

11-24-12

Dear Commissioner

My name is Cheryl McCleese. I am the wife of William L. McCleese # 271336.

Mr. McCleese is currently serving an 85 year sentence for murder at MacDougall Correctional Institution. He was arrested for this crime at the age of 17. He is now 29 years old.

I would first like you to know that in no way do I intend to dismiss the crime or to disregard the anguish and suffering of the victims family. My intentions are to let you know how much William has grown in the eleven years that he has been incarcerated. Besides continuing to be a loving husband, son, grandson, brother and uncle, he has continually set goals for himself and excelled in completing each one. His educational achievements include receiving his high school diploma, a certificate in Graphic Arts. He most recently completed a certificate program

course offered at the prison by Asmuntuck Community College. From prison he help me to run a gift basket business. He wrote the business plan and marketing strategy in his jail cell.

William uses the skills and lessons he has learned through numerous programs to help and educate other inmates. He is a program facilitator for an Anti Violence Program called AVP. He has excellent evaluations from his teachers. Its a blessing for him to be given a second chance at life. He has a stable home to come to. I am a homeowner and a professional working woman. He has a step daughter and son who loves him and can benefit from his wisdom and experience. My only concern is that under your current proposal William would be eligible for parole when he is 47. I ask the committee to consider 25 years instead of 30 years of inmates sentenced to over 60 years.

Sincerely
Cheryl McClure