

Tony Ray, M.A.
Certified Executive Coach

Tony Ray, M.A.
2699 Tyler Way
West Sacramento, CA 95691
September 14, 2005

Board of Prison Terms
1550 K Street, Suite 600
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: PAROLE HEARING FOR MR. LAZOR, C-73842

I have known Mr. Lazor for almost 30 years, since before his imprisonment. He is above reproach as a man of integrity. His non-criminal, nonviolent nature and conduct renders him out of place in prison. I've witnessed this when visiting him for this past year, and knew him well during our friendship during the 70s. Mr. Lazor does not fit the usual profile of a typical prison inmate. As such, the system does not work to his benefit, but to the contrary. The resulting unreliable "record" as to his true behavior, character and nature are therefore suspect. I believe that Mr. Lazor is being punished and singled out for being a "whistle blower" – attempting to alert the authorities to the atrocities within the correctional system.

Mr. Lazor shot an armed intruder in self-defense with a legally owned gun when the man broke down his private door in a violent rage. The presently available evidence proves this. After wounding the man, Mr. Lazor immediately called the police and medical personnel to save the attacker's life. He has been imprisoned for this for 22 years, after being *acquitted* of first degree murder.

Since Mr. Lazor's last parole hearing, Coroner Dr. Angelo K. Ozoa, who had written the autopsy report and testified against Mr. Lazor, was ruled incompetent by the Medical Board of California after it was discovered that he had a pattern of malpractice and misconduct in autopsy reporting. He lost his job as coroner and his medical license as well, and was shown in a published court decision to have falsified an autopsy report and then committed perjury to cover it up. (Galbraith vs. City and County of Santa Clara).

Mr. Lazor has always maintained that Dr. Ozoa's autopsy in his own case was also erroneous. Mr. Lazor's lifelong reputation for honesty was impeccable and above reproach. However, by cremating the body, the evidence proving his innocence was destroyed which could have proven Mr. Lazor's claim was true. This left only flawed forensic and possibly falsified evidence portraying the victim as being shot in the back, thus damaging Mr. Lazor's theretofore unquestionable credibility. I've been told that there are tests now available that could indicate the direction from which the shot was fired, proving it was in self-defense.

Although steadfastly maintaining that his act was one of self-defense where he panicked under the belief that his own life was in danger, I personally witnessed Mr. Lazor's expression of remorse over the death of Mr. Allred. His despondency over taking the life of a fellow human being has made a powerful impression on me during our monthly visits at Mule Creek Prison in Ione, CA.

There is absolutely no justification for keeping someone like Mr. Lazor Imprisoned. Here is a synopsis of some of the critical points that should be considered now:

1. Mr. Lazor had a sterling background record of no prior criminal history.
2. He has committed no violence in prison life or in life outside of prison ever, except for this one incident of self-defense. (This covers over 50 years!).
3. This talented poet, author, songwriter, and artist has a great deal to offer society if just given the chance. He was always an asset to our communities in many ways, using his talents to benefit all.
4. Mr. Lazor is well known to have been an outspoken crusader against drugs and alcohol since his youth and remains so today, all during and after 22 years in prison. He is also one of the most religious and spiritual people I know. Before eating during my visits, he always asks to hold my hand and pray.

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5. The law governing parole release mandated his release in 1992 unless a danger to society. Mr. Lazor is as far as anyone could ever be from being a danger to society.

6. Mr. Lazor's "bad conduct reports" in prison have been a scheme of fabrications for his "whistle-blowing" against his keepers and even so -- none of these reports indicate (even if they were true) that he is in any way a danger to society.

7. Mr. Lazor was free on bail after the self-defense killing, before and during the trial, for eight months with *no restrictions*. He responsibly reported to every court date on time while possibly facing life in prison, and gave much to society during this period, as previously, and as he will again if you will just give him that chance. (This alone proves an absence of danger to society).

It is a very serious miscarriage of justice that the State of California, via the BPT, is committing by keeping Mr. Lazor in prison. I believe in justice and being responsible for one's actions, however Mr. Lazor is not a Lyle Menendez (a sadistic murderer), with whom he shares the same daily treatment and facility. Here's a case where you can use your power for good, to give a man's life back to him, and to society whom he had served so beneficially before and even during his confinement. Even in the inhumane conditions he is forced to endure, he continues to be a caring, thoughtful and giving friend.

After 22 years of prison life, Mr. Lazor continues to maintain an intelligent and compassionate dialogue with his friends and supporters, including me. There is no doubt in my mind that Mr. Lazor will be not only an asset to the community, but a prolific contributor to the arts and others in need. I also fear for his health and life because of the conditions under which he is forced to endure, the lack of adequate medical treatment, and the unjustified abuse he has received in the past from fellow inmates *and* guards.

I stand behind Mr. Lazor and all that I've stated, 100%. I believe in MR. Lazor because I knew him as a friend before this tragedy. We were skydiving buddies together and I often trusted him with my life. After a day of parachuting, we would all go out for a beer - but he would always order hot water with lemon, long before it was trendy to do so. He was also a guest at my home on many occasions.

Violence and deceit are not in his nature, then or now. The hundreds of friends who have written letters to the Court and to the BPT on behalf of Mr. Lazor will swear to that as being the truth. I urge you now, on behalf of society: I respectfully request, in the name of justice, that you grant parole to Mr. Lazor

Sincerely,



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Professional Experience

Training Consultant & Executive Coach, *a Ray of Light, Sacramento, CA* 1994 ~ present

- Facilitated Management Development courses, Train-the-Trainer programs and Interpersonal Skill Development workshops for both large and small organizations.

Project Management Training Consultant, *LifeScan, Milpitas, CA* 2001 ~ 2002

- Training Project consultant for the Design Controls team to prepare for an FDA audit.
- Compiled training materials and documentation, facilitated training for 400+ employees.

Customer Support Training Manager, *PRI Automation, Mt. View, CA* 2000 ~ 2001

- Managed the Customer Support Training department including customer training, new product training, customer service and Management / Leadership Development.

Owner and Manager, *Bedazzle, Sacramento, CA* 1991 ~ 1993

- Acquired a business in Arden Fair mall that was run-down and losing money. Turned it around to become a very popular, attractive and profitable high-volume retail operation.

Corporate Training Manager, *Transamerica Glass, Seattle, WA* 1990 ~ 1991

- Designed and managed Corporate Training Programs including technical, administrative, manufacturing and management training for 60 branch offices.

Taught: San Jose / Evergreen Community College, Leadership 2000 (Achieve Global)

Taught: University of California, Berkeley, Training & Development Certification Program

Education

Masters Degree, *Education* San Jose State University, CA
Bachelor of Arts, *Psychology* San Diego State University, CA
Certification, Industrial & Organizational Psychology, focus on Executive Coaching

American Society for Training and Development

- *Silicon Valley Chapter* Board of Directors, Three years
- *Puget Sound Chapter* Professional Senior Trainers Forum
- *Sacramento Chapter* Active Member

COMMERCIAL PROGRAM CERTIFICATIONS

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"Leadership 2000" by Zenger Miller (Achieve Global) [supervised internship]

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a video based, behavior modeling supervisory training program

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