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Sarah [REDACTED]  
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January 10, 2008

Avern Cohn  
US District Court Judge  
Eastern District of Michigan

The Honorable Avern Cohn:


I am writing this letter in support of Nada Nadim Prouty to express my strong personal belief that Nada should not be incarcerated or made to pay a monetary fine for the offenses to which she has pled guilty.

In writing this letter, I am expressing my personal beliefs. The statements contained herein should not be construed as the position of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) or any other component of the United States Government.

I have known Nada professionally and personally since the summer of 1999 when she reported to the Washington Field Office (WFO) of the FBI as a new Special Agent. At that time I was a relatively new Agent with approximately two years in the FBI. Nada and I were assigned to companion Counterterrorism squads that were physically adjacent to each other, and through frequent personal interaction, we became good friends.

My initial impressions of Nada were that she was one of the hardest working and dedicated Agents that I had met at WFO. My belief is that WFO management felt the same way given the significant national security cases that she was assigned to investigate. While serving the FBI during the time period of 1999-2003, Nada proved her dedication to the mission of fighting terrorism on all fronts by traveling to all corners of the world in the hopes of bringing terrorists to justice and comfort to the families who lost loved ones at the hands of the terrorists she sought. Nada never complained about her workload, the dangerous locations her investigations led her to, or the time she spent traveling because of her unwavering dedication and loyalty to the FBI and her desire to protect the rights and freedoms of the country she called home. Nada volunteered readily for assignments in dangerous locations; places other Agents did not want to go to. Given her Arabic language skills and cultural knowledge, Nada frequently, and willingly, helped the Agents on her squad as well as other Agents assigned to WFO.

When Nada left the FBI for the CIA in 2003, I was sad to see her leave. I believed then, as I do today, that the FBI lost one of its most talented and dedicated Agents. However, I knew that Nada was making the right decision for herself and her family, and I found comfort in the fact that she was going to continue to serve the U.S. Government in the war against terrorism. I stayed in touch with Nada periodically, and later learned that she



had been stationed in Iraq and served in that dangerous environment in an operational capacity while pregnant with her daughter. This further solidified my belief that Nada truly was one of the bravest and most exceptional officers in the U.S. Government. I am proud to be able to say that Nada was a colleague, but more importantly, a friend.

After Nada and Gordon welcomed their daughter Eva into the world, I came to know another side of Nada: that of a loving, compassionate and nurturing mother. Nada was perfectly able to balance the demands of motherhood and her professional career. Her career with the CIA continued to grow as she and Gordon raised a beautiful and intelligent daughter.

Based on the above and what I believe to be the truth regarding Nada's contribution to the security of our nation, I do not believe that she deserves to be incarcerated or forced to pay a monetary penalty for the offenses for which she has been charged. Although Nada may have obtained her citizenship in a manner inconsistent with proper legal process, I think people should thoughtfully consider Nada's life situation during the time in which she sought naturalization. Nada was a young teenager working at menial jobs and living hand to mouth in an attempt to realize the American dream. When individuals in the Lebanese community in which Nada resided offered her bad advice, she accepted because she did not know any better and because she desperately wanted to begin a new, safe and free life in the United States.

After receiving her citizenship, Nada was a model citizen who sought higher education and volunteer opportunities to serve her community. Wanting to give back to the country that took her in, she eventually decided to pursue employment with the U.S. Government, doing what most immigrants do not choose as a career. She chose to serve her country by becoming a Special Agent with the FBI. In my opinion, Nada's work ethic, dedication to the FBI mission, and work performance record are inconsistent with allegations that she maliciously defrauded the U.S. Government to obtain citizenship with the intent to insinuate herself into a high-level position to purposefully harm the Government. These are not the actions of the person I have come to know over the past nine years. I believe that other Agents at the FBI feel the same way, but out of fear of retribution, have not voiced this same opinion.

Although I was not privy to the facts the Government relied upon in making its case against Nada, I believe there are several inconsistent conclusions which have been drawn that further my resolve that Nada should not be incarcerated or be made to pay a fine. First, after a two-year investigation, it was never shown that Nada committed espionage or improperly exfiltrated classified or confidential documents to terrorist subjects or organizations. Secondly, during her four plus years of service with the CIA, Nada was never accused of any wrongdoing.

In conclusion, I personally believe that Nada is an admirable and trustworthy person who in no way poses a threat to the United States. Rather, I believe that Nada, despite any mistakes she may have made in the past, is a person dedicated to her husband, daughter and this country. Without a doubt, Nada and her family have paid the ultimate price for

the wrongdoings for which she is charged: the loss of her U.S. citizenship. This loss should not be compounded by punishing Nada, Gordon and Eva further by a period of incarceration or monetary fine.

Respectfully,

A large, solid black rectangular redaction covering the signature area.

Sarah 