

FEDERAL PUBLIC DEFENDER
Western District of Washington

Thomas W. Hillier, II
Federal Public Defender

June 30, 2003

Michael G. Santos
Reg No 16377-004
PO Box 2000
Fort Dix NJ 08690

Dear Mr. Santos:

I received your letter and a copy of your book, *What If I Go to Prison?* Thank you so much for the book. It is a remarkable achievement and provides extraordinary information, advice and insight. I am certain it will get a lot of use around this office and I expect to order more copies. I have also "plugged" the book through an email to my entire CJA Panel. We have listed the book on our website, together with ordering information. I hope others will buy it as I am certain anyone who uses it will find it helpful. I have got to figure out a "loan system" for clients.

I hear good things about you from everybody I know who had the privilege of working with you. I am sorry you are where you are, but hope your time passes safely and your stay is as short as can be. I admire your attitude and determination to do the best with the hand you were dealt. Take care.

Very truly yours,



Thomas W. Hillier II
Federal Public Defender

:ph

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June 27, 2003

Michael G. Santos
#16377-004
Building 5702
Post Office Box 2000
Fort Dix, NJ 08640

Dear Michael:

You are to be complimented for the useful book. I thank you for sending it to me. I know it will be helpful to existing prisoners and those folks who are confronted with time away from their loved ones.

I vividly remember numerous meetings with a client several years ago who had been sentenced, but had to wait several months before surrendering. At each of those meetings I was bombarded with questions about what he could expect in prison and how to handle the problems. My co-counsel and I retained the expensive services of a so-called expert who really wasn't much help. Your book would have done the job.

Since you asked me to do what I could to let clients know of your book, I have sent it to a newspaper client who might choose to review it although, of course, there is no promise.

My best wishes are with you and my friend, Bob Brennan. I know he has a high regard for you. You guys, I hope, will continue to comfort each other during your ordeals.

Sincerely,



Donald A. Robinson

DAR/gd

P.S. As you asked, since I sent the client the book, please send me another one.

STEPHEN ROBERT LACHEEN
AND ASSOCIATES

ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELLORS AT LAW

STEPHEN ROBERT LACHEEN *
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GEORGE E. GOLDSTEIN
(1938-1997)

* MEMBER PA AND FLA BARS
** MEMBER PA AND NJ BARS

July 28, 2003

Mr. Michael G. Santos
Register #16377-004
FCI Fort Dix, Bldg. 5702
P.O. Box 2000
Fort Dix, NJ 08640

Re: "What If I Go to Prison?"

Dear Mr. Santos:

I am very much impressed with your book to the extent that I intend to include in a monthly newsletter which I circulate among the American Board of Criminal Lawyers, a group of about 250 criminal defense lawyers from all over the country, the attached proposed Book Review.

I hope that it will produce some results for you.

I wish you well, can only say keep up the good work.

Yours very truly,


STEPHEN ROBERT LACHEEN

SRL/rab
Enclosure

LAWRENCE E. BATHGATE, II

6/25/03

Michael,

Thanks for the book. I
have already read it, and
extend my congratulations for
an insightful portrayal of the system
& life inside. Please extend my
warm regards to REB. Sincerely,
L

Garland, Samuel & Loeb, P.C.

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July 2, 2003

Reuben A. Garland (1903-1982)

**Mr. Michael G. Santos #16377-004
Building 5702
P. O. Box 2000
Fort Dix, NJ 08640**

Dear Mr. Santos:

I have received your letter of June 25, 2003. Janice Singer first introduced me to your fine book, What If I Go To Prison?. My office has since ordered additional copies.

It is a very informative book, and I believe that it indeed took someone who has been there to write it. You have done a remarkable job of introducing first-timers to the prison system.

Thank you for your letter. I shall not hesitate to recommend your book to others, and I look forward to the publication of your next two books.

Take it easy.

Sincerely yours,



EDWARD T.M. GARLAND

ETMG/PH

MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY

January 3, 2004

President George W. Bush
c/o Mr. Roger Adams
Office of the U.S. Pardon Attorney
U.S. Department of Justice
500 First Street, N.W.
Fourth floor
Washington, D.C. 20530-0001

Dear President Bush:

I have recently become aware that a Commutation of Sentence Petition has been filed regarding **Michael Santos, #16377-004**, who has served more than fifteen years in federal prison after being convicted for a drug offense as 23-year-old first offender. I am not personally acquainted with Mr. Santos. However, like so many other professors who teach and write about criminal justice throughout the United States, I have become familiar with—and extremely impressed by—Mr. Santos through his writings. It is clear to me that Mr. Santos has been extraordinarily successful in devoting his prison years toward both self-improvement and highly-beneficial public service through his publications that are used to educate students throughout the country about imprisonment and criminal justice system. I am not aware of any prisoner who has been more impressive in confronting his misdeeds and then undertaking a single-minded, successful effort at self-improvement over a period of many years beginning with his very first days in the federal prison system. Based on what I know of Mr. Santos—as well as what I know about other prisoners—I believe that Mr. Santos is most deserving of your serious consideration for commutation of his sentence.

As you know from materials already submitted to you, Mr. Santos has been absolutely remarkable in his dedication to pursuing a college degree, a graduate degree, and additional graduate education. I see many college students who are blessed with advantages and resources, yet they lack the intellect, self-discipline, and perseverance that are so evident in the accomplishments of Mr. Santos, who gained his education while overcoming many obstacles in the difficult environment of prison. More importantly, Mr. Santos has used his education to make significant contributions to society through his writings about imprisonment and the criminal justice system. Of particular importance is his recent book, *About Prison* (2004) published by Thomson Wadsworth Publishing, the most prominent textbook publisher in the field of criminal justice. The insights and descriptions presented by Mr. Santos in this book are extremely valuable for criminal justice students at colleges and universities throughout the country. Mr. Santos is already well-known



SCHOOL OF
Criminal
Justice
COLLEGE OF
SOCIAL SCIENCE

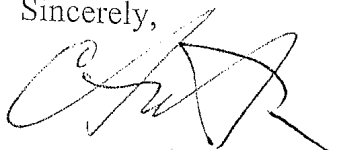
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to many criminal justice students because his descriptions of the criminal justice system have been included in other books, including my own best-selling introductory textbooks, *The American System of Criminal Justice* and *Criminal Justice in America* written with Prof. George Cole. By willingly looking honestly at himself and sharing his insights with young people, Mr. Santos has provided an especially valuable and selfless public service.

Those of us who spend our professional lives studying issues in criminal justice often analyze the nature and purposes of punishment. There is no question that criminal offenders require punishment under our system of law and justice. However, scholars also recognize that there are differences among offenses and offenders that invite consideration of whether society's interests are well served by expending significant resources for the long-term incapacitation and punishment of specific offenders who have re-made themselves into productive individuals who can and will make positive contributions to society. Mr. Santos has paid a heavy price for his misdeeds. Indeed, he has served more years in prison than many offenders throughout the country who have committed more numerous, more serious, and more violent offenses. As I look at the self-improvement, public service, and professional achievements presented by Mr. Santos, I believe that there is every reason to predict that society will gain its greatest benefits through the release of an individual who clearly has much to contribute and poses little risk of future criminality. I urge you to give the Petition for Commutation your most consideration. Mr. Santos is most deserving of the exercise of this important aspect your presidential authority.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Christopher E. Smith, J.D., Ph.D.
Professor of Criminal Justice