

# **EXHIBIT J**



Dear Judge Bates

My name is Robert Rolfe. I'm a small town business owner from Central Maine providing home renovation and carpentry services.

I have known and been friends with David Ball for roughly 25 years now or better, from growing up in a small town and going to school with him. I am aware that he has been convicted of Parading, demonstrating, or picketing in a capital building, in violation of 40 U.S.C § 501(e)(2)(g). I believe whole heartedly that he never intended to break the law. He's never been a confrontational person or violent in any way. Every time we get together he greets strangers in public with compliments , from gas station attendants, waiters or waitresses, and everyone else in between. He has a way to put a smile on someone's face that he doesn't even know and I believe that encounter changes the day if not more of who ever it is.

David Ball is the kind of person we should all strive to be. I was a call firefighter from 2012 until January of 2021 and I have seen some questionable people between fire calls, medical calls and motor vehicle accidents that just don't care. These questionable people only care about themselves and not others. David Ball on the other hand with offer what he can to help anyone. For instance it wasn't to long ago my wife and I were looking for a vehicle to help transport our children to school, sports friends houses and family time, our vehicle broke down beyond repair and was trying to get a vehicle on my own. Since I never used my credit since 2014 or so I didn't have anything a bank would look at besides job history, I couldn't even get a loan with a co-signer. David caught wind of this and loaned me a small out of money out of his pocket to get a used vehicle. He didn't question anything except why didn't you come to me. I know I'm not the only one he has helped. I met a man last year that was recovering from addiction. He was in a pretty bad place and honestly could have died anytime from using. David help clean him up, and offered him a job. This man still works for him and is on a successful path because David gave him a change and didn't give up on him even when some of those time were rough.

I know David has always been a hard working person, he worked with his dad helping him with his moving company loading and unloading furniture. Not long after he graduated he started his own business venture starting Broken Glass company. He ended up employing his father as the moving company to its toll on his body and wasn't able to do the physically demanding work anymore. David's business took off and has and still is expanding exponentially because he puts the same love and effort into his business as he does with his family, friends, community and strangers. He has made many more friends in Southern Maine because of his personality and reputation of being a great man. I actually wouldn't be where I am today with my own business if it wasn't for his words of encouragement. I was flustered with corporations when asking for a raise or time off and it came down to tenure and not the work I was putting in. David knew I was unhappy during our conversations and when I mentioned doing my renovations he was fully in with his support.

I know for a fact that David never would have been at the Capital if he had known it was illegal to be on the grounds that day, as I mentioned he has no violent bone in his body and is not confrontational at all. He has the upmost respect for law, law enforcement and all other first responders. I know he has accepted that he broke the law and puts fault on nobody but himself. I also know he is scared. He has never been in a situation like this before. He is scared that the people (valued friends, coworkers and the general public) will look at him in a different fashion. He is afraid he will miss out on what is most important (His Family). I know David wants to be there for all of the "first" of his most recent son. He is a very proud father and family man. I know David feels huge regrets and remorse for his actions. Through our phone calls he said he's had sleepless nights during the entire process, he has felt disgusted with himself and how sorry he was. I know this is something that if he had the opportunity to go back in time and change he could, I can say looking to the future he is no threat of detrimental behavior or breaking laws in the future. He has worked hard to become who he is today (Father, Husband, valued friend and business owner) helping his community and others, He never wants to be in this kind of situation again.

Sincerely,

Robert Rolfe

Valued friend of David Ball