair judgment and being able to help Luke make sure to leave this moment in his history behind him.

Sincerely,

Ronald Hale
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