

February 11, 2009

The Honorable Judge Reggie B. Walton  
United States District Judge for the District of Columbia  
C/O Kathleen Voelker, Esquire  
1776 K Street N.W. Ste 800  
Washington, DC 20006

Your honor:

It is very difficult for me to write this kind of letter, but I must beg for my son's future lays in your hands. I am going to start by telling you a little about my family. I come from a political family. My father was the mayor of Holguin, Cuba for over 8 years. He was also a lawyer and held several other university degrees. My uncle and godfather was a senator and vice president candidate in Cuba. As for me, I left my hometown as a child and came to this great country in 1960, married my husband Felipe H Sixto in 1968 after his honorable discharge from the US Army. I became a US citizen in 1970. We had three children our oldest daughter Susana Sixto-Rodriguez D.O., Margarita Sixto, a school teacher, and our youngest son Felipe Eduardo an attorney.

My son Felipe Eduardo has been my PRIDE AND JOY since the day he was born and will always be my **PRIDE AND JOY**, no matter what the future brings us or how hard or difficult the road ahead of us will be. He has been a very hard working individual. Always helping out in whatever or whomever needed help from him. He would go that extra mile to help. He had served as an altar server in our parish St Kevin Catholic Church and School. He was also recognized as student of the month on several occasions thru grade school. He volunteered in numerous charitable activities; such as Habitat for Humanity, local library & hospital throughout grade school and high school. He was part of Christopher Columbus High School's football, track & field and wrestling teams.

Since grade school his dream was **"to become a lawyer and be a politician"**; perhaps following the footsteps of his grandfather; whom he never meet, as he was only a few months old when he died. but heard so much about, thru family & friends including someone very dear to Felipe, his grandmother now 87 years old and suffering from Alzheimer. He worked very hard to achieve this dream.. He received the Florida Bright Future's Scholarship and attended and graduated from Florida International University. Later he attended and graduated from American University in Washington DC with a law degree.

He not only went to school but also had a full time job in order to provide for the needs of his wife and son. Due to Laura's illness, he also had to provide the extra care a child needs. Felipe Ignacio, his son always had that care from his dad; homework, sports, Boy Scout's meetings, meals, and laundry to mention a few. No matter how tired or worried he was, he was there for his son and ill wife.

My health has not been the best either, limiting my travel to Maryland to help out during the numerous times Laura went to the hospital due to her illness. Her hospitalizations added more

stress and more suffering to his heavy load. But he has always offered his help and prayers in all of my needs.

As I mentioned earlier, my mother Mrs. Nora Ochoa is 87 suffering with Alzheimer, and lives with us. Our culture calls to love and keep our elders at home. It has been a blessing having my son, Felipe Eduardo living with us; although I know he has paid a high price for this. He has been a great help dealing with this situation and providing us with so much physical & emotional help. Between my bad health and my mother's needs, it will be a great hardship for Felipe's wife and son if he is not present to take care of them.

Yes, I realize my son, Felipe Eduardo made a big mistake, but I also feel that he has paid severe consequences, not only losing many material things such as his house and properties but perhaps the most painful one; his prestigious job at the White House as a Special Assistant to the President for Intergovernmental Affairs.

Your honor I know that my son has learned his lesson well. That is why I am begging you to have mercy when making your sentencing decision. Please allow him to continue providing for his family and give him a second chance.

Respectfully yours,



Ofelia Sixto