

Date:

Governor Rick Scott
Office of the Governor
The Capitol
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

Pam Bondi, Attorney General
Dept. of Legal Affairs
The Capitol, PL 01
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1050

Jeff Atwater, Chief Financial Officer
Dept. of Financial Services
The Capitol, PL 11
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0309

Adam Putnam, Commissioner
Dept. of Agricultural & Consumer Affairs
The Capitol, PL 08
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0800

Re: Request for Commutation of Sentence for Michael B. Edwards, DOC# 717273, EC#303287

Dear Governor Scott, Mrs. Bondi, Mr. Atwater, and Mr. Putnam:

In 1993 Michael Edwards was arrested and subsequently sentenced as a habitual offender to consecutive 30-year prison terms (totaling 60 years) for selling a small quantity of cocaine to an informant on two occasions to support his past addiction. I have never met or heard of anyone else who has received such an outrageously long sentence for two nonviolent drug offenses, and I'm hoping you will help us correct this grave injustice.

In 2013 Attorney Baya Harrison (bayalaw@aol.com/850-997-8469) filed a request for review asking you to commute Michael's sentence. As of this writing, Michael has already served over 22 years in jail and prison for his nonviolent drug offenses, and Michael's current release date is in the year 2043. That is insane!

If you release Michael, he has a job waiting for him, a place to live, and dozens of family members and friends who will help him, including me. Besides Michael's family and close friends, thousands of other people on Facebook and other websites also support Michael's release. Even retired state attorney Joseph D'Allessandro, whose office originally prosecuted Michael's case, said on NBC News and in the Fort Myers News-Press that Michael has served way too much time for the crime and should be released immediately. That support alone should be enough to convince you to reduce Michael's harsh sentence.

Considering all of the above, as a concerned citizen and voter, I'm writing to ask that you have mercy on Michael and to place his case on the upcoming agenda under Clemency rule 17 and commute Michael's outrageously excessive sentence to time served. Once you look into Michael's case, you will see it is the right thing to do.

Sincerely,

Signature:

Name:

Address:

Telephone:

E-mail: