

Date

United States Department of Justice
Office of the Pardon Attorney
950 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC 20530

Attn: Rosalind Sargent-Burns, Pardon Attorney

Re: A Plea for a Commutation of Sentence (case#C273312) on behalf of Matthew F. Hale, Federal Prisoner #15177-424, USP Marion CMU, U.S. Penitentiary, PO Box 1000, Marion, IL 62959

Dear Ms. Sargent-Burns:

The recently pardoned associate of President Trump, Rodger Stone, was said to be convicted by an unfair trial by jury. Like Mr. Stone, Matthew F. Hale was also the victim of a biased jury and jury foreman.

Perhaps illegally, the jury foreman selected in Mr. Hale's criminal case was a coworker of someone who was a victim of a crime of an associate of Mr. Hale's, a man named Benjamin Nathaniel Smith, and was, therefore, not an unbiased peer. Additionally, the crimes of this associate of Mr. Hale's were brought into the criminal trial of Mr. Hale although no evidence exists of a link between the crimes of this other individual and Mr. Hale, biasing the jury unfairly against Mr. Hale.

Furthermore, and contrary to well-established American jurisprudence, Mr. Hale was denied a fair trial because his defense attorney was blatantly and obviously incompetent. As can be discovered in the criminal trial transcripts, Mr. Hale's attorney failed to present a case in defense of Mr. Hale, as was his legal duty. Rather, he simply rested his case without presenting a defense, all while denigrating his client in front of the jury to add insult to injury.

Finally, no clear and convincing evidence was presented by the State that demonstrated Mr. Hale's violation of federal statutes regarding solicitation to murder a federal judge. Instead, the evidence clearly demonstrates that it was only the paid federal informant who was soliciting Mr. Hale to a murder, whose alleged target was not clearly established as a federal judge, in any case.

Please examine Mr. Hale's case and take the necessary actions to see to it that Mr. Hale is granted either a retrial, a pardon, or a commutation of his extremely heavy-handed and unjust sentence. He has already served 17 years of a 40-year sentence without precedent in U.S. history. His being arbitrarily classified as a "terrorist" without evidence enhanced the sentence fourfold. Please restore our confidence in the justice of the U.S. Judicial System by taking action on behalf of Mr. Hale. Thank you.

Sincerely,