



Henry Davis, JR.
2nd District Council Member

January 5, 2022

Edward Simms
President and Founder
You're Worth the Fight, Inc.
223 E. City Hall Ave., Suite #200K
Norfolk, VA 23510

RE: Ben Robinson, Jr.

To Whom it May Concern:

I write to you with great pleasure and support for Mr. Ben Robinson and his release. Ben and I are lifelong friends from the age of nine until the current day. Ben needs and deserves to come home to his family. I am aware of his conviction and even the victim in this case. We all were friends. It was beyond a shocker that this was our reality. I am not very clear on this case nor how it was actually defended, and I have always had my doubts about what occurred on that tragic night. I want to be honest and clear about my feelings regarding that night in question. I am not a supporter of what took place nor am I defending anyone's actions from that night, but I am asking for grace at his point. The issues surrounding this matter and the people involved are far too difficult to sort out. It still hurts. As time continues to grow it changes our pain and viewpoint but never erases the crime. I/we want to see something different with o

Ben has served long enough due to his conviction. He has grown just like many of us over the years. Some of us take longer to grow and others get the point early, but the point is to grow and be productive citizens in this world. I am confident if Mr. Robinson gets a second chance on this side of the wall, we will something great from him. Ben will have the support of his family and network that is interested in his development. It has not been very long since I spoke with Ben about returning to this side of society and it appears that he is ready and willing to do whatever to get back home.

I am an elected representative, and this is my third term. I am currently running for the Mayor seat here in this city. Crime and punishment are a part of my platform, and it will be tough on it. I also want to offer opportunities for those reentering this society. The opportunities are centered around mental health support, housing, job placement, and record expungement in which all becomes a hurdle to climb for many, but we will offer those programs in this city. Mr. Robinson's return will be welcomed by his friends and family and the South Bend community. I am fully aware that all will not be supportive of this change however, I feel like Ben has spent his time and deserves to be back in society. He still has time to positively impact our society in a number of ways and not to mention become a success story for future generations. It can work and will work if he is given the opportunity. I stand behind what I have written, and I hope that this helps you to make the decision in Ben's favor. We are waiting on him to come back home.

227 W. Jefferson Blvd. Rm. 441
County-City Building South Bend, IN
46601 - 1830

Office: (574) 235-5983
Voicemail: (574) 235-5983

FAX: (574) 235-9173
TDD: (574) 235-5567
Email: HDAVIS@SOUTHBEND.IN.GOV



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Thank you for your time and if there is anything else I can do to further along this discussion please let me know. Again, thank you and God bless!

In Service,

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