

Hon. John Sedwick,
United States District Court Judge,
222 w. 7th Ave.,
Anchorage, AK, 99501

Dear Judge Sedwick,

I'm writing to you today in the matter of the upcoming sentencing of William Bobrick, and wished to offer, most respectfully, some thoughts for your consideration. I have known Bill for about 10 years, and feel compelled to get on the record due to this long-standing friendship.

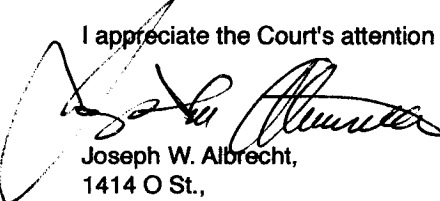
I met Bill when I was serving as President of the Anchorage Fire Fighter's Union, a post I held for 6 years, and it was during this period that Bill became our lobbyist. I found him to be a person of his word, and grew to depend on his conscientious and diligent work on our Union's behalf. Like most others who know Bill, I was very surprised and disturbed to learn of his illegal activities because of this previously well-earned esteem and high regard.

I am also very conscious of the serious nature of his crime, and intend in no way to minimize this aspect of the matter. Our system depends on clarity and honest discharge of the public's business, and those who violate these principals damage the public's trust and confidence in government. However, I also feel that in this instance, Bill's lapse was a very uncharacteristic aberration in the course of an otherwise admirable career. Mr. Bobrick has served on numerous Boards, commissions, and in other positions of trust for many years, and on balance, these positive contributions should count for something when fairly weighed against this single black mark. For example, I know that Bill's long involvement with Standing Together Against Rape raised community awareness and interest enough to bring this personally devastating crime it's full measure of professional empathy and legislative response. Both Police and Hospital post-crime handling of rape victims are vast improvements as opposed to the old days, and this is in large part because of the work of S.T.A.R.

Over the years, Bill and I became friends, and on a personal level I can attest to other fine qualities. For example, in 2004, I went through a painful and confusing divorce, one that ended a 22-year marriage, and I found myself without so much as two dimes to rub together. Bill and his wife Jessica opened their home to me for 4 months, which gave me a chance to get back on my feet both emotionally and financially. They never asked me for anything, and I honestly don't know what I would have done without them. During this time, I learned that the Bobrick's often adopt abandoned animals from the pound, giving them a safe and comfortable life instead of an indifferent disposal.

In conclusion, and with respect, I would like to point out to the Court that a lengthy confinement in prison would be a profound waste of Bill's many talents. I don't know enough of the law to anticipate what might be the Court's intention in this area, but I do know that Bill very much wants to make amends and atone for his mistake. Although I haven't discussed it with him, I believe that to the extent possible, some sort of punishment that puts him to work in a worthwhile community service area would be appropriate. Bill has expressed his deep regret and remorse to me on many occasions, and I have to add that when I saw him again after a lapse of several months, I was shocked at his weight loss, and would have known that he was under some painful cloud even if I hadn't been aware of the situation.

I appreciate the Court's attention to this letter, and would like to thank you for your consideration.



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