



September 9, 2009

RE: Sentencing of Billy Trinkle

To Whom It May Concern:

As the Mayor of Leavenworth, Kansas I certainly in favor of reducing and eliminating drugs from our community. I am very proud of the efforts of the Leavenworth Police Department and the State and Federal Agencies involved in the investigation in which Billy Trinkle is now being sentenced.

I am writing this letter not because I believe Billy is innocent of the crimes he has been convicted of, or because I believe Billy should not be punished for those crimes. I am writing because I believe that Billy should receive a reasonable sentence and some consideration that, in my opinion, Billy can become a contributing and positive citizen after he serves his time.

I have known Billy since high school—we are the same age. When I was in college Billy lived with me and my then-boyfriend in our house. Billy is a good person who has many positive traits. If he were given, for example, a 15 year sentence rather than 30 years, he would be able to re-enter society as a man in his mid 40s with an opportunity to make changes and live a good, clean life. If he re-enters society as a man in his mid 60s his options in life will be very different.

Billy has been incarcerated before, so I ask myself, why would Billy change this time, if he has not changed before? I believe this prospect of decades of his life spent in prison has truly changed Billy. He does not want to spend his life, or the best years of his life, in prison. Once he is given his next chance to be a citizen I believe he will embrace that opportunity and be a productive citizen.

I hope you will consider this letter when sentencing Billy. I believe he deserves punishment for the crimes, but I also believe a shorter sentence will benefit everyone involved.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Shay Baker".

Shay Baker  
Mayor  
Leavenworth, Kansas



Shay Baker  
Mayor

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Shay Baker  
Mayor  
Leavenworth, Kansas



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Mayor

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