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July 2, 2009

The Honorable Mary A. McLaughlin
Judge, United States District Court
for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania
601 Market Street, Room #13614
Philadelphia, PA 19106-1723

Dear Judge McLaughlin,

I teach Classics at Christendom College, a Catholic liberal arts college in Virginia. I am writing on behalf of Andrew Mogilyansky, a longtime friend of mine from our days at Columbia University. For the following reasons I urge you to be as lenient as possible with Andrew, one of the most generous and virtuous men that I know.

I have known Andrew now well for almost twenty years, and since meeting Andrew at Columbia University I have not only admired him but have counted him among my closest friends. In those two decades, I have seen Andrew go out of his way to help the less fortunate on numerous occasions. On almost every such occasion, he has done so quietly and without any fanfare or reward. I am a practicing Roman Catholic, and while Andrew has no religious faith so far as I know, I cite him constantly to family and friends as an example of a man of high natural virtue. Just last summer I saw him bend over backwards to help someone who had defrauded him of vast sums of money owing to the unfortunate circumstances of that person's wife and children. Andrew was clearly motivated by mercy and not by justice. Although I could cite many more examples of Andrew's high sense of honor, I wish to call to your attention here Andrew's high sense of fidelity to friends and family. He is one of the most trustworthy men that I know.

Andrew's goodness and generosity is well known to my wife and family. Indeed, my four young children love and admire him greatly, and for good reason. When Andrew visited us several years ago, when we were living in California, our many friends got to see firsthand what a gracious and beautiful person he is. Andrew was exceedingly patient around an army of young people and made a tremendously positive impression on several large families. Last summer, we twice visited Andrew, Oksana, and their three young children, staying as overnight guests in the Mogilyansky home on both occasions. My children were welcomed by all, and they love both Andrew and his family. I can assure you that he has always treated them appropriately and respectfully. Truly, I have never known him to treat anyone differently.

For Andrew's sake, and for the sake of his wife and their three innocent children, I urge you to treat him in your sentencing as leniently as possible. Please feel free to contact me, if I can be of further assistance.

Respectfully,



Dr. Mark J. Clark