

October 1, 2007

Honorable Judge John Sedwick
222 W. 7th Avenue
United States District Court
Anchorage, Alaska 99513

Re: Tom Anderson Sentencing

Dear Judge Sedwick:

While this letter does not reflect the position of the Public Safety Employees Association (PSEA), it was as the Executive Director of PSEA, representing state and local law enforcement personnel that I first came to know Tom Anderson. When Tom was first elected in 2002, PSEA also represented Correction Officers.

Tom's sponsorship of House Bill 91 in 2003 was an attempt to benefit law enforcement officers and fire personnel with an enhancement of medical and retirement benefits. It was very critical for recruitment, retention and equity of benefits for peace officers throughout Alaska. Tom fought with his heart and soul, alongside our advocates who were State Troopers and members of the Anchorage Fire Department and from Corrections. The bill died in the Senate Finance Committee, in the last hours of Session, but Tom earned his stripes as our leading voice and advocate in Juneau. He made our members proud, for his effort to help.

In his second term, Tom helped again with HB 40 - addressing benefits and retirement for peace officers. The Department of Public Safety urged him to support through legislation, increasing archaic fine and fee levels for certain misdemeanor offenses, and Tom sponsored HB 384 to aid that effort. Tom also sponsored HB 31 specifically helping increase workers compensation coverage for diseases affecting peace officer and fire personnel incurred in the line of duty. Tom's aggressive and sincere speeches, and oration and debate on the House Floor and through the committee process were very endearing to our members, as a champion of better benefits and protections.

Of course, Tom's signature mark from his legislative tenure is his expansion of the DNA Database statutes, closing loopholes and insuring the provision was broader in collection, and allowed for identification and exoneration. Tom's

legislation has, no doubt, been emulated in other states because of its modernization and inclusiveness, through the passage of his legislation in 2003 and 2005.

I was disheartened to read about Mr. Bobrick's and Mr. Prewitt's disparagements of Tom on the stand at trial. While I don't know the facts of Tom's case, I do know that Tom Anderson represented Corrections Officers, when they were represented by PSEA and then after they separated from our organization, quite vigorously so that they would receive better retirement and medical benefits. Conversely, Mr. Bobrick was terminated from his lobbying position for both the local Anchorage Fire Employees Union and Anchorage Police Department Employees Association, both of whom supported Tom. Tom was a stellar advocate for all peace officers.

Tom Anderson has been a friend to PSEA. While I can't speak for the organization and its members in this letter, I can attest that personally he is a friend and has always gone out of his way both personally and professionally for PSEA and for me.

As you decide Tom's fate, and in recognition that you have latitude in your sentencing, please consider a downward departure and reduced sentence for him. I believe that he has truly accomplished a lot, and advocated even more so, for law enforcement personnel in Alaska. He is a great father and very family oriented with his parents and relatives. That should be taken into account when you assess his bad acts vs. his benefits and hard work for Alaskans and public safety, and his general good character.

Tom Anderson is a good person, a good father, and a good friend. He deserves a chance at redemption, not a long sentence.

Sincerely,



John Cyr