

January 4, 2004

The Honorable William J. Haynes, Jr.  
U.S. District Judge  
c/o Peter J. Strianse, Esq.  
Tune, Entekin and White, PC  
Suite 2100, AmSouth Center  
315 Deaderick Street  
Nashville, TN 37238-2100

Re: Bernard H. Ellis, Jr., MA, MPH

Dear Judge Haynes,

I own a country store in the community of Fly, Tennessee. I run my store twelve hours a day, seven days a week; so I see drug abuse first-hand, every day. I do not condone the growing of marijuana, but I am not so close-minded that I cannot see the medical uses of marijuana. I think our laws and our governing bodies are moving too slow in allowing the medical use of marijuana.

Bernie Ellis is a hard-working and honest man. I have seen Bernie almost every day for the past twenty years, either on his land where I hunt, in my store or in the community. In all that time, I have never seen him high on drugs or marijuana. I have never seen him mistreat a man or a dog.

In the communities of Bethel, Fly and Santa Fe, Bernie has been creative in his ideas and the work that he has given freely to these communities many times over the years. Now in Bernie's time of need, I would ask of you that Bernie's time would be better served in a community way, and that sentencing him to probation and community service (instead of prison) would be more valuable to our communities.

Thank you for your time to read this letter of support for Bernie.

Sincerely,

B. Wilson Fly