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## "Where There Is Unity, There Is Strength"

August 20, 2013

Dear Honorable Judge Frances E. McGee,

On behalf of the Dayton Unit NAACP, I am requesting that you have mercy on Lewis R. Leftwich as you consider him for Judicial Release. I am sending this communication prior to you rendering your decision, with hope that the final outcome will be release.

On, Saturday, August 11, 2013, I met with Rev. Oscar E. Blair, Pastor of Greater Friendship Missionary Baptist Church, to tour his new church located at 4475 Old Troy Pike, Dayton, Ohio, 45404. During the tour, Rev. Blair was talking to me about a business he is intending to open called Sugarbell's Kitchen located at 6418 Chambersburg Rd., Huber Heights, Ohio 45424. He shared his strategic plan and said that in order for his vision to be fulfilled that he was praying that his future Managing Partner, Head Chef and Senior Administrator would be released from prison. He also said the person he was referring to would serve as the Chairman of his Deacon's Ministry. After listening to all of this, I inquired about the person in prison. He said maybe I should speak to Mr. Leftwich wife, Mrs. Christobel H. Leftwich, who is also a member of his church, I said no problem.

He called her and she came to the church. I asked her why she felt her husband should be released and in a written statement she said the following, "I would like my husband home because I need him to assist with the care of my elderly mother, to lead and guide his family, sisters and children. His bother has deceased since he has been incarcerated so my husband needs to be here to assist with helping his sisters to take care of their deceased mother's home. I need him here to make our home complete again and help with finances. My finances are really stretched without him helping. I need him here just to be a husband and take care of the necessities in our home. I miss serving God with him. Last but not least, *I have forgiven my husband for his behavior and hopefully the complainant has forgiven him too*. I believe our marriage is stronger than ever before after 43 years." I asked what did she mean about his behavior, and she replied, "his infidelities." She also said that she has no animosity against the woman who slept with her husband and has forgiven her as well. She further said that her husband was wrong and should have been punished but feels that he has served enough time in the penitentiary for his actions.

After reading about the case online, this is clearly an eight year adultery case gone severely wrong. There are very questionable concerns regarding the scratch on the victims face and if there was actually a gun involved in the incident.

In closing, if a wife can endure this type of disloyal situation and still have a forgiving heart like our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, who are we not to forgive too?

If you have further questions or concerns, I can be reached at (937) 222-2172 or by e-mail at <u>naacpdayton3181@sbcglobal.net</u>

Your community servant,

Durüch I. forward, M.C.E.

Derrick L. Foward, M.C.E. President Dayton Unit NAACP