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California State Senate

SENATOR
HOLLY J. MITCHELL
THIRTIETH SENATE DISTRICT



CHAIR
BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE #3

COMMITTEES
BUDGET
HEALTH
INSURANCE
LABOR
RULES
JOINT LEGISLATIVE BUDGET

July 12, 2016

Edwin J. Hutchison
1 Main St
San Quentin, CA 94974

Dear Mr. Hutchison,

Thank you for contacting my office regarding SB 1157. I care deeply about the concerns of the residents of California and I appreciate you contacting me regarding the issue of incarceration and at risk youth. You will be pleased to know that SB 1157 was passed by the Assembly Public Safety Committee as of June 21, 2016. Per your request, I have enclosed a copy of Governor Brown's Public Safety and Rehabilitation Act of 2016.

I have also taken the liberty of attaching the contact information of the members of the Senate and Assembly Public Safety Committees. I encourage you to reach out to them regarding your ideas to serve at risk youth. I am confident the members of this Committee will provide you with the time and attention your offer warrants.

I hope you will continue to keep me apprised of your views on this or any state issue of concern to you. Thank you again for contacting my office.

Demand more,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Hj Mitchell".

Senator Holly J. Mitchell
30th Senate District



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PO Box 151642

San Rafael CA 94915

415.459.9800

www.InsightPrisonProject.org

December 9, 2015

Edwin Hutchinson, CDCR #P68859

San Quentin State Prison

San Quentin, CA 94964

Class: Victim Offender Education Group (VOEG)

Inside Facilitator Training

Date of completion: December 9th, 2015

Dear Edwin,

Thank you for your decision to participate in the Victim Offender Education Group (VOEG) Inside-Facilitator Training. Your presence in the group enhanced the group experience for everyone due to your willingness to participate, your courage to openly share your successes and challenges and your desire to learn.

Much of what makes this deep work of accountability, insight and empathy a success comes from a deep-seated belief in yourself and in your group. By deciding to further your learning, you have chosen to take on more responsibility and support others in the ways you have been supported.

We hope that you continue on your journey and choose to be a role model of compassion, healthy communication and honesty so others may follow in your footsteps.

Thank you again for your participation in the Victim Offender Education Group Inside-Facilitator Training and for being such a strong example of what this group is all about.

We look forward to working with you more in the future.

Sincerely,

Karena H. Montag, MFT

Facilitator, VOEG

Programs Director / Clinical Supervisor

Insight Prison Project



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San Rafael CA 94915

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June 11, 2016

Edwin Hutchinson, CDCR #P-68859

San Quentin State Prison

San Quentin, CA 94964

Class: Victim Offender Education Group (VOEG)

Date of completion: June 11, 2016

Dear Edwin,

We just want to take the opportunity to thank you for your decision to facilitate in the Victim Offender Education Group (VOEG). Your presence in the group enhanced the group experience for everyone due to your willingness to share, your honesty and your courage to be real. The panel of survivors with whom you met also expressed their appreciation of your willingness to share your story with them and to hear their stories with such compassion and empathy.

As you know, no one really knows quite what to expect when they first begin this group. We thank you for trusting the process and making the effort to "connect the dots" of your own life in an attempt to live a life free of crime and harm to yourself or anyone else.

We hope that you continue on your journey and choose to be a role model of compassion, healthy communication and honesty so others may follow in your footsteps.

Thank you again for your facilitation of the Victim Offender Education Group and for being such a wonderful example of what this group is all about.

We look forward to working with you more in the future.

Sincerely,

David Belden
Facilitator, VOEG

Bethany Woolman
Facilitator, VOEG

Karena H. Montag, MFT
Programs Director / Clinical Supervisor
Insight Prison Project

Date: Tuesday, October 20, 2015

From: Correctional Officer C.T. Smith

RE: *People of the State of California vs. Edwin Jay Hutchison*
Case No. NA040270 LASC-South Dept. SOJ

Subject: Reference Letter in Support of Edwin Jay Hutchison (CDCR No. P-68859)

To: The Honorable Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Gary J. Ferrari

Your Honor,

Allow me to introduce myself to the court. My name is C.T. Smith and I am a 2nd Watch Correctional Officer employed at California State Prison-San Quentin for over twenty-eight (28) years. I first met inmate Hutchison shortly after his arrival at CSP-San Quentin on March 29, 2009.

As my duties call for me to have close interpersonal contacts with a variety of different prisoners, including those housed on "death row" as condemned inmates, protective custody ("sensitive needs") inmates, mainline general population ("GP") inmates, and reception center ("RC") inmates. This has provided me with an objective point of view when it comes to the conduct and behavioral patterns of these inmates. Although I cannot offer an expert testimony of the cognitive behavioral patterns of inmates on a clinical level, I do possess over two and one half decades of experience and interpersonal contacts with incarcerated individuals, which provides me with a solid foundation for gauging when an inmate is "authentic" and being "genuine" and when they are still "criminally-minded".

However, more importantly, since inmate Hutchison's arrival, here at CSP-San Quentin in 2009, he has had no disciplinary violations, whatsoever, and this demonstrates his willingness to "obey the rules". During our many conversations, he has often expressed and displayed evidence of his sincere remorse for committing the instant offense of second-degree robbery in 1999, for which he is sentenced to a prison term of thirty-years-to-life under the "Three Strikes" law. In addition, it must be noted that inmate Hutchison is known as a "peacemaker" to the other inmates at CSP-San Quentin and has the respect of the CDCR prison staff, as well.

Based upon my personal observations, conversations and interactions with inmate Hutchison, I am of the strong opinion and am inclined to believe that inmate Hutchison is no longer a threat to society. He has addressed his past criminal behavior, and substance abuse issues, and is fully prepared to successfully transition back into his community as a positive and productive member of society.

Therefore, I fully endorse the release of inmate Hutchison and submit this reference letter in support thereof.

If you have questions regarding inmate Hutchison, contact me at (415) 454-1460, ext: 3857 or 3432.

C/O C.T. Smith
C/O C.T. Smith 10/20/15

State of California
California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation



DATE: February 18, 2016

TO: Whom it May Concern

FROM: REYES, R.
Correctional Officer/2nd Watch/Education Dept.
California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation
San Quentin State Prison, San Quentin, CA 94964

SUBJECT: REFERENCE LETTER IN SUPPORT OF INMATE HUTCHISON,
EDWIN JAY (CDCR NO. P-68859)

This letter is authorized in support of inmate Hutchison's (P-68859) model behavior and dedication which he has displayed toward his education and personal rehabilitation.

In my functions as the 2nd watch Education Department Correctional Officer, I have noticed inmate Hutchison's continued devotion, preservation, and determination in his higher learning since January of 2013. Inmate Hutchison is a dedicated student of Patten University, which is an on-site college offering Associate of Arts degrees.

Over the years inmate Hutchison has always been a courteous, insightful and respectful individual towards me, other staff, and his fellow inmates. In our many discussions, he has expressed the importance of his education and how conducive this experience has been in preparing him in becoming a productive, responsible, and law-abiding citizen upon his release from prison.

It is my opinion that inmate Hutchison has the necessary life sustaining abilities and education to be successful, as well as the perseverance, ambition, and initiative which will help guard him against any possibility of recidivism. As inmate Hutchison will be graduating with his "AA" degree in June 2016, not only will he have academic skills but also the interpersonal, social survival skills, along with the right attitudes, values, sense of responsibility, and self-reliance necessary to live in the mainstream of society.

It is commendable to see such a transformation in a prisoner and inmate Hutchison's improved self-worth and hope for the future is outstanding.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (415) 454-1460 Ex. 6701


C/O Reyes