

Maureen G Neal
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Judge Ancer L Haggerty
U.S. Court House
1000 SW 3rd Ave
Portland, OR 97204

Re: Terry Neal Sentencing

The Honorable Justice Ancer Haggerty:

My name is Maureen Gail (Donnelly) Neal. I have been married to Terry Neal for forty years and have known him for forty-three years. I am writing this letter for two reasons, first, to share with you my insight as to the man you must sentence, and second, to plead that you reduce his sentence to as low as absolutely possible.

I have been told that you are far too busy to read my letter, or at least that you do not have the time to seriously consider my thoughts, but I find that my own personal sanity requires I must believe you to be fair and that you will ponder my evaluation in your judgments.

Notwithstanding the government's accusations, I want to assure you that my husband is a very good man and one of excellent personal character. In my experience Terry is simply incapable of dishonesty. I have seen him in every conceivable situation and he is generous, often to a fault, and everyone who knows him recognizes his charitable qualities. Terry and I have traveled the world and been blessed with the opportunity to work with people from many cultures. He has great affection for people, and his actions, words, and deeds, reflect this deep-felt sentiment. He is one of those rare individuals who is truly, color, race and nationality blind.

Terry is kind, and he is loyal. He is loyal to his family, loyal to his faith, loyal to his convictions, loyal to his friends and his business associates. He has courage, he has principals, and he has an abundance of other admirable qualities. Of course, he is not perfect, but he is a very good man. Over the years, I have been fortunate to travel with Terry many times and attend scores of business meetings and been present during more negotiation sessions than I can count. I can personally attest to his unwavering commitment to ethical principals. The world would be so much better off if there were more like him.

My husband has an innate ability to sense the needs of others and assist them to help themselves. Providing financial assistance is rarely enough, he works with people to

see past their immediate problems and plan for a better future. These gifts of self and financial aid are over and above the 10% tithing of our income to church. I couldn't begin to catalog his charitable support, such things as quietly giving single Hispanic mothers money to make down payments for their own homes. Doing the same for those in need in the Caribbean. Helping people with education so they could find work, with transportation so they could get to work, with understanding so that they might feel better about themselves.

Over time I have watched Terry again and again step in when others were too timid or simply did not know what to do, in order to provide the leadership to see that those less fortunate are helped. For example, our family became seriously involved in providing aid to the migrant worker community. It all began when one of our son's needed an Eagle project for scouts and Terry suggested he might want to introduce American Thanksgiving to those of foreign origin. The Washington County Community Action organization responded to his inquiry and gave Terry a list of twenty-four families that were seriously undernourished and thus the project began. Everyone in the family got into the picture and the results were so positive it expanded into Christmas and then became a family tradition. For years thereafter he would do his "secret Santa" routine delivering packages to the front doors of those in need, simply leaving without anyone knowing who it was that had been so kind. Before long, he was being asked to help alleviate a looming crisis.

It had been a cold wet winter, and migrants were arriving in late February for seasonal farming work. Men fresh from Central America and Southern Mexico were being dropped off in shanty-town camps with only the clothes on their backs and absolutely no way to keep warm and dry. The director of the Washington County Community Action called Terry telling him she could not mobilize fast enough and could he do something in the interim. There was a real danger that sickness would spread and many people were at risk. My husband immediately began to gather up large quantities of warm clothing and basic foodstuffs and delivered three jeep loads to one camp in the first 24 hours. While there he observed first hand the depth of the tragedy playing out in the middle of prosperous Washington County. He came back thoroughly shaken but resolved to make a difference. He mobilized a group of men from our church to assemble personal hygiene kits. They made 1,000 of them gathered into one-gallon Ziploc bags. Meanwhile he was out purchasing eating utensils, sleeping bags, and basic medical supplies and returning again and again to do what he could. I have seen my husband take the sick for medical treatment, people he did not know. I have watched, and helped along with him, as he intervened for widows and the fatherless. The list of people my husband has helped would be long, very long indeed.

Terry is a frustrated teacher; actually he is the only one in his family who did not pursue teaching as a career. My point in bringing this up is that teaching is in his very nature and he is at his best when sharing some new insight about something he believes might be beneficial to someone else. I have seen him help and counsel people of diverse backgrounds; Muslims from India and Pakistan, Buddhists from Cambodia, Christians of

any denomination, it doesn't seem to matter. He believes in doing good, no matter the gender, shape, size, color, nationality, or ethnic derivation.

Terry will sit for hours and listen to people's troubles. He helps them to change attitudes and refocus their lives so that they can work themselves out of their own problems. I have witnessed this many, many times. He takes a personal interest in anyone he sees suffering, or who finds themselves in need of new ways of looking at things. For example, after the IRS arrested him at gunpoint in our home, and he was held for twenty-one days without bail prior to his indictment, he still managed to focus on others. He counseled dozens of inmates at Inverness jail; as a result he now gets a steady flow of letters from Oregon State prisons. Yesterday he received an early birthday card from a vascular surgeon formerly with Oregon Health Science University who is now in prison for a drug-related crime. Terry met him while detained at Inverness. The handwritten note in the card says, "I thank God every day for bringing you into this world and for bringing you into my life."

Terry especially enjoys helping high school kids who so often need a positive influence. He teaches those of all ages how to evaluate their situations and then choose for themselves. The kids love Terry. I could continue in this vein but I'm sure you've now got the picture of a man willing to share what he has to improve the lives of others.

My second purpose for writing Your Honor is to plead with you to reduce his sentence below that requested by the Assistant U.S. District Attorney. The prosecutor does not know my husband, he has no idea the good he does and the many who need his help and support. The sentence proscribed by the AUSA seems to be far beyond the rational scope of the crime. We are all aware of opportunistic corporate thieves who have stolen millions from millions. No individual has ever accused my husband of these kinds of acts.

The government claims to be the victim of Terry's "criminal" conduct, and yet there are others who have recently been accused of the very same thing, but of much larger proportions, only to receive a fraction of the jail time my husband now faces. Perhaps you are familiar with the Jerome Schneider case? Like my husband, Jerome worked in the offshore financial industry, but he was in the business twenty years longer than Terry and surely had ten times the clients and a hundred times the money transacted. Jerome just recently received an eighteen-month sentence, verses the sixty months recommended for Terry. I have met Jerome, and I know some of his former senior staff. I can tell you that there is no comparison in character or conduct. How can this kind of sentence disparity be justice?

Today I heard that Andrew Weiderhorn of Wilshire Financial Services Group, who is reported to have lost \$300 million in client funds and who pled guilty to bogus loans and filing a false tax return, received an eighteen-month sentence. Again, in comparison to my husband, how is this equitable from anyone's point of view?

Terry is the head of a very large family. You have surely noted by now that we have eight adult children and twenty grandchildren. He loves them all, and they all love him. He has always been quick to give me credit as the glue which holds our large and loving family together, but the truth be known, it is more him than me.

Your Honor, I believe you will want to take into consideration that our oldest daughter Natalie has found herself on difficult times and returned to school so she could support her four daughters. She has been forced to move in with us until she can be gainfully employed. Although Terry is the grandfather to her four girls, in all other practical ways he is their father. They adore him. I cannot describe how important he is in their lives and the lives of many of their friends. As I write this I am looking at a questionnaire completed by our seventeen year-old granddaughter just two weeks ago. To the question: "Has there been a moment in your life that has impacted you more than any other, and if so what was it? She has written, "Yes. Any moment in my life that includes my grandpa, because he is such a good example to me & is the coolest person I have ever met." We also have other extended family, and family-like relationships, where people depend on my husband.

As for my personal situation, I have just had surgery and at the present time cannot walk without crutches. After the first years of our marriage it was obvious to both of us that raising a family was more important than my earning an income. We have never regretted this decision, but as a result I have not worked outside our home in over thirty-five years and have no qualifications to do so, even if my physical condition were adequate.

Our youngest son also lives with us. He is legally deaf, and suffers from the results of radical malignant scoliosis as well as complications from a broken neck and a fused spine. Emotionally, he depends on his father more than anyone else in the world. I cannot take Terry's place and I am desperately worried for Timothy during his father's absence. Your Honor, I cannot explain what a huge hardship, both financial and emotional, will be forced upon us while my husband is gone.

I have tried to keep my thoughts from rambling but I could tell you so much more. Please take a few minutes and reread my heartfelt thoughts and see between the lines and gain insight to the wonderful man you must sentence. Your Honor, I pray for justice in this matter, justice for all of us. But, if federal justice for some reason requires that we all suffer and that my husband should serve the excessive time desired by the District Attorney, then instead, I plead for mercy. Please, please, consider the incredible hardships that we all must endure as you determine his sentence. Please do what is best for everyone.

Very Truly Yours,

Maureen G Neal