July 23, 2009

Your Honorable Judge Timothy Fall Yolo County Supreme Court Woodland, California 95695

Your Honorable Judge Fall,

My name is a co-worker and personal friend of Ajay Dev. My husband, daughter and I have lived in the City of Elk Grove since 1989. My biological family and I migrated from the Philippines to the United States in 1968 when my mother was petitioned to teach at the Marysville Unified School District with the recommendation of Congressman Robert Leggett. I've been employed by the California State Department of Water Resources (DWR) since 1984. I am an Associate Governmental Program Analyst specializing in human resources; equal employment opportunities; and labor relations. I also act as an EEO Counselor and assists management with progressive disciplinary actions.

I met Ajay Dev when he first came to work with DWR as an Engineer, Water Resources in 1997 when I was processing his employment documents. We became friends when we both discovered that we shared a common importance and value in life – love of family and culture. Since we were both born in our native country, we often discussed family values, culture differences, and ethics as it relates to life in the U.S. We also shared our pleasures and difficulties in raising our teenage daughters and solicited advice from each other.

As a professional engineer, Ajay is well liked and respected among his peers. In his early years in DWR, he was unique in his profession because he did not perform basic engineering principals but specialized in creating and modifying delta models for the California State Water Project system. He, along with his peers, received a DWR Unit Citation which he proudly displayed in his office, for participating in the creation of a very complex delta model. Ajay is a stickler over details and works hard to ensure his project output is sound and accurate. This I believe is a reflection of his intelligence, dedication, integrity and work ethics. He loves math and numbers! I guess that explains why he's an engineer. He possesses a courteous and respectful nature which enables him to enjoy an excellent reputation and rapport among his co-workers. Our office is often referred to as the "mini United Nations". The appreciation and interest he shows in other culture is admirable which contributes to the camaraderie in the workplace. His pleasant and approachable demeanor invites confidence and trust among his co-workers which develops into long lasting personal friendships.

When I look at Ajay I see a humble and gentle spirit. His unpretentious nature contributes to a trusting and comfortable friendship. As a woman and a minority, I value and expect respect. Ajay demonstrates this by listening to my opinions with thoughtful consideration. Never do I feel intimidated or less significant with Ajay. On the contrary, he is attentive and appreciative to what I bring to our friendship. He has a pleasant and calm demeanor which makes him approachable and you comfortable in his presence. He is thoughtful and serious about important matters, yet he possesses a playful and humorous nature that is amusing. He does not have a boastful spirit. In fact, he finds it difficult to speak of his own talents and accomplishments which prompts me to occasionally remind and encourage him to strongly promote himself when preparing for job interviews so he may be successful in his objective.

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Ajay is someone who believes that truth will always prevail because truth bears strength and power. This principle is what Ajay clung to during his trial. This principle was our hope for Ajay's full exoneration. Ajay himself used to say, the truth is on my side and the truth will set me free. So, when the verdict of "guilty" was read, we along with Ajay were shocked and devastated. How can justice be so blind to the truth? Ajay is not a violent, inhuman person. He is not corrupt, perverted or dishonest. Ajay does not run away from his responsibilities nor does he compromise his integrity. For the past several years, Ajay has respected and complied with all of the court's proceedings including the preliminary hearing and trail. He has met all of his obligations to the court. I believe that Ajay's good intensions and act of integrity warrants consideration for leniency towards his sentencing and this I respectfully request.

