

October 15, 2008

Kimberly Lawson, Probation Officer for Michael C. Kelley
Arkansas Eastern District Probation Office
600 W. Capitol, suite 233
Little Rock, AR 72201
Phone: 501-604-5240

Dear Officer Lawson:

Please accept this letter as an amendment to documents previously shared with you regarding Michael C. Kelley. As you may be aware, there are strongly differing opinions about Mike's guilt/innocence regarding certain acts he allegedly committed and, while I understand that he has accepted full responsibility for his actions and I know he is earnest in this confession, I also know it is necessary to consider many factors in order to arrive at a well-reasoned conclusion.

In this interest I respectfully request you consider certain facts about how law enforcement arrives at a number of plants to be specified in a complaint. According to Megan Stahl in November of 2007 while she was editor of the Van Buren County Democrat and regarding her personal investigation of a case unrelated to Mike Kelley, she asserted to me that the VBC Sheriff's Department routinely "counted each plant as an individual plant, regardless of size."

This assertion has been confirmed by others including Mike's attorney, that it doesn't matter if the 'plant' is only a 2" slip or seedling, it is counted as if it were 6' to 12' tall and full-grown. Respectfully, Officer Lawson, this type of exaggerated assumption seems to fall outside of the "heartland" of reason the court is expected to apply in determining a just sentence that is compliant with established guidelines.

Additionally, it seems significant to consider certain events which took place surrounding and subsequent to Mike Kelley's arrest in March of 2007 that put his actions and motives in a very different light than portrayed by the prosecution; that in fact all of Mike Kelley's actions subsequent to his arrest were completely respectful of due process and intended only to bring to justice a person who threatened to kill my daughter, burn my house down with my whole family in it and 'get away with it' because of his 'insider connections' with local law enforcement.

Respectfully Officer Lawson, since Mike Kelley's relevant conduct and character must be considered in the making your recommendation, I humbly petition your earnest consideration of all this and pray for leniency for Mike Kelley who has, sincerely, proven himself to be an honest, peaceable and truly good-hearted person. Thank you.

Christine Louise Beems

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Christine Louise Beems, 223 Primrose Lane, Shirley, AR 72153 ~ 501-745-4153
re: Michael C. Kelley, Federal Sentencing Hearing