

Ronald Price, #108926
330 Bradford Street
Redwood City, CA 94063

The Honorable Jerry Brown
Governor of California
State Capitol, Suite 1173
Sacramento, CA 95814

November 13, 2017

Re: Joseph Hunt Commutation

Dear Governor Brown,

I, Ronald Price, submit this letter in support of Joseph Hunt's application for commutation of his sentence. I am currently housed at a San Mateo County jail where I first met Joseph Hunt in 1988. We were later housed together at New Folsom State Prison and we have remained good friends for the past 29 years.

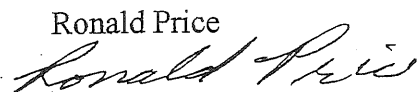
In 1991 a jury convicted me for a murder that I did not commit. Then, in the year 2010, Mr. Hunt prepared an appeal for me to file on the grounds of actual innocence. That appeal, prepared by Mr. Hunt, is the reason I have been transferred from state prison back to the county jail to await a court decision on whether to grant me a new trial or possibly release me from custody.

In addition to preparing my court papers, Mr. Hunt also taught me how to read and understand the law. He showed me how to research case law and more. For the 29 years I have known Joseph Hunt he has always been the kind of person willing to help others. While we were housed at New Folsom, Mr. Hunt invited me to attend his self help program that provided inmates insight into their own criminal behavior and how to change such behavior.

For the many years I have known and been in the presence of Mr. Hunt, I have never seen him disrespect another person, swear, or use an act of violence towards another person. The public will have no fear of Mr. Hunt if he is released from prison. I pray for him, I pray for you, the hearings board members, and the district attorney, that you will all find it suitable to grant Mr. Hunt's request for commutation.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Ronald Price


To: The Honorable Governor Jerry Brown
 Governor of California
 State Capitol, Sacramento, Ca 95814

Governor,

My name is Jeffery D. Percell, I am currently serving Life Without Parole at Sierra Conservation Center, at Fonestown. I take full responsibility for my crime which took place in 1988.

I am writing this letter on behalf of Joe Hunt; D-618 who is seeking a commutation of his sentence from you. I have known Mr Hunt for over two decades. I served with Joe as one of three primary clerks in the C-Facility Chapel at CSP-Sacramento from 2002-2010.

Mr Hunt always distinguished himself through hard work, initiative and loyalty to institutional goals expressed through Chapel programs. He was very instrumental in reducing the incidence of violence in the population, while channeling energies toward spiritual goals and reintegration with society.

Mr Hunt is always empathetic towards all inmates and staff regardless of their beliefs or lifestyles. He was a driving force for me to become involved in positive programming.

For these and many more I feel Mr Hunt is
suitable for parole. I would encourage you
to consider this case in a positive manner for
the State of California, as well as all the people
whom I know for can touch.

Sincerely

Jeff Perrell H-84652

Sierra Conservation Center

5150 O'Byrnes Ferry Rd

Yamontown, Ca 95327

1/9/18

Dear Honorable Governor Brown:

My name is Brad Proulx, I am writing this letter in support of my friend, Joe Hunt, who I understand is filing an application for Commutation.

I know very little about the Commutation process, but I do know the incredible character of Mr Hunt.

In 1998 both of our wives visited us at New Folsom, Bravo Ward. As we became close friends I was often caught off guard, due largely to his kind nature and willingness to help the less fortunate inmates in their struggles.

We were both deeply involved in a "Mens Support Group", called "The Warriors". We met every week, and the "Heated Racial Issues" of the time never invaded our safe space. Thanks to Joe's articulate facilitation skills and his determination to achieve peace & harmony in every part of his life, that group blossomed into an unprecedented success at one of the worst prisons in the state. Every one of us knew something magical from our Accountability plea

When I sadly left that location, Joe & I promised to remain close friends.

In 2013 when our paths crossed again, I was suffering from some mental health challenges. In less than a week I had a modicum of my old optimism restored, and the personal growth in our heartwarming one-on-one conversations were healing. Mr Hunt has a charming disposition, I admit, but he openly goes to anyone in need, without prejudice.

Everyone who meets Joe quickly realizes he has a spiritual peace about him. After 20 wonderfully blessed years of friendship, I marvel at the integrity and integrity of his honest existence. I strive to be better because of him.

"I am currently participating in Delaney Street Program" a Solano State Prison, and I fully understand your personal commitment to Rehabilitation.

If Joe Hunt were to be considered for commutation consideration, he would not disappoint you. I would honestly give up my own parole opportunities for his.

I do not say those words lightly; I believe Joe Hunt has already saved me from dying alone in a prison cell. It is because of him I now help young men in Delancy Program that still have a chance.

So I will reiterate. I would Love for you to Look intelligently at this mans case File, and see the Man I know + Love! My Friend is unique and worthy!

Thank You for your patience

Respectfully

Brad Proulx G-43887

P O Box 4000 / A1

Vacaville CA 95696

November 29, 2017

To Whom it may concern:

I am writing this memorial in regards to Joseph Hunt, who I first met in 1998. When Joe came into my life I was a spiritual wreck. Overwhelmed with guilt and remorse for my own actions, I struggled for reasons to live.

When Joe and I became cell mates I saw right away his devotion to spiritual matters. Every morning and evening, and often during the day, Joe would do his "pranayamas" and then meditate. As Joe got to know me and my struggles, he offered assistance for my troubled soul. Considering myself an atheist, I was reluctant and felt I would be a hypocrite to accept such succor. However, Joe was persuasive, and I expanded my thinking to consider spiritual aspects of human existence. I read some spiritual books he provided and began meditating.

I remember well Joe telling me to expect tangible results from meditation and spiritual practices, because the laws governing the spirit are just as real and consistent as the laws governing the physical universe. With Joe's assurance, I faced my darkest fears in meditation, and was not answered with the silence I had expected. Instead I was lifted, and had revealed my connection to the Divine. I was spiritually reborn. Through Joe's love and caring, he did not just save my life, he saved my soul. Joe once asked me if I had the power to exert any control over the past. I said no. He replied that it would be a cruel God that held you responsible for things over which you have no control.

Over the years I have witnessed Joe similarly help many other people. He cares about people and has a sense of duty to assist where God has given him the ability and talent to do so. He has assisted numerous people obtain needed medical care by helping them navigate the red tape of the bureaucratic process. He has steered people from the violence so common in prison, and I have personally witnessed him use the political capital gained from such goodwill to forestall two imminent riots between groups of prisoners.

I want to end this memorial with the story of a fellow prisoner. This man came back from medical with the news that he had a malignant, cancerous tumor in his brain. It was growing on the optical nerve of his left eye. He was experiencing severe headaches and vision loss. It didn't take long before he was blind in his left eye and losing sight in his right. The doctors told him that given the location of the tumor, there was essentially nothing that could be done. This man expected to die within six months.

I was there when Joe gave this man hope. Joe taught him meditation and breathing exercises, and told him that by strengthening his life force in the vibration of God, he would defeat the cancer. I could see that he wanted to believe it, but was naturally skeptical. When he asked Joe if he really believed he could beat the cancer, Joe looked him in the eye and stated "Yes" with such assurance and power that even I was startled.

So, this man began practicing the breathing and meditation exercises for hours every day. His headaches lessened and his vision began improving. When he came back from medical the next time, the doctor was astonished at his blood-oxygen levels and said the cancer had stopped growing, and actually receded some. After some more weeks of faithfully practicing the breathing and meditation exercises, the cancer was in full remission and the doctor said they could now operate. It was a miracle.

I have known Joe for 19 years. His belief in the Divine and righteous spiritual action is real. He came to this path in County jail, shortly after his arrest. His journey since has been marked by joy, empathy, and goodwill. Joe is my friend, and my brother. He saved my life, and rescued my soul.



Alan E. Adams, H-86005

Twice Forgiven

The story you're about to read is about a friend of mine - a wonderful friend; a person who enjoys helping others and loves people in general. His advice and guidance has nurtured me into a decent human being. His advice: "Never to hurt anyone, or consciously do anything that you feel is wrong."

As a child, Al didn't have many friends; he was shy, quiet, and reserved, not capable of approaching other kids and asking for their friendship...which he desperately wanted.

For his lack of social skills, he made it up by pouring all his time and energy into schoolwork.

Any problem that his teacher presented was quickly solved with ease. School was easy and learning seemed to come naturally.

At the age of twelve, Al had a job. He decided to work at an early age so he could help his mom meet some of her financial burden. He was poor by other's standards, wearing used clothes that were often the wrong size, funny-looking and badly out of style; but never once did he complain or feel sorry for himself. His mom had to work long hours, and as child he spent most of his time with a babysitter or alone. He knew that his mom was doing her best to provide for him and he was thankful for her love.

Attending school as a child, he didn't notice when the other kids stared or looked at him for the way he dressed. When he got to Junior High he realized that other kids in there had nice clothes and were making him the butt of jokes for his shabby attire.

In High School he wasn't popular and still didn't have many friends. His focus was to get all A's, and hopefully be accepted to the Air Force Academy. First he needed a letter of recommendation from a congressperson, which he had lined up through the help of his boss.

Getting all A's he thought would be the easiest part. But one of his English teachers would not give him an A no matter how much effort he put into his essays. The teacher never explained what he did wrong or how he could improve his grade. Even so, he made continuous effort to perfect his essays. Without that A his hope to attend the Air Force Academy was dashed.

After High School he decided to attend a Junior College, hoping that in two years he could transfer to a university. After a year of community college, he prepared to transfer to a university. He went to the school hoping that he could get a scholarship, which would greatly have reduced his financial burden; but after looking at all the scholarships posted on the school bulletin board, he realized that he ^{wasn't} even eligible for nearly any of the scholarships. There were scholarships for sports athletes, for indigent minorities, for women, but not one fitted him...he was a poor white man, and he had nothing coming. He felt it was so unfair. He was poor, but because he had blond hair and blue eyes, the government and everyone else was out to make his and his mom's life harder. The system didn't give him a helping hand.

All his life, he had never made any decision that he later regretted; but this time he was desperate and didn't care.

He decided the only way to get into a good school was to have some money. He needed five thousand dollars to pay for his books and school fees, and the rest of the money he needed for school would come from hard work.

He picked his victims at random; he saw two people coming out of their car and he approached them, demanding money. After he got the money, Al decided that he couldn't leave any witnesses, so he fatally shot them: for a couple of hundred dollars.

That night the news had a description of the suspect and the crime he had committed. His mom with sad, teary eyes, turned to him and said, "I will always love you."

Later, when he was arrested, Al pleaded guilty, not wanting his mom to go through a long trial, and to hear the details of what he had done. He took a deal for Life Without Parole.

In prison, he spent most of his time alone, his shyness still having a strong hold on him. He came upon a book by Ayn Rand, Atlas Shrugged; for the first time he realized there was difference between right and wrong, and that he was in the wrong. The pain of that realization cut deep, and he swore to never hurt anyone again, to never knowingly be in the wrong again.

Al found a best friend in his cellie, Joe. Joe became his mentor and encouraged him to give God a try. But Al was for years firm on his belief that there was no God.

On April 19, 2001, we attended a four day training which was supposed to help us explore our inner emotions. People from all parts of the country came to help us reflect on the pain and sadness that we had been previously taught to hide.

Al wasn't sure what he was looking for, or what he had to do. He just knew that he had to give this process a chance. He stepped into the middle of the circle, surrounded by other men. The first twenty minutes or so we didn't know what to do or what Al needed; but we weren't going to quit on him.

Finally, sitting in the middle of the circle with his eyes closed, his fists started clenching into a ball. He was asked to think of the one thing that made him sad. With his eyes closed, the image of his mother came to him with the same sad, teary eyes, saying "I will always love you."

Tears flowed from his eyes, and his body shook uncontrollably. The image he had blocked out so many years ago had come back. The guilt and shame of what he had done flooded him with remorse. Two lives, twice forgiven.

The one thing he loves more than anything in the world...his mom. He felt that he had let her down and had failed as a son.

He poured out his soul to us, and his feelings came out in teary words. He never told her how sorry he was, and he was afraid that she never understood.

Finally, we asked him to let go of his shame and guilt and start accepting that there was a God, and he forgives. Fearful of looking for God because if nothing is found he would feel alone in the universe, he asked for God to reveal himself. Slowly he began to let go of his fists and felt a tingling sensation from his toes flowing all the way to the top of his head. He requested that we hold him down because he felt that his body was floating.

After that day, Al and I spoke a few times about God and our understanding of what he wants from us. Before his life-changing experience, he would adamantly refuse to believe that there was a God, and with his extreme intelligence I would never have been able to persuade him to consider that there was a God. Now his faith is much stronger than mine.

I don't know if I did an adequate job in telling you Al's story. All I can say is, Al is now an extremely loving, kind and giving human being. His purpose now in life is to help others, and he doesn't care for reward or recognition.

Today, Al is a 29-year-old inmate serving his time at New Folsom Prison. He is still shy and quiet.

Love and prayers
MIKE DOAN

C Joe Hunt, a true friend, has had the most impact on my life.

We met March/88 when neighbors for one year at San Mateo County Jail. I had just got arrested, mostly for gang related crimes: two/2 murders, 7/seven attempted murders, three/3 robberies, two/2 assaults, and cop shooting; needle to say I was spiralling in depression.

Every morning, and sometimes three/3, four/4, or maybe even five/5 times daily, I'd see Joe practicing some form of "yoga" which made me giddy while wondering "what kind of weird stuff is that..." but as the weeks rolled by I saw something in Joe to envy - from head to toe he had clarity and tranquility, it was in his walk, his voice, his interactions.

I figured if I was like Joe I'd be less depressed, so eventually I asked Joe about the yoga stuff and he explained but what stuck profoundly is "it can cultivate a better person."

I had been first in my class as a renown member of the Raymond Crips, and founder of the Tongan Crips. Violence is how I breathed.

The idea of becoming a different/better person appealed my better half, so like a shy kid, I practiced in secret: I'd lie on my back and practice savasana by concentrating on drawing/moving energy from toes, inch by inch, to top of head, to crown of head, wow! Something that simple had begun the process of kick-starting my brain which, among other things, allowed me to realize that I'm better than I've shown.

Yoga changed my life forever.

I paroled ten/10 years later and altho I could have held the reins of two/2 gangs, my heart wasn't in it, I hadn't had the slightest interest. Peers/friends, and even family, was stunned by the new person I'd become.

C Altho I returned a year later with a three-strike sentence that had nothing to do with violence, the things I learned from Joe have stuck and served well - my bones are cleansed of ugliness, and when I get out this time, I will give back by counselling gang members, drug users, etc

Joe's effect on me did not end with me; I have changed many with my attitude, rationale, advice. I'm endlessly grateful that Joe saved me when introducing me to yoga and encouraging me to tap into compartments within that I hadn't known existed.

Yoga is champ! and no practitioner can/will lose!!

This is my second/2d time getting lucky to see Joe since our trial days.

As we prisoners know, prison is a small world and everywhere I go prisoners speak kindly of Joe.

I've done some bad things, but Joe told me, "Moala, we can't do anything about our pass, but we decide how to live from this day forward."

I pray this letter helps Joe because this is not his environment, he's not the kind of person who needs to be here - the state mustn't continue to cage a beautiful soul.

Sincerely, Moala Tofavaha Ngane 014046

November 24/2017

To whom it may concern,

11.23.2017

My name is Twan Doon, and I hope that you would allow me to take a moment of your time to share with you about Mr. Joe Hunt.

I have known Mr. Joe for over 19 years now. During that time he has helped me tremendously; transforming me from a truculent, prideful, ignorant young man to a humble, appreciative, responsible person. I know for sure that if it wasn't for Mr. Joe, I would continue down a spiral path of negative behavior, but ~~due~~ because of his encouragement and mentorship. I was able to turn my life around, and has gained so much insight about myself, and what I need to do to become a better human being. I am now enrolled in college, and has already am a certified C.S.S (Counselor Support, Specialist), I am also a ~~certified~~ ~~member~~ member of the N.C.E.E (National Coalition of Clean, Energy, and Resource). I am also on my way to becoming a fiber optic technician. I am also working on multiple Associate of Arts degrees. I ~~also~~ also hope to further my education and earn my Bachelor degree in Social and Behavior Science. I hope to become a counselor and mentor trouble youth, just like Mr. Joe had mentor me and turned my life around, and gave me a second chance of life.

I have learned through Mr. Joe that

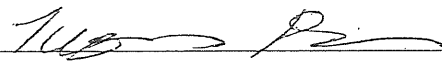
I cannot go back and change the past,
but I would start today and make a
new beginning.

He also brought me closer to Christ (and),
by signing and encouraging me to go to
church.

I can say with confidence that if Mr.
Joe was to be released, he would be an
asset to his community.

Thank you so much for your time.

Sincerely,
Tuan Poan



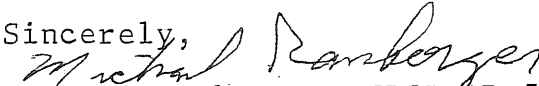
November 9, 2017

Dear Governor Jerry Brown,

My name is Michael Rambrger, and I have been the "poster boy" for recidivism, at least until recently. I crossed paths with Joe Hunt early in 2014, but until the summer of 2015 only knew him as "voice of reason amidst a sea of chaos." I don't know if he saw something in me, or merely picked me out of the blue, but he helped me to acquire a clerk's position in the law library where he also worked. I don't really know how to describe Joe. He's this calm, centered, individual, who helps you find within yourself a desire to be more. For me, his influence encouraged me to go from taking only 2 classes a semester, to taking a full load. It was nothing he said directly; it was just a realization that I could do more. Needless to say I graduated with honors, earning 4 degrees in 3 years.

Joe has developed a refined strength of character since his incarceration. I see in him a quality of concern, caring -- I don't know exactly how to describe it, but he finds people who honestly have had enough of the "merry-go-round" of prison life, and then goes out of his way to encourage them. I know him as the guy who will help you better your life. He somehow remains above the politics of prison life without upsetting the "powers-that-be." I have watched him devote time to helping numerous others, free of charge, even though his time is well worth compensation. He's an enigma, though a refreshing one.

In closing, one thing I feel privileged to say is I consider him a friend and even a mentor, I just wish I would have met him when I was younger.

Sincerely,

Michael Rambrger, CDCR AR-5050.
Pleasant Valley State Prison
P.O. Box 8500
Coalinga, CA. 93210*

* I expect to parole in January, 2018.

Angel Lazcano.
I.S.P. C2-121 #J-53667.
P.O. Box, 2199.
Blythe, CA. 92226-2199.

January 16, 2018.

The Honorable Governor Jerry Brown.
Governor of California, State Capital,
Sacramento, CA. 95814.

Honorable Governor Jerry Brown.

My name is, Angel Lazcano. And have been in prison since 1995, with a sentence of 63 years to life on four counts of second degree murder (DUI). I started my prison time at New Folsom Prison, and that's where I met Mr. Joseph Hunt, because we both were attending chapel services on a regular basis and we became good friends, because we used to participated on different things regarding the chapel services.

And as a cause of my (DUI) crime, I ended up with seriously bodily injured with burns on about 95% of my body (second and third degree burns) and some how Mr. Joseph Hunt knew that I was having problems with medical issues and he offered to helped me and he did, thanks to God which was of a real great help, because my english at that time was very limited and not only that, he also helped me with an appeal to get the right medical

treatment that the prison medic's was denying me at that time, so I do have a lot to thank for to Mr. Joseph Hunt.

And one thing that I'd noticed about Mr. Joseph Hunt was that he wasn't just helping me, but he was also helping other people as well, so he made a great impact on my life, because he taught me the great value of helping others and to be of assistance to the people in general. And that's why I do believe that he would be a good candidate for parole, because if he made a great and positive impact on my life by his example, I do imagine the great impact he could be for the youth on the streets by sharing with them his painful prison experience, now that these young people are starting to live their young criminal lifestyle, they can learn something positive from Mr. Joseph Hunt's experience and they don't have to go through the same experience as Mr. Joseph Hunt.

With all due respect, that is my humbly and sincere opinion about my good friend Mr. Joseph Hunt.

Sincerely,

A. Lazcano.

Angel Lazcano.

Vincent C. Bruce, #J84086
Kern Valley State Prison (B3-205)
P.O. Box 5102
Delano, CA 93216

The Honorable Governor Jerry Brown
Governor of California
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

January 23, 2018

Re: Application For Commutation Of Sentence By Joseph Hunt

Dear Governor Brown,

There are two people who had the most positive impact on my life. The first one is my mother, the second one is Joe Hunt.

I am a 55 year old afrikan-american prisoner serving a term of Life Without The Possibility of Parole for three counts of murder. I have been incarcerated for over thirty years. I met Joe back in 1994 at a critical juncture in my life. I had just been convicted of 3 counts of murder and was facing the death penalty when Joe entered my life bringing his spiritual and philosophical values. Values, that for the first time, I could relate to. At this point in my life, violence had become second nature to me. I had grown up gang-banging in the crime-ridden Oakwood area of Venice California, and had spent all my life from the age of fifteen up in one institution or another, except for a combined total of 12 months.

I stopped believing in the existence of God when I was 18 and saw how my good, Chritian mother suffered hardship after hardship, as she sank further and further into the clutches of mental illness, losing custody of her kids. What kind of God, I often said, would allow bad things to happen to good people, and good things to bad people? What kind of God would allow stray bullets to find their way into innocent babies, and allow his nuns to be raped in a third-world country by savage henchmen of a dictator? No kind of God was the easy answer.

As a career criminal, I was one of those people who did bad things to good people, and fired bullets the could have easily found themselves imbedded in innocent babes.. No minister, no religious person could satisfactorily explain these inequities until I began discussing these matters with Joe. Joe intorduced me to the principles of karma, shared his spiritual books with me like The Autobiography of A Yogi. Soon, like a few others in Joe's vicinty, I found myself meditating, practicing what yoga I could in my tiny cell. He continued to pass books to me ...Chicken Soup For The Prisoner's Soul...We Are All Doing Time by Bo Lozoff.

Joe never criticized me or other persons, but would calmly offer advice when asked

and get me to question my use of violence...my addiction to criminal thinking. Up to that point in my life I had at least 5 jail or prison related stabbings. And mostly all had been for some perceived form of disrespect.

One day some dude cussed me out and I was about to stab him the next day. Then comes a short note from Joe who I had not shared my intention with. He simply said, "You have a choice to make. Do you continue on responding to situations with violence or do you reclaim your humanity?" After pondering his words for half the night, I chose to reclaim my humanity. I am proud to say since meeting Joe I have not chose to come out of my cell and stab anyone again.

Joe will be a positive and productive citizen of society. And while my opinion may not be of much value. I encourage you to seriously consider commuting his sentence.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'V. C. Bruce', is written over a horizontal line.

Vincent C. Bruce

The Honorable Governor Jerry Brown
State Capitol
1315 10th Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Brown:

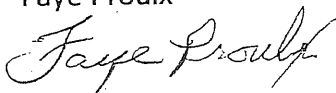
I am writing this letter on behalf of Joe Hunt-D61863, an inmate at California Health Care Facility-Stockton. I understand he is filing an application for commutation.

My name is Faye Proulx. My son is Bradley Proulx-G43887, currently at CSP Solano, participating in the Delancy Program. Brad and Joe have known each other and been friends a number of years, most recently at Pleasant Valley State Prison.

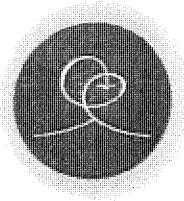
I met Joe during a visit at PVSP and learned of his many good deeds through the years. He advised and continued to encouraged Brad on numerous occasions. More than once Joe took the time to contact our family when Brad was unable to call. Joe was very helpful as he assisted Brad during Brad's appeal process. Brad told of many instances when Joe spent long and late hours reading inmate's documents, assisting them with their appeals. As I have communicated with former cellmates of Brad's, there has never been anything but positive comments regarding Joe, his demeanor, his attitude, his helpfulness and support.

Based on what I know of Joe, he's not had any infractions during the almost 30 years he's been incarcerated. From what I hear from Brad, Joe doesn't create problems but is more inclined to look for solutions. From what I know, Joe appears to be rehabilitated. He would have excellent family support if he were to be paroled. I can't imagine Joe being a threat to a community if he were released. He could be an asset in a number of ways.

Sincerely and respectfully,
Faye Proulx



751 Vinca Ct.
Gilroy, CA 95020



Ananda

CHURCH OF SELF-REALIZATION of Nevada County

Dec. 29, 2017

Dear Governor Brown:

We are writing to request your help in the commutation of the prison sentence of Joe Hunt. Allow us to introduce ourselves and to share something of our relationship with Joe.

For the past fifty years, we have been founding members of Ananda Church of Self-Realization, and currently serve as Spiritual Directors worldwide. In this capacity, we travel globally to share the teachings of Paramhansa Yogananda. At the present time Ananda has nine communities, 143 meditation groups, 140,000 members, and has taught an estimated 500,000 people to meditate.

On November 17, 2017, Ananda was honored at the United Nations in New York by the Institute of International Social Development, an NGO in special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations. We were given the "Global Ambassador of Peace Award" as "Emissaries of Paramhansa Yogananda and Spiritual Directors of Ananda Sangha Worldwide."

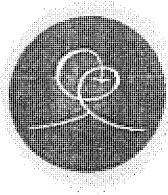
We met Joe approximately thirty years ago when he wrote Ananda requesting help in learning more about the teachings of Paramhansa Yogananda. Since that time, many of Ananda's ministers have visited him, offering training in yoga philosophy and meditation.

Personally we, too, have had the privilege of visiting him over the years in Folsom Maximum Security Prison and Pleasant Valley State Prison, and will soon be visiting him at the Stockton California Healthcare Facility, where he was recently transferred. We say "privilege," because in the many years we have known him, we have observed in Joe the rare ability to remain positive, caring, and uplifted despite the tremendous challenges of his many years in prison. From the very beginning, Joe has always maintained that he is innocent of the charges against him.

While he's been incarcerated, Joe has used his free time to acquire legal training, and has been able to write legal appeals that have resulted in the release of over a dozen inmates. He also practices meditation daily, which has given him the ability to be a force for peace and a model prisoner despite the tension of the prison environment. His release would represent no threat to society; on the contrary, he would be a contributive force to help others.

Joe remains one of the most impressive people we have met, and deserves a life of freedom at this time. Though only some of Ananda's ministers have been able to visit him, the strength of his spirit under adversity has inspired our members to embrace Joe as part of Ananda.

Having a background in financial investments before entering prison, Joe recently advised his devoted sister and brother-in-law in investing, which led to a one million dollar donation to Ananda's new temple under construction. If you decide to sign the commutation of his sentence, his sister and brother-in-law, Katherine and Michael Olivier, have already formed a corporation which will employ Joe as a financial advisor and pay him a salary.



Ananda

CHURCH OF SELF-REALIZATION of Nevada County

Governor Brown, we have followed your political career over the years, and are deeply impressed by your spirit of service to humanity and the environment, and by the fairness and truth that are reflected in your decisions. With great earnestness, we ask you to allow Joe Hunt to have a life of freedom. He has earned it and deeply deserves it.

Sincerely yours,

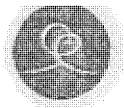
Nayaswami Jyotish (John Novak)

Nayaswami Jyotish (John Novak)

Nayaswami Devi (Phyllis Novak)

Nayaswami Devi (Phyllis Novak)

Spiritual Directors of Ananda Church of Self-Realization, Ananda Sangha Worldwide



Ananda

A place of awakening

Ananda Sangha, 2171 El Camino Real, Palo Alto, CA 94306
(650) 323-3363 • inform@anandapaloalto.org • www.AnandaPaloAlto.org

December 14, 2017

To: Governor Jerry Brown

Re: Commutation of Prison Sentence for Joseph Hunt D61863

Dear Sir:

I first met Joe Hunt in 1988. I am the director of the Ananda Church of Self-Realization of Palo Alto. On the authorized list of books that his mother could send to him in prison was *Autobiography of a Yogi* by Paramhansa Yogananda. This book, and Yogananda himself, are the inspiring force behind Ananda.

In that book, the author describes a powerful technique of meditation called *Kriya*. This is an advanced method which requires some training before initiation is offered. Joe was incarcerated at that time in the San Mateo County jail. He found Ananda and telephoned, asking if someone could teach him *Kriya*.

Soon after, I and my co-director, David Prayer, went to the jail to visit Joe. That was the beginning of a friendship that has continued to the present day.

At the beginning, we did not know — or care — whether Joe Hunt was guilty or innocent. Nor was his character, for good or ill, the issue. He was clearly in trouble and, as clergy, it was our God-given responsibility to help him in any way that we could.

Kriya meditation would not only ease the stress of prison life, it could also, in itself, gradually reform his character insofar as that was needed. *Kriya* could make a bad man into a good one, and a good man into an ideal person.

In these nearly 30 years since, I have visited Joe often — first at San Mateo jail, then at Folsom, more recently at Pleasant Valley, and, soon, at his present location in Stockton. In addition to personal visits, I have exchanged countless letters with Joe, and spent many hours talking to him on the phone.

I have introduced him to many others at Ananda, who have also been his friends and supporters all these decades.

In addition to my responsibilities for Ananda in Palo Alto, I have published three books. I travel and lecture all around the world. My website is www.ashajoy.com. My YouTube channel — *Inner Life with Asha Nayaswami* — has over 5000 subscribers, and thousands more regularly tune in. All my lectures are recorded and posted. At present there are more than 700, and, since I am actively teaching, the number increases every week.

In this very active life, I have met 1000s of people from many countries. I have rarely met a soul so dedicated to self-improvement and so loyal to his spiritual practices as Joe Hunt has been from our first meeting until this day.

From sitting through his second trial, and carefully studying *all* his legal papers since, I am convinced that he is not guilty of the crime for which he was convicted, and, furthermore, his case is the definition of *miscarriage of justice* in terms of the abuse heaped upon him by the legal system.

Nonetheless, when he was first imprisoned, he did not have a clear moral compass. Reading *Autobiography of a Yogi*, and the enormous study and practice of spiritual principles and techniques since that time, have given him an unshakeable commitment to truth and honor.

Prison life is far from easy. The opportunities to violate a high moral code are ubiquitous. I have been profoundly impressed by Joe's ability to hold to his principles — no matter what. Regular practice of meditation is difficult for those who have complete control over their environment. Joe has no control whatsoever. Conditions for meditation could not be less congenial than they are in prison — crowded, deafening noise, competing televisions, no privacy.

Yet, from the time of his first contact with Ananda, through several initiations carried out despite prison conditions, either in person or on the phone, he has *never* failed in his commitment to twice daily practice of Kriya meditation, plus additional daily practices, and serious study of countless spiritual books, which I and others from Ananda have provided for him, and discussed with him during our many visits and phone calls.

There are few people in *any* circumstance that have such an exemplary record of spiritual living. That Joe has accomplished all he has, spiritually, speaks volumes about the integrity of his character and his commitment to right living.

His situation could easily have made him angry and bitter. His response has been just the opposite, courageously making the best of the circumstances in which he finds himself, trusting to a Higher Power that all is in order for his ultimate well-being.

Ananda is a worldwide organization with perhaps 50,000 active members; a total of 1000 living full time in nine spiritual communities in the U.S.A., Europe, and India. Even though we are large and dispersed, because of the ease of global communication, Joe is known to virtually all of those members.

They have prayed for him, received with gratitude his many communications, and the fruits of his creative work. Even from prison, he has helped raised nearly a million dollars which he dedicated to the building of a temple at the main Ananda community.

Joe will find friends and supporters, and a home in any one of those communities. Given what we know of his character, tried and proven over these many years, I am *certain* he will be an upstanding, contributing member of Ananda, and, through Ananda, serve as an inspiration, and perhaps, in time, even a guiding light to countless others.

He has spent virtually all of his adult life in prison. Insofar as rehabilitation was ever necessary, he has gone farther toward remaking his life in an image of righteousness than most men could ever claim, in or out of prison.

If anyone deserves a chance at "life outside," it is Joseph Hunt. I plead with you to commute his sentence and give him that opportunity.

If personal testimony is needed, please allow me the privilege of speaking on his behalf.

Sincerely,


Asha Nayaswami

email: asha@anandapaloalto.org

cell phone: 650.933.8028

December 21, 2017

Dear Honorable Governor Brown,

I am writing to you about Joe Hunt and the very unfortunate and unfair situation he has been facing for decades. I implore you to use your lifelong commitment to truth and honor to commute his sentence.

I have been a senior minister for the past 30 years at the Ananda Church in Palo Alto. My entire life, even before entering the ministry, has been one of serving, leading and guiding people. This includes public school teaching, owning and running a number of small businesses, and being the general manager of six non-profit businesses. Working with people, their aspirations, and their challenges is what my career has been about.

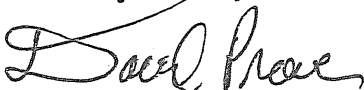
I first met Joe Hunt in 1988 at a Redwood City, California correctional facility. He called me to seek a ministerial visit and to receive some spiritual and religious sustenance. I went to visit him as part of my work to serve those who need support in some way. From that time to the present day, I have been in contact with Joe either through visits at different jails within California, phone calls, or letters. I have gotten to know Joe Hunt very well given the restrictions he has been under.

When I visited Joe for the first time, we spent a lot of time talking about God and spiritual teachings. Not only was he very interested in that topic but was well read and very knowledgeable. I was surprised at how wise he was given the circumstances he was in. It was only later in that conversation that he shared with me why he was in jail.

Two interesting qualities that I observed in this first meeting with Joe are that he had such a pure heart and he never complained. He has reasons to be bitter and lose hope over the difficulties he has faced in trying to bring the truth out in his legal case. Yet, he has remained calm amidst great misunderstanding. These two qualities---a pure heart and never complaining---through decades of imprisonment have never been lost in all my communications with Joe Hunt.

It is time to allow this innocent man to walk free so his immeasurable talents and energy can serve others in a meaningful way. As minister of our Church, he will be given employment with us if that is the direction he wishes to go.

Thank you for your consideration.



David Prayer

Minister

Ananda Church 2171 El Camino Palo Alto, California 94306

SHANTI (SALLY) RUBENSTONE, M.D.
INTERNAL MEDICINE
2570 W. EL CAMINO REAL SUITE 111
MOUNTAIN VIEW, CA 94040
P: 650.947-6716
F: 650.917.1127

TO: Governor Gerry Brown
FROM: Shanti Rubenstone, MD
RE: Joe Hunt, LWOP
Current address: California Healthcare Facility, Stockton

Dear Governor Brown,

My name is Shanti Rubenstone.
I am a Stanford trained physician and a minister, currently living and practicing in Palo Alto.
Please know that I am a well-respected professional woman, serving the Bay Area community in many ways.

I feel strongly about this case with Mr. Hunt, and I would happily ride to Sacramento to talk to anyone about it.

I can only begin to imagine how many letters like this you receive.
I hope you choose to read this one.

I am writing to you about a dear friend of mine, Joe Hunt.
He is currently an inmate at the Ca Healthcare Facility in Stockton, just recently transferred there from Pleasant Valley ... quite the misnomer!
He is serving LWOP. He has been in prison for 32 years ... all of his adult life.

Before I write about Joe I would like to introduce myself.

I am 70 years old and for most of my adult life I have had one of the largest internal medicine practices in the country. Mostly I have worked here in the Bay Area with a five-year hiatus in Baltimore. I practice medicine and I have taught at several universities over the years. I love working with people. I always have. I feel honored and privileged to do the work I do. I 'came in' with a deep intuitive understanding/knowing of what is happening for individuals. I am not psychic, not like that, just intuitive. I know when there is something amiss, and often I know what it is. I connect easily with people on all planes Physical, emotional, and spiritual. Hence my large practice. People feel seen, known, and cared for, and it is true. I do really see them, and I do really care.

I could say more, but I will save that for a follow up if there is to be one.

I will only add that I am a minister and a co-spiritual director of the Ananda Church of Self Realization, a worldwide spiritual community dedicated to helping people transform their lives and *realize* their true potential.

I have known Joe for several years now. Long ago, early on in his 32 years in prison, he asked to be taught our form of meditation called Kriya. Since then he practices hours a day and has taught meditation to many others in the prison. I have met with him personally and counseled him many times in these past several years. He has shown a level of transformation, humility, sincerity and human goodness that is far above most people I know, even outside of prison. Please remember that my whole life has been dedicated to serving people who choose to be well.

He stands out. He is exemplary. Through his own spiritual goodness, he has helped transform his cellmate and many others in prison.

At the risk of sounding like everyone who cares about someone in prison ... he is in for a crime he did not commit. No body or evidence was ever found, and in fact, there were several people ready to testify that they saw the supposedly deceased man long after the trial, but the judge would not hear their testimony.

This and many other issues/debacles are long stories, and I am the last person in this world who should try and speak legalese. BUT, you and I both know that the justice system often serves anything but justice, and is so overwhelmed as a system that there is no time for cases like this to be reviewed as they should be.

And so, an absolutely lovely, very bright, centered, calm, caring, innocent individual has spent his entire adult life behind bars. It is sad and wasteful beyond words. Yet he remains positive, hopeful, and at ease.

I would only like to add that over the years, and in many places WAY worse than where he is now, he had only one small infraction, and that was for having a cell phone. He has never, ever, even once, been in a physical altercation, which is a miracle in and of itself in these places

It speaks to someone's nature that they can live like that under the harshest of circumstances and be well liked and deeply respected by all, prisoners and prison employees alike.

Will you please consider looking into to his case?

If so I can get you any information you'd like to have.

This may sound presumptuous, but it is not. If you are willing to do this you will be glad you did.

It is always good to help good people in need ... something else we both know.

This is one great soul.

Thank you for reading and listening.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Shanti Rubenstone". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid, with a large initial 'S'.

Dr. Shanti Rubenstone, MD

Governor Jerry Brown
Sacramento, California

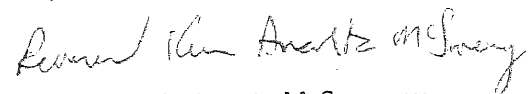
Dear Governor Brown,

I am writing regarding California inmate Joseph Hunt, a man who has served 30 years in prison in our state for a crime that was not committed. In the late 1980's, Ron Levin framed Joseph Hunt for Levin's "murder" and left the country. The State of California charged Joseph Hunt with Levin's "murder" even though there was no body, no weapon, no murder scene. Due to personal problems, Mr Hunt's attorney was experiencing, his defense was so inadequate that Joseph Hunt was convicted in Los Angeles of murdering Ron Levin and sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole.

As Joseph Hunt's friend and minister for 30 years, I have visited him in Folsom Prison, New Folsom Prison, Pleasant Valley Prison in Coalinga and the California Healthcare Facility in Stockton, where he is currently incarcerated. Joseph remains an even minded, positive, kind man, who has sought remedy for his unfair conviction, yet never turned to anger or even self pity. I am frankly amazed at his spiritual strength in the face of this adversity. Joseph is a member of the Ananda Sangha, the church I serve as a minister. Though our teachings encourage such detachment, Joseph Hunt's example of remaining calm and cheerful under such circumstances I find unique in my 36 years of ministerial experience.

I know you to be a highly moral individual and as Governor, you have the power and opportunity to correct this wrong. You have served as the Governor and the Attorney General, you know that our State's justice system makes mistakes, if for no other reason than the sheer volume of individuals involved. Joseph Hunt has been a model prisoner for 30 years. He has spent his time helping other inmates with legal problems, he has taught yoga classes, he has fostered interracial harmony in each prison he has been in. He has never committed a crime either in prison or before he was incarcerated. He is approaching 60 years of age and has been in prison for half his life. You have the power to free him to continue his service to the citizens of California. I fervently urge you to free Joseph Hunt.

Respectfully,



Reverend Kevin Ananta McSweeney

Ananda Church of Self Realization

530-478-7680

Ananta@Anandabell.net

Governor Jerry Brown
Sacramento, California

Dear Governor Brown,

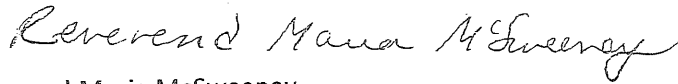
I hope you will be able to change the status of Joseph Hunt's life sentence. He has shown himself to be worthy of civilian life and an individual who can truly contribute to the life we all share.

I have known Joseph Hunt for 28 years and have visited him in prison frequently over this span of time as a friend and minister.

While in prison he has shown himself to be exceptional, using his imprisonment to better himself, develop new skills, work hard with a positive attitude, and demonstrate kindness and compassion to others. It is a joy to be around him.

I feel that if he is given his freedom he will continue to exhibit behavior which is harmonious, creative, cooperative, reliant, and sustainable. He will have no trouble with employment as he is talented, responsible, generous, and wanting to be involved and of service.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Reverend Maria McSweeney". The signature is fluid and elegant, with the first letters of "Reverend" and "McSweeney" being capitalized and prominent.

Reverend Maria McSweeney

Ananda Sangha

N-100, Panchsheel Park, New Delhi-110017

Mobile: +91-9899267898

Website: www.anandaindia.org

E-mail: services@anandaindia.org

Dear Governor Brown,

I am co-spiritual director of Ananda Sangha India based in Delhi, India for the past twelve years. I have been with Ananda Sangha for 40 years serving in America and am a founding member for Ananda in Europe and in India. I also traveled to Nigeria, Zimbabwe and Durban in 1991 as an Ananda teacher as well as in Australia in 1992. I came to India in 2005, speak the local language (Hindi) and have helped to start all the Ananda Centres in India — Bangalore, Chennai, Pune, Mumbai, Gurgaon, Delhi, and other smaller centres.

I have known Jairam over 20 years. When I was in charge of the Ananda Kriya Yoga Meditation department at Ananda Village I was in touch with him through mail and phone calls about his spiritual life, meditation and questions he had. I also visited him in prison during that time.

Jairam is an exceptional person. His intelligence, level of energy, focus and will are rare to find. And his desire to help others is notable. He has raised and donated a million dollars for a new temple at our Ananda Community in Nevada City, California. That's tells a lot about Jairam!

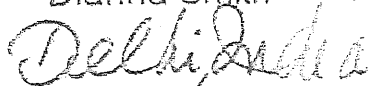
I know his family and feel confident that they will support him if he is released. They have created a corporation — Rajarsi Inc — that will hire and pay him.

I sincerely hope you will consider Jairam's case. If I can be of further assistance please let me know.

Regards,



Dianna Smith



Gita Matlock

From: Rajesh S <rajesshram@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 11, 2017 6:57 AM
To: Gita Matlock
Subject: Jai Guru! Great Spiritual Warriors

Dear Jairam, Michael, Katherine

I was with Joyful tears and was so inspired when I read your letter and watched the video. You are all such wonderful inspiration giving tremendous energy and joy to all.

You are the Spiritual Warrior inspiration for me personally. I'm so glad to have been drawn into this path where I felt home and have know all you great souls. Thank you for guiding and showing us how to live like a real spiritual warriors.

Your letter was such a motivation to raise my energy and direct it towards to help and serve Master and Swamiji's work.

It would be really wonderful if you can share few of your experiences if possible which can help us grow stronger emotionally and stand up to life and its challenges.

Our prayers and thoughts for you dear Jairam, Michael and Katherine.

With Joy Joy Joy,

Rajesh
Ananda Chennai

Gita Matlock

From: Sharmila Barbara Hoffman <sharmilah@comcast.net>
Sent: Thursday, July 06, 2017 10:03 AM
To: Gita Matlock
Subject: Thank you and Master's blessings on you

Dear Jairam,

Your dedication and unceasing efforts, along with Michael and Kasey, to raise this \$1,000,000.00 for the new temple of light, is such an inspiration to us all. You have shown what can be done through joyous devotion and willingness, and dedication to Master's work. Thank you so very much. You are in my prayers, for continued blessings and Master's love and comfort always.

Blessings,
Nayaswami Sharmila
Ananda Palo Alto

Gita Matlock

From: Hanuman Baughman <hanuman.baughman@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 03, 2017 10:24 AM
To: Gita Matlock
Subject: Jai Ram

Dear Jai Ram,

My name is hanuman. My wife Mari and I founded Ananda House at Laurelwood Oregon. It is based on the 12 precepts Swami gave us for evening hospice.

I was so inspired by your story and wish to add our prayers to the many people supporting your release. It is amazing how God comes into our lives.

Please look at our web page anandahouse.org to get a better idea of what we are doing.

Many blessings and thanks for your undying loyalty to God and guru through Ananda. You are an inspiration to so many.

I am blessed to get to know you.

Blessings,

H

Sent from my iPad

Gita Matlock

From: vibha Agrawal <vibha.agrawal9@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 06, 2017 11:11 AM
To: Gita Matlock
Subject: Thankyou for your love and blessings

Dear Jairam,

Jai Guru! Namaste!

I am Vibha from India. I am in touch with you thru the news posted by Ananda.

This is to Thankyou for the divine gift to all who are following the temple as it comes alive. Your gift will help in realising the dreams come true ..

I think of you and pray for you. God has his ways of being with us. He is with you every moment.

You are in my prayers. I also feel with Master's Blessings we will meet and meditate together to celebrate His love and blessings 🌸🌻🌺

Love and unceasing prayers 🌿🌻🌺

Vibha

New Delhi

Gita Matlock

From: Nityananda
Sent: Thursday, July 06, 2017 10:55 AM
To: Gita Matlock
Subject: Jairam

Dear Friend Jairam,

I send our thanks and our blessings for your extraordinary inspiration and your remarkable gift. May you continue to live in God.

In Master's love,

Nayaswami Nityananda
General Manager The Expanding Light Retreat

Gita Matlock

From: Donya Sperry <donya@sacredspaceretreats.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 06, 2017 11:01 AM
To: Gita Matlock
Subject: My Brother Jairam

My Brother Jairam,

I was genuinely touched by the letter read before the congregation. Your Light and Peace Shine through the photograph; regardless of your current situation.

I too was deeply moved by autobiography of a Yogi, and the miracles which lead to my connection with my Beautiful glowing Brother Yogananda and the Ananda village in Northern California.

My prayers will be with you vigilantly, for release Now! And so it is, and so it is.

Your fellow Sister of Light, Love, and Peace,

Donya Lee Sperry

Gita Matlock

From: Maryann B <mzbishop@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 06, 2017 10:39 AM
To: Gita Matlock
Subject: Giving thanks

Dear Gita,

I would like to send thanks to Jairam.

Blessings,
Maryann Bishop

Gita Matlock

From: Lotus Guide <info@lotusguide.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 06, 2017 11:19 AM
To: Gita Matlock
Subject: Rahasya & Dhara from Lotus Guide

Hello Jairam,

My wife and I publish a magazine here in northern CA that focusses on alternative medicine and the spiritual aspect of some of the challenges we face in today's world. So obviously we have a long time association with Ananda & Expanding Light and have published many articles and advertisements with them to help their programs.

I'm sure you will be receiving lots of confirmation for you and your families generosity and all I can say about that is that I know that they are very grateful because it's not only the monetary value of the money itself, they also know the deeper spiritual value of the energy behind the money.

Hopefully your stay there at the facility will eventually end and when it does, in that moment, it will be as if it was a dream. Time is a funny thing but once you realize the unreality of it you can pass through most anything because you know that someday it will end.

Jairam, we live in a world, as you probably are fully aware of, that is upside down, we have people in jail who's only crime was reporting on a crime, I think it was Nietzsche who said "You know you are being ruled by criminals when it's a crime to report a crime." That's just one aspect of things and how we are so far off track. But what I do is to keep in mind that this is all an illusion, lila, a play of conscious minds in the fields of matter and time.

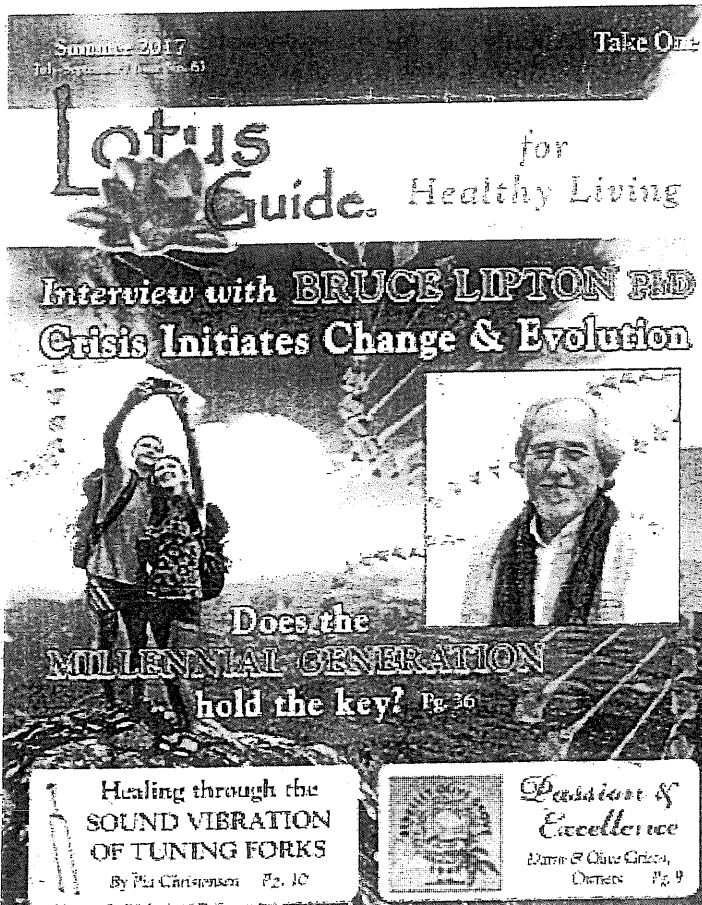
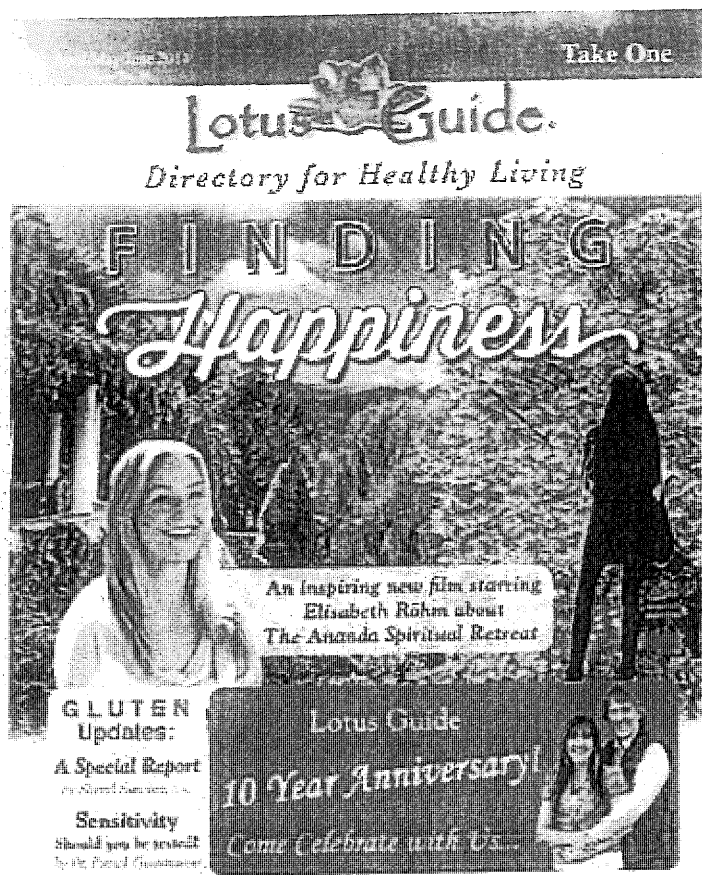
Maybe when you get out we will meet, and maybe we could do an interview. I not only have the magazine, I also do a segment on TV called "Rahasya Uncensored" and a radio show called "Spiritual Activist" (www.BBSradio.com/spiritualactivist) or just sit down a take a deep breath and have a cup of tea or coffee.

You take care of yourself, and remember, "This Too Shall Pass"

Your friend on the other side of that illusionary gate...albeit and consistent illusion

Rahasya

The first cover is one of our past covers for Ananda and the second one is the recent one.



This is one of our past covers for Ananda



Lotus Guide
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We send out a **Community Email** every 1st & 3rd Wednesday of every month
[CLICK HERE](#) to Join and never miss that next great event.

Gita Matlock

From: Dambara Begley <dambarab@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 06, 2017 3:37 PM
To: Gita Matlock
Subject: Jai!

Sweet Jairam,

God bless you, Great Soul, for all you are & do & have done all these years, for so many of Master's kids in need. And now... your expansive gift for the new Temple: what a blessed life! What happy discipleship! :-)

Thank you so much for your inspiring example.

Joy, joy, joy!
Dambara

Gita Matlock

From: Rajesh Kumar <rkjnu@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 09, 2017 10:37 AM
To: Gita Matlock
Subject: Om Guru

Dear Please have faith in God Christ and Guru....
Do recite the famous composition by Swamy Kriyananda...

Lord when in darkness, Lord in confusion Always I 'll fall on Thee If I grieve and Loose my ways , Thou canst aleays
comfort me, All I live for is to love Thee my Beloved Friend Lord when in Darkness.....
Regds

Gita Matlock

From: Josephine <jmblake@paradise.net.nz>
Sent: Friday, July 07, 2017 3:48 PM
To: Gita Matlock
Subject: Message for Jairam

Love, blessings and prayers Jairam from our small but growing Ananda community in New Zealand. Your devotion, inner strength and generosity are powerfully inspirational. We pray for your freedom from behind bars though it seems you are already free.....

Peace x

Gita Matlock

From: Vijay Nagesh <vijay.iyah@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, July 07, 2017 1:54 AM
To: Gita Matlock
Subject: what a noble gesture

Dear Jairam

The lord does test his closet devotee in number of ways....
always will remember this noble gesture and is in away very inspirational for us to follow.

--

Vijay N Iyah

Gita Matlock

From: Vimala <Vimala@auuuuumm.net>
Sent: Thursday, July 06, 2017 6:33 PM
To: Gita Matlock
Subject: A note for Jairam

Namaste Jairam!

Earlier today I heard about the stunning application of your financial acumen--including the phone booth(!)--and I'm still smiling, and offering you a THANK YOU for your generosity. In fact a *HUGE* THANK YOU. Michael, Katherine, Jyotish, and Devi put together a delightful--and fun--video of the presentation of your gift, and after we all took a deep breath, we had a glorious and grateful laugh. Thank you again. I hope you see the video because it will put a smile in your heart! When I lived at Ananda in the late '70s and early '80s --we called it "The Farm," not "The Village," and only a few modest buildings were on bare, sloping hillsides. Through the years that has changed---and now, with your gift, it will become what we all held as possible: **The Temple of Light**. What your generous contribution is going to do is far beyond what most of us can imagine---A Temple, as Master said, for people of all beliefs. And once again I say, THANK YOU, Jairam!

May Master's Grace continue to fill your life,
Vimala Rodgers
aaaauuuuummmmm

Gita Matlock

From: Jayadev <jayadev@ananda.it>
Sent: Thursday, July 06, 2017 9:06 PM
To: Gita Matlock
Subject: for Jairam

Dear Jairam,

May your name come true, right where you are: may God be supremely victorious in your soul, filling you with his divine power, with his joy, with his love, here and now. An easy life is not a victorious life, Master told us, and yours might be difficult, but victorious. God bless you so that your soul will shine ever more.

In divine friendship, Jayadev from Ananda Assisi

Gita Matlock

From: Judith Bellville <ingaltca@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 06, 2017 2:08 PM
To: Gita Matlock
Subject: Thank you

Many thanks for your gracious gift to build the Temple of Light. It will be a blessing and inspiration to many people from many lands that will gather there. May God bless you for your kindness & generosity!

Judith Bellville

Gita Matlock

From: Nancy Schuet <nancy94085@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 06, 2017 12:23 PM
To: Gita Matlock
Subject: Ref Jayram's gift

Dear Jayram

You are an inspiration to us all to do our best for Master. To bring our talents what ever they are to him and lay every thing at his feet.

I feel blessed to know you through Katherine and Michael. I hold both of them in the highest esteem and light.

Im very proud to have them as friends. Blessings to you and I pray that freedom is coming to you soon.

In Master's Light,

Padmini

January 4, 2018

Governor Edmund G. Brown
c/o State Capitol, Suite 1173
Sacramento, CA 95814

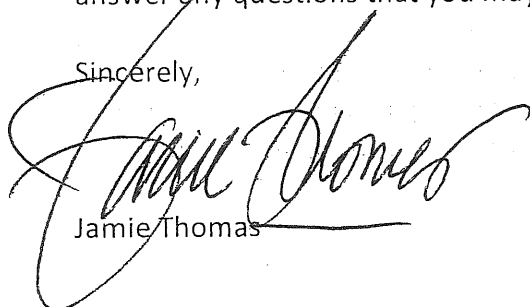
Dear Governor Brown,

My name is Jamie Thomas. I have known Joe Hunt for thirty years, first as his friend, and now having been married to him for eleven years. We have a longstanding friendship and an enduring loving relationship. I grew up in a traditional household with loving parents and my four sisters. My parents were married up until my father passed away in October of 1988. My father was with L.A.P.D. for twenty-four years. Having grown up as a police officer's daughter, it was instilled in me to always do what is right and just. He and Joe spoke often on the phone, and he liked Joe very much. My dad reminded me to be a good friend to him. After all these years, I believe I have been... specifically because he has been deserving of my friendship, love and support.

I have always believed that Joe deserves a second chance, largely because of his good and kind nature and belief in non-violence. He is respectful and has been instrumental in helping others. In all the time that I have known Joe while he has been incarcerated he has never been aggressive, nor has he mentioned breaking the law nor shown any indication that he thinks about or plans to commit any crimes. In fact, just the opposite. He has demonstrated an inclination toward helping people, such as his fellow inmates to better their circumstances by turning their lives around through spiritual and/or religious pursuits, education, healthy choices, life skills, etc. Whenever I visit Joe someone will comment on what a good man he is. This includes a few of the C.O.'s as well as other prisoners. He has a strong moral compass and good family values. Along with me, he also has a loving family of support that includes his sister Katherine, brother-in-law Michael, niece Kelly and fellow members of the Ananda Church who are devoted to him. <https://www.ananda.org>

Rather than being a threat to society, Joe would be an asset. He, to my knowledge, has never harmed, threatened or treated anyone unkindly. He is a strong, ethical person who has worked hard and persevered. Thank you for your consideration. I am happy to answer any questions that you may have.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jamie Thomas', with a large, sweeping flourish extending from the end of the signature.

Jamie Thomas

14618 Tyler Foote Rd, Suite 110
Nevada City, CA 95959
+1 (650) 430-3373
rajjcorp@gmail.com

Rajarsi, Inc.

DECEMBER 31, 2017

To: Governor Jerry Brown

Re: LWOP Prisoner Joe Hunt D61863, at California Healthcare Facility, Stockton

Dear Governor Brown,

I am writing to ask for you to commute the sentence of Joe Hunt.

I am his brother-in-law, and have known him for 23 years. Before retiring two years ago at age 50, I was a Director of Engineering at LinkedIn. Prior to that I held engineering executive positions at a variety of enterprises and start-ups in Silicon Valley for 25 years.

Joe is a highly spiritual person, and led my wife (his sister) Katherine and myself to Ananda Church (a worldwide organization), which has become our spiritual home. Joe does amazing work from within his confines. For example, he has helped many other prisoners to receive a fair legal shake, helped them to get needed health attention, and partnered with my wife and myself to raise \$1 million for Ananda Church. He is an inspiration to thousands of Ananda members worldwide with his story of non-violence, uplifted and positive attitude in the face of injustice, and calm intelligence and energy used for good purposes.

He is a poster child for special relief given the circumstances of his incarceration. He would be free today were it not for procedural law that prohibits any consideration of highly credible eyewitnesses who have seen the supposedly deceased man alive. His original trial was highly corrupted by a private deal between his defense attorney with a conflict of interest and the judge who later turned out to have a brain tumor. These are just two of many extremely unfair aspects of his case.

Many Ananda ministers have visited Joe, and they always report after their visits that *they* have been uplifted by *him*, not the other way around – quite a feat!

Katherine and I have formed a corporation, Rajarsi, Inc., and Joe is already on its payroll. We will happily employ him full-time upon his release.

I know that he can contribute so much more good to society outside than in, and this travesty of justice needs correcting. He has served over 30 years in prison already, and at nearly 60 years old, it is time for him to be out.

Your commuting of so many sentences recently is a courageous, beautiful move. I pray that you will consider this and other letters about him, and allow Joe to be paroled.

If I can provide anything at all to you or your staff, I would welcome the chance.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael Olivier', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Michael Olivier

Vice President & Treasurer

Rajarsi, Inc.

www.linkedin.com/in/michaelo

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Nevada City, CA 95959
+1 (650) 430-3373
rajjcorp@gmail.com

Rajarsi, Inc.

DECEMBER 31, 2017

To: Governor Jerry Brown

Re: LWOP Prisoner Joe Hunt D61863, at California Healthcare Facility, Stockton

Dear Governor Brown,

Please commute Joe Hunt's prison sentence so he may be immediately considered for parole.

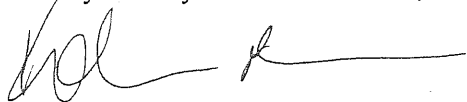
I am Joe's sister. I have supported him the whole time he has been in prison. I know his character better than anyone and I can tell you he is not a problem in the least to society. He has been on his spiritual path since his early days of incarnation. He has practiced non-violence on some of the toughest yards in the state. He has a home, a job, and a community to come to when he is released. My husband and I will support him with whatever he needs.

We moved up to Ananda village after my husband retired from LinkedIn in as an Engineering Director. We owned a house and raised our daughter in the Bay Area. Early in my career I was a sales executive. Then I was a stay-at-home mom. Now I'm the president of Rajarsi, Inc., a corporation we formed for investing our money.

Joe and I had a terrible father who was not a good role model. Joe had some wrong ideas and his behavior was not spiritually correct. Yet he is not guilty of the crime he is serving time for. After he was incarcerated, he found a Guru who he then patterned his life after. He has been meditating and giving his life to God since that time. He is a wonderful, kind person who deserves to get out of prison. I am sure you will see from his file that his character has been exemplary.

It is easy to be a good person when you have it easy, but to help and do good at every turn in the places he has been and with what he has had to endure is the true testament to his character.

Thank you for your consideration,



Katherine Olivier
President

November 24, 2017

Honorable Edmund G. Brown, Jr.
Governor, State of California

**Re application per California Penal Code sections 4800 *et seq.* for
commutation of sentence of Joseph Hunt, California state prison inmate,
Pleasant Valley State Prison, CDC no. D61863.**

Sir:

1. The records available to you show that Mr. Hunt was convicted of murder in Los Angeles County in 1987, the alleged crime having been committed in 1984 when Mr. Hunt was 24 years of age. He was sentenced to life in prison without parole. Thereafter, Mr. Hunt was charged in San Mateo County with a second homicide; he represented himself in a jury trial and achieved first a mistrial and then a dismissal of the charges.

2. I represented Mr. Hunt in San Mateo County, first as attorney of record, then later as first of two advisory counsel. I was appointed to represent him because of the nature of the charges and because of my considerable experience representing persons charged with serious crimes, including at least 15 charged with murder or capital murder. When, however, Mr. Hunt's pretrial proceedings were stayed for an undetermined period I was obliged to leave his case in order to begin work for the San Mateo County District Attorney in charge of civil and criminal prosecutions directed to violations of California's environmental laws. I did that until I retired ten and one-half years later, in 2001.

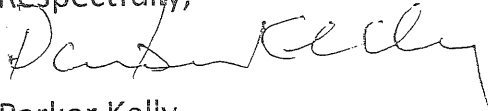
3. In the more than two years that I spent with Mr. Hunt, in court and in the jail, I never saw or knew of him to engage in aggressive, uncooperative, threatening, or otherwise inappropriate behavior.

4. Also during that time I observed Mr. Hunt to be of high intellect with considerable social, organizational, and legal skills sufficient that if released he is most likely to find meaningful employment and remain self-supporting.

5. I am informed that Mr. Hunt has a good, perhaps perfect or nearly so, record of behavior while housed in Folsom Prison and in Pleasant Valley State Prison, and that, importantly, he has never been a member of or associated with any organized or informal gang or similar organization in or out of prison.

6. To the extent that length of prison time already served is a factor in the commutation process, Mr. Hunt's time served represents a substantial punishment for the crime of which he was convicted. To the extent that risk of dangerousness governs the decision to be made, I offer my experience with Mr. Hunt and his behavioral record in prison as evidence that if released he will not threaten the safety of members of any community in which he may reside.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Parker Kelly", written in dark ink.

Parker Kelly
295 Fairway Drive,
Whitefish, MT 59937

406 862 4148
parkerkelly88@gmail.com

WILLIAM E. GILG
Attorney at Law
305 San Bruno Avenue West
San Bruno, CA 94066
(650) 871-8647
(650) 873-3168 (fax)

December 18, 2017

GOVERNOR JERRY BROWN

Re: Commutation Request of Joseph Hunt, CDC# D61863

Dear Governor Brown:

I am writing to you in support of the commutation package of Joseph Hunt, a California prison inmate, CDC # D61863.

I first met Mr. Hunt in October of 1989 at the San Mateo County Jail in Redwood City, California. I had been working for Mr. Hunt for a few months prior to that as his research assistant, mostly obtaining copies for him of case law, law review articles, legal articles, etc. These duties were in support of his defense of the criminal charges against him at that time in the case of People v. Hunt, San Mateo County Superior Court (the "Eslaminia" matter). Mr. Hunt was representing himself and his defense was funded by the public defender program of San Mateo County, called the "Private Defender Program". Mr. Hunt was impressed with my work in that I had been able to find and make copies of the case law he requested and nearly all of the law review articles and other legal articles he requested. That is, if one law library didn't have an article, I called and visited other law libraries in the Bay Area until I found the article in question.

I was not a licensed attorney at that time, but had graduated from law school in 1985 and had passed the California bar exam in 1986. Unfortunately, I was involved in a landlord/tenant dispute and was charged with a misdemeanor of making annoying phone calls. I eventually pled guilty to that charge. The State Bar then got involved and I withdrew my application to be licensed as an attorney. I then began to do law clerk work for various attorneys. One such attorney was doing some contract work for Mr. Hunt and asked if I would be willing to work for Mr. Hunt in obtaining copies of the legal research Mr. Hunt requested. I agreed.

In my work for Mr. Hunt obtaining legal research material, I knew little of the factual background of his pending criminal case. I knew it involved murder and kidnapping charges but knew little else. I was also aware that Mr. Hunt had previously been convicted in 1987 of the murder of Ron Levin in Los Angeles. I had seen newspaper coverage of that conviction. I had also read newspaper reports that characterized Mr. Hunt in a bad light. Thus I was a bit apprehensive and did not know

what to expect when I drove to my first meeting with Mr. Hunt at the San Mateo County Jail that October evening in 1989.

I found Mr. Hunt to be nothing of the sort that he was portrayed to be by the news media. He immediately thanked me for visiting him and expressed his appreciation for my work. We then chatted informally about my background, legal education, my status with the State Bar, etc. Mr. Hunt then, to my astonishment, asked me to be his trial assistant. I explained that, at that time, I had virtually no legal experience, especially nothing that would qualify me to assist in a major criminal case. Mr. Hunt acknowledged that but told me that because I had gone over and beyond my duties in making sure I got copies of the legal research he requested, going to libraries all over the Bay Area to find a library that had that particular article, he trusted me. That was what he was looking for, someone he could trust to assist him in this serious criminal matter. I of course was flattered and immediately agreed.

During the next three years and two months I had the pleasure of working for Mr. Hunt. I considered it a gift. My hourly rate was only about \$20.00 or something like that, paid by San Mateo County's private defender program. I became intimately involved in all aspects of his defense, summarizing trial testimony of the witnesses in the prior Levin matter, researching legal issues, doing other case investigation, etc. I would meet with Mr. Hunt at least once a week to go over the prior week's assigned projects and the results of same. I became close to Mr. Hunt and began to consider him a friend, not just a client. As explained above, Mr. Hunt was representing himself in this serious murder/kidnapping case, along with a prior murder conviction in the Levin matter. When I first began to work as his trial assistant, I considered these to be insurmountable obstacles to overcome. As I told Mr. Hunt later, I was incredibly impressed by his resolve and his energy, but at that time I felt that it was a foregone conclusion that he would be convicted of this crime. At that time, San Mateo County had about a 95% conviction rate in criminal cases. I think the conviction rate in that county is still the same.

Eventually, and it didn't take that long, I began to believe in Mr. Hunt, believe in his innocence, both of the pending murder/kidnapping charges in the Eslaminia case and the Levin conviction. This belief was not wishful thinking. It was based on the work I was doing in both cases, the pending Eslmainia case and the Levin conviction. In Levin it became apparent that Ron Levin was a notorious con-man with the expertise, the wherewithal, the motive, and the finances to disappear and avoid what was a certain lengthy prison sentence for fraud, tax invasion, etc. This prison sentence would have been at least 12 years. Even though Mr. Hunt was convicted of Levin's murder, no body was ever found, no blood was ever found. There was absolutely no physical evidence that Levin had been murdered. In fact there were a total of eight witnesses who reported that they had seen Ron Levin alive after June 6, 1984, when he was supposedly killed by Mr. Hunt. Six of these witnesses had known Levin before his disappearance. Six of these 'Levin-sighting' witnesses testified during Mr. Hunt's 1992 trial in San Mateo County. One of these witnesses, actually spoke to and carried on a conversation with Levin while waiting in line to see a movie.

Through Mr. Hunt's utilization of numerous subpoenas we obtained voluminous business records which led to the contact of witnesses, which led to witness interviews, etc. These two cases were rich in factual detail and this detail proved fascinating to me. We developed comprehensive information on hundreds of potential witnesses and developed a computer database containing said information on each such witness. During this 1992 trial, 107 witnesses testified on Mr. Hunt's behalf. We also developed a computer database for each item of documentary evidence.

Eventually, Mr. Hunt was able to prove, through state-of-the art expert witness testimony, that the main prosecution witness in the Eslmania matter, Dean Karny, had to be lying in his Levin trial testimony. That is Mr. Karny testified that Hedayat Eslamina had been kidnapped in Belmont, California in July of 1984, placed in a locked steamer trunk, and transported to Los Angeles in the back of a U-Haul van. During my more than three years of work for Mr. Hunt, I was a part of this scientific evidence. In fact I took part in the experiment of my being placed in a steamer trunk in the back of a U-Haul van, which was driven around for a brief period of time. This scientific testimony was presented during Mr. Hunt's 1992 jury trial in the Eslamina matter via a large computer screen, which calculated the amount of oxygen that would be available to a human being locked in such a steamer trunk being driven from Belmont to Los Angeles, a distance of over 400 miles, on a hot July day in 1984. Weather and climatic data were obtained and presented as evidence. The conclusion was that no human being could have survived for 90 minutes under those conditions. Dean Karny had testified during the Levin trial that the victim, Hedeyat Eslamina, had stayed alive in that trunk all the way to Los Angeles.

Thus when Mr. Hunt's jury trial concluded in December of 1992, after six months, having began on April 13, 1992, the jury could not make a decision. They deliberated for nearly a month. Eventually, they informed the court that they were deadlocked, eight for acquittal and four for a conviction. Mr. Hunt's performance during this trial was stupendous. He was not a lawyer. He had no formal legal training. His entire legal training came from the legal articles I had copied for him. This trial lasted six months, involved over a 100 witnesses for the defense alone, and involved thousands of pages of investigatory material that had to be distilled into manageable trial notebooks. His command of this enormous amount of legal material was outstanding. His cross-examinations and direct examinations were text book perfect. In fact after the jury informed the court that they were deadlocked, Mr. Hunt obtained declarations from, I believe, six of the eight jurors that voted for acquittal, so that he could use same in his pending appeal and habeas corpus proceedings in the Levin Matter. These declarations averred that these jurors believed the scientific evidence that made it impossible for the victim, Hedeyat Eslamina, to travel from Belmont to Los Angeles in a steamer trunk in the back of a U-Haul van and arrive in Los Angeles alive. That is what Dean Karny had testified to. In contrast, these jurors found that Mr. Hunt's testimony that Mr. Eslamina was not kidnapped, that he had wanted to leave his Belmont home secretly by being placed in a steamer trunk, and that he was let out of the trunk after the U-Haul van had left the area and rode in the cab to Los Angeles, was true and scientifically sound.

After Mr. Hunt's trial ended in December of 1992. His Levin appeal and habeas corpus proceedings continued. I also continued to do work for Mr. Hunt on these projects without pay. I continued to visit him regularly over the years. During the Eslamina matter, we became close friends. I met his family during this time, both his father and mother and brother and sister. I became close friends with his father, Ryan Hunt, and remained so until his passing in 2005. Of course I remain close friends with Mr. Hunt himself. Mr. Hunt has also remained close to his family, including his mother who passed away in 2004. He currently corresponds and is visited regularly by his sister, Kasey, and her husband and children. In short, his family does not think of him as a convict, they think of him as an innocent man, they think of him as family.

Mr. Hunt has had a major impact on my life. When I first met him in October of 1989, I was disillusioned with my legal career. I had worked very hard going to law school at night while working during the day for four years, only to have my dreams shattered by a stupid mistake which led to my misdemeanor conviction and my withdrawing my State Bar application. Mr. Hunt gave me encouragement. He praised my work, and gave me confidence in my legal abilities. Eventually, he encouraged me to re-apply to the State Bar. He helped me gather supporting declarations from other lawyers to submit to the State Bar. Mr. Hunt also submitted his own declaration. Eventually, on February 6, 1991, I received my license to practice law. It was probably the finest day of my life. Of all the people I have met in my life, Joseph Hunt has had the most positive impact on my legal carrier. He has also had the most impact on my spiritual life. Outside of my wonderful parents in bringing me into this world and giving me a good upbringing, Mr. Hunt has had the most positive impact on my life of anyone I have ever met. There is no one that could count as a close second. I don't make such statements lightly.

Mr. Hunt has also helped other people. On more than one occasion, Mr. Hunt has contacted me with information about a certain inmate getting in trouble with the powers-that-be behind the prison walls, that is with prison gangs, etc. He has instructed me to contact the particular prison where he was housed at those times, and anonymously give this information to the prison staff so this particular inmate could be protected. Otherwise, that inmate would likely have been killed.

In summary, I recommend as highly as possible Mr. Hunt in this effort to have his sentence commuted. I firmly believe Mr. Hunt is an innocent man. His appeals and his habeas petitions have not been successful as yet. The law is not perfect, we all know that. Consider all the convictions that have been set aside based on the recent developments of DNA evidence. In Mr. Hunt's case, there is no DNA issue. However, if a court ever took a close look at the evidence against Mr. Hunt, without any deference towards his conviction, it would point unerringly towards Mr. Hunt's innocence. He has been imprisoned since his 1987 Levin conviction. He has spent the last 30 years in prison. He has been a model prisoner. He has helped countless inmates prepare habeas corpus petitions challenging their convictions. He has even been successful in setting, at least several, inmates free based upon the habeas petitions that he has prepared. He deserves to have his sentence commuted.

If the Governor or his aides want to contact me they are certainly welcomed to do so. I will assist Mr. Hunt in any way I can.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'W. E. Gilg', written over a horizontal line.

WILLIAM E. GILG,
Attorney at Law

DiVITA INVESTIGATIONS

CRIMINAL AND CIVIL INVESTIGATIONS

620 JEFFERSON AVENUE
REDWOOD CITY, CALIFORNIA 94063
650-365-5892

November 14, 2017

The Honorable Jerry Brown
Governor of California
State Capitol, Suite 1173
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Joseph Hunt, D61863

Dear Governor Brown,

I am writing to you in support of the application for commutation submitted by Joseph Hunt.

I first met Mr. Hunt in the early 1990's when I had the good fortune to be assigned as one of his defense investigators when he was preparing to represent himself in trial in San Mateo County. Mr. Hunt, who I knew as "Joe", was in custody during this time and we had frequent contact visits inside the jail while preparing for the trial. It was apparent that Joe was well liked by both the inmates and the sheriff's deputies. He treated them all with respect and they responded in the same way.

After Joe obtained a dismissal of his case in San Mateo County, I continued to stay in contact with him when he was in New Folsom State Prison. We had developed a friendship by this time and he referred my services to inmates he was assisting in their appeals. Joe had a lot of compassion for these inmates and he was genuinely concerned about their welfare.

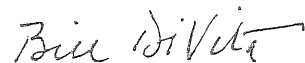
I have continued to stay in contact with Joe on a regular basis and have grown to appreciate his friendship. I am amazed at Joe's constant positive and cheerful demeanor no matter what his circumstances are. Much of this I attribute to his regular practice of prayer and meditation which is at the core of his life. Joe maintains a sense of peace I rarely see in most individuals.

I have no doubt that Joe would be an outstanding, contributing member of society should he eventually be released. I cannot imagine anyone I know having any fear or concern for Joe's behavior. I think Joe would certainly be welcomed and respected for his talents and for the genuine person he is. In all my dealings with Joe he has proven to be someone I can trust and a man of his word.

My hope and prayer is that you will approve the commutation application of Joseph Hunt that he has earned and deserves.

Thank you very much for considering my input.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bill DiVita". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Bill DiVita

The Honorable Jerry Brown
Governor of California
State Capital, Suite 1173
Sacramento, CA 95814

12/29/2017

Re: Joseph Hunt, D61863

Dear Governor Brown,

I am writing in support of the application for commutation submitted by Joseph Hunt.

I first met Joseph Hunt when I became his paralegal in preparing for his trial in Redwood City in the late 1980's.

I worked closely with Joe on a daily basis and was instrumental in keeping his files, exhibit copies, and other trial prep documents in order for him to be ready to defend himself at trial. During these months, years, I began to learn how Joe was at his core which was undoubtedly one of the most decent and forthcoming people I would ever meet.

He would not be a threat to society in my opinion of any degree or magnitude whatsoever.

During his time incarcerated I also grew to become Joe's friend and eventually his wife for several years.

I know Joe as a caring, gentle, and honorable human being.
It is my clear and unprovoked viewpoint that Joe should have a commuted sentence and be released into society as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tammy Hunt', with a stylized, cursive script.

Tammy Hunt

tammyagnt@gmail.com

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December 15, 2017

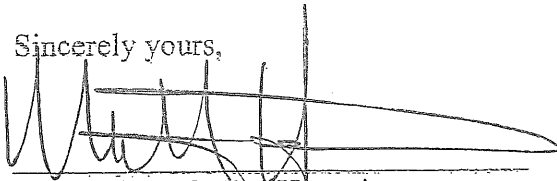
Governor Edmund G. Brown
c/o State Capitol
Suite 1173
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: **Mr. Joseph Hunt**

Dear Governor Brown:

In March of 2003, I was appointed by the San Mateo County Private Defender Program to assist Mr. Hunt in the removal of his trial exhibits from a storage locker located here in Redwood City. On September 3, 2003, I met with Honorable Dale A. Hahn, Judge of the Superior Court in San Mateo County, who is now retired. Judge Hahn, who presided over Mr. Hunt's trial, made several comments that I recall which were very praising of Mr. Hunt. Judge Hahn mentioned that out of all his years of presiding over trials, he never saw an individual as meticulous and well prepared for trial like Mr. Hunt. Moreover, Judge Hahn also mentioned that Mr. Hunt conducted himself during the trial in a professional and courteous manner. Judge Hahn never mentioned Mr. Hunt being disruptive or disrespectful.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mitri Hanania', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Law Office of Mitri Hanania
Mitri Hanania, Attorney-at-Law
CA State Bar License No. 190518