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January 12, 2012

Mr. William Bumpus, Esq.
210 Stonefield Drive. Unit #46
Waterbury, CT 06705

Re: Clemency for Dr. Ernest Garlington

I've known Ernest for close to eight years. I met him at a time when he and his brother, Larry, were putting plans in place to launch their merchandising company, Christian Warrior International. I offered to work with them to strategize on marketing and promotional plans to launch the product line.

I was drawn to the project because of its mission and overtime my relationship with Ernest and Larry turned from a professional one to an endearing friendship.

Almost immediately upon meeting Ernest I realized he is one of a kind. Ernest exemplifies integrity, honesty, compassion for others and above all service to God. The news of his arrest and incarceration was unfathomable. I have never doubted for one second Ernest's innocence and know for certain that a terrible injustice has occurred.

Throughout this whole encounter and unjust incarceration, Ernest's unwavering faith in God continues to be a source of inspiration. He continues to demonstrate leadership and support of others with the myriad of programs he's designed, implemented and/or facilitated at the correctional facilities. So many people going through this experience would become cynical and resentful, but Ernest has managed to make lemonade out of lemons. I know his heart is heavy, being without freedom and being apart from his family, whom he loves dearly. It's heartbreaking thinking about the time he is serving for a crime he didn't commit and is innocent of, but it's a testament to his character as a man, and especially his servitude to God that grounds him as he continues to leverage his talents as an educator and psychologist and passion to help people flourish and grow.

I pray that the effort to achieve clemency for Ernest is granted and that true justice is served. His family, friends, community and society at large needs Dr. Ernest Garlington to be free to fulfill his visions to educate, inspire and inform others of God unwavering presence.

Sincerely,

Michele Brown

Marc Gosiker
ID # 2393418
Notary Public of New Jersey
Commission Expires 2/16/2015

Laura A. Marsala
23 Fleming Street
Waterbury, CT 06710
January 30, 2012

Connecticut Board of Pardons and Parole
55 West Main Street
Waterbury, CT 06702

RE: Clemency Application for Ernest Garlington

Dear Sir or Madam:

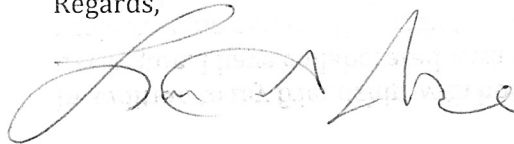
I am writing in strong support of clemency for Dr. Ernest Garlington. I have known Dr. Garlington for seven years, during which he and his family have continued to astound and inspire me with the active roles they take in building better communities and reaching out to those in need in many different ways.

Despite their legal problems, the Garlingtons have continued to exemplify loving and caring for others that can only be borne out of a loving and caring, close-knit family. Their support for and nurturing of one another radiates throughout their daily work, volunteerism and social activities, and touches a very wide range of people. I am most fortunate to count myself among those people. At a time when the family structure continues to erode, their strength and closeness as a family is a rarity in itself. These are people who want a better world — not just their children but for everyone, and the Garlingtons continue to demonstrate that time and time again.

In addition to my friendship with both Dr. Ernest Garlington and his wife, Darlene Powell Garlington, I have collaborated with them on professional projects. The intention of each project, while personally costly to them, was to benefit others. Each project on which we have embarked together has moved toward the betterment of society. You have already read about the positive programs Ernest Garlington has created and initiated during his time in prison, where resources are scarce. The energy and benefits that he will bring to initiatives outside of prison, where there are vast resources, will be nothing short of amazing.

Please consider — then grant — clemency for this very fine man. His natural gifts and talents are freely given with a heart filled with compassion and love for others. It is this boundless service to others that is the real loss to our society. Thank you for the opportunity to show you the side of Ernie that I know and deeply respect.

Regards,



Laura A. Marsala

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

County of Waterbury

COUNTY OF New Haven

On this the 30th day of Jan, 2012, before me Robin Rodriguez, the undersigned officer, personally appeared Laura Marsala, known to me (or satisfactorily proved to be the person whose name is subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged that (s)he executed the same for the purposes therein contained.
In witness whereof, I hereunto set my hand.

Notary Public 

39 Harrell Avenue
Williamstown, New Jersey 08094
January 11, 2012

Pardon Unit
Board of Pardons and Paroles
55 West Main Street, Suite 520
Waterbury, CT 06702

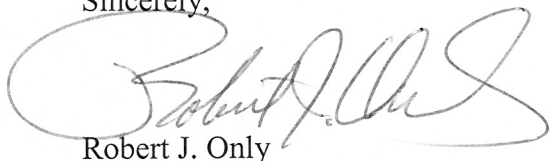
Dear Board of Pardons and Paroles:

I am writing to ask you to grant clemency to Dr. Ernest Garlington. I have known him for several years and have found him to be a very forthright Christian man. When I first met him I was highly impressed by his contributions to society and his accomplishments. I knew right away that he was about the business of Jesus Christ. Dr. Garlington's unwavering faith has enabled him to create prison ministries and programs which have shown while incarcerated you still can be a positive contributor to society.

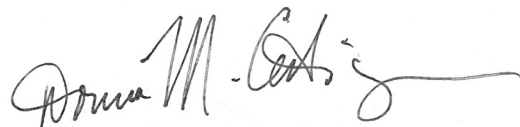
Dr. Garlington has impacted my life to the point that I have become more compassionate towards others, diligent and faithful with my walk with the Lord. Further, he has taught me that barriers can be turned around and used as springboards to effect positive change. In order for Dr. Garlington to continue his good works, I am requesting that you grant him clemency.

Thank you for your kind attention.

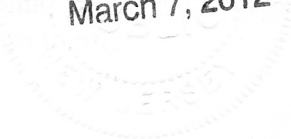
Sincerely,



Robert J. Only



Donna M. Costigan
Notary Public, State of New Jersey
My Commission Expires
March 7, 2012



17305 Berndale Ct.
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772

December 9, 2011

Dear Sir or Madame:

It is not every day when you find yourself having to write a letter about someone that has meant so much to so many. However, I am saddened that I must write this letter under these circumstances. I am the youngest sister of Dr. Ernest Garlington. I would like to add my voice to the many others that will be writing on behalf of my brother. We grew up under the care of our mother Laura Garlington. She instilled in us the value of hard work and education. She, also, taught us to always look out for those in need. Those who needed *you* to help lift them up. This education from our mother was what my brother, "Ernie", has tried to live by throughout his life.


When we were growing up, Ernie always worked hard at all that he did. He worked hard in school and excelled. He worked hard in football and excelled. He was a fine role model for me to follow. I wanted to do as well as he did. His example encouraged me to also work hard. Ernie's positive attitude did not only affect me, it affected his friends. Ernie was always doing his best to motivate and encourage those in our neighborhood. We did not grow up in the best environment. But, we knew that hard work and education would make the difference for us. This is what Ernie always tried to help our friends to understand, no matter how challenging their circumstances may have been. He never gave up hope for them.

As an adult, Ernie has continued to guide and support those who need assistance. He chose to be educated in the field of Psychology, so that he could have a direct influence on the lives of those in need. He chose to work in our home town of Waterbury, so that he could have a positive impact on those who needed support, counsel, and direction. He was determined not forget his roots. I am sure that he positively impacted the lives of many, many people.

Our fine training that we received from our mother has particularly been useful over the past several years. We were always taught to help others, even when we ourselves were in a difficult situation. My brother has certainly been in a difficult situation as of late. However, he has not forgotten his education that he received from our mother. He has continued to work hard for those in need. While he has been incarcerated, he has been involved in *several* positive projects. One that I feel is particularly noteworthy is The University Televised Video School Project. This fine proposal for correctional institutions across the country would help to improve education prospects for inmates and, thereby, reduce the rates of recidivism. I know from personally helping Ernie in the beginning stages of this proposal that he has worked tirelessly to complete this project. Closely associated with this is an education program that he has created and organized to help inmates earn college credit. I am *so* proud of my brother. He has truly taken a *very* bad situation and turned it around for the better. What is so wonderful about this is

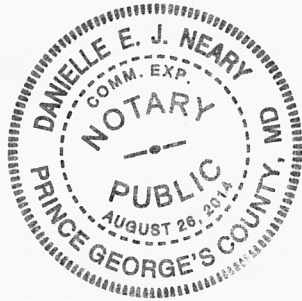
that this positive outcome has affected not just him, but more importantly, many others. I have not personally spoken to those individuals in the correctional institute that have had the opportunity to take these classes or who have been impacted so very positively by my brother's hard work, but I am sure that their lives will never be the same. Ernie has been a force for good in so many people's lives. I sincerely hope that the greatest consideration will be given to all that my brother, Dr. Ernest Garlington, has done.

Sincerely,



Castella G. Murphy

I, Danielle E. J. Neary, Notary Public, have witnessed the signature of Castella G. ^{con}Murphy, who presented proper identification on December 10, 2011.



Danielle E. J. Neary

William Bumpus
210 Stonefield Drive Unit #46
Waterbury, CT 06705

February 1, 2012

Dear Mr. Bumpus,

I am a licensed clinical social worker, with over 40 years working with the Connecticut Department of Children and Youth Services, as a planning analyst. I have worked with Ernest Garlington for nearly twenty years. He was a family therapist and his gentle manner, spirituality, and patient persistence with families made him an excellent and successful therapist. He was on several neighborhood committees and always a respected leader. Ernest and I worked on funding grants reports, and he represented his agency on several neighborhood committees I organized for the Department of Children and Youth Services. When he became the program director many DCF social workers reported their positive experiences and satisfaction with Ernest's services crediting his leadership of his program staff.

I have known Ernest Garlington for over 25 years. In that time he has always been the same person, both in the work place and in private interactions. He is a kind, caring gentle man with a wonderful sense of humor. He has a forgiving nature and a firm belief in the goodness buried inside everyone. He has taken those beliefs into his work and general dealings with everyone he meets.

He brought those beliefs first into his work relationship with his accuser, Derek Hopson, and later his firm conviction that his wife Darlene and her ex-husband, Derek, could have a peaceful comfortable divorce, and he tried to help. This was not Derek's goal, and Derek was angry at Ernest for "taking" Darlene from him, and "alienating" the children who were emotionally battered by Derek's anger and refusal to cooperate.

I sat through every day of the trial, and saw Ernest's lawyer, Willie Dow, who acted like he, the judge as well as the prosecutor and his detective, were at a country club dinner, and he barely spoke to Ernest. Frequently jokes were made about the trial, subject matter discussed, or at the expense of Willie Dow, the prosecutor or the judge. Although Ernest was not the subject of jokes, he was treated dismissively, as if his fight of his life was of little importance.

The alleged plot to hurt Derek Hopson made so little sense, I am sure a group of nine year olds could come up with a more workable scenario to cause him harm.

The only witness who claimed Ernest asked him to commit a crime upon Derek Hopson was Willie Foote, a career felon who spent very little of his life outside prison. Unfortunately, Ernest knew the witness from the poor neighborhood where they both grew up. Ernest also worked with Willie as a therapist, and Ernest believed Willie could, and wanted to turn his life around. Ernest helped his wife to sell the home she had shared with Derek Hopson, and hired Willie Foote to repair water damage resulting from Hopson's neglect of the property.

When Willie Foote sat on the witness stand he began by crying and saying he

hated to testify against his former friend. The problem was he had been called to summarize his testimony for the judge. He later had to repeat himself before the jury and couldn't fake his crying again, and had to admit he was always treated well by Ernest and his mother. He also admitted to a second plan to injure Hopson, in spite of the fact he never received money for an earlier attempt. I have not met too many criminals who take credit. Ernest's lawyer did not challenge Willie Foote's story and left the jury pondering the possibility that Ernest could have hired him to hurt Hopson.

The only physical evidence the prosecution had attempting to connect Ernest to a plot with Willie Foote, was some cell phone records showing calls to Ernest's office. The phone company, who produced the records, stamped in large red letters on every page the fact they did NOT consider them reliable records. Ernest's lawyer did little to challenge the records or a witness who claimed Foote used her phone to arrange the injury to Hopson. That witness admitted to changing her cell number numerous times, on some occasions her phone number was changed more than once on the same day. I understand this indicates some type of criminal behavior, possibly theft of phone service.

The two other witnesses who admitted their involvement in the conspiracy did not ever know Ernest was involved. One of the alleged conspirators, who refused to testify, was already convicted and the judge in his trial said there definitely was no conspiracy to injure Hopson.

The alleged victim got on the witness stand and gave the worst performance of an injured man, explaining his attack and describing his response that didn't make sense. No one, confronted with a man and a gun, would walk toward the man and get into the car, holding a briefcase as a shield and expecting the briefcase to keep them from harm. Ernest's lawyer did not help the jury see how the story did not sound true.

Finally, Attorney Dow assured Ernest the prosecution had not proven his case, and strongly recommended Ernest not take the stand. He did not call any witnesses, and did not let the jury see what a truly good man Ernest is. The attorney let the prosecutor hang Ernest without even trying!!

Sincerely


Linda Jane Pierpont, MSW, LCSW

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO BEFORE ME, A
NOTARY PUBLIC, IN AND FOR COUNTY OF
New Haven AND STATE OF CONNECTICUT, THIS
6 DAY OF February, 2012


NOTARY PUBLIC

My Commission Expires
July 01, 2013

Bontiveron Leonard

P.O. Box 672

Marion, CT 06444

January 17, 2012

To: CT Board of Pardons and Paroles

I met Dr. Garlington in 2005, when I moved to the Town of Marion, CT, where he and his family lived. He is a devoted husband and father. A friendship developed with him and his wife and we held Bible study together in our homes.

I can remember Dr. Garlington's excitement as he shared the news about the publishing of his book, "Roots of a Man" and the creation of Christian Warriors International. I said to him, at that time, that in order to be a Christian Warrior, you will have to go through a War, little did we know.

Since then, He has continued his labor of love for mankind during his incarceration. He has taught Bible study; conducted workshops using his book; created and organized a program for inmates to earn college credits; developed "Reading between the Bars" program; and is proposing the "University Televised Video School" project, etc.

He continues to pour himself into his life work for the betterment of mankind of all colors and walks of life. Dr. Garlington's contributions are much needed in our world today and he is certainly worthy of clemency and pardon.

Thank You for your consideration.

Blessings,

Bontiveron Leonard

Bontiveron Leonard, MBA

Subscribed and Sworn to before me, a Notary Public, in and for County of New Haven and State of Connecticut, this 18th day of January, 2012

Sara A. Kircaldie

Notary Public

SARA A. KIRCALDIE
NOTARY PUBLIC
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES JULY 31, 2013