

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,)	
)	
)	
v.)	Criminal No. 18-CR-10399 - DPW
)	
BRIAN R. WALSH,)	
Defendant)	

LETTERS IN SUPPORT OF BRIAN WALSH

Defendant Brian Walsh submits the following attached letters in connection with his sentencing on October 6, 2021:

1. Letter from Nikola Dimitrijevic;
2. Letter from Jesse Deveau;
3. Letter from Peter Kirby;
4. Letter from Brian Neto Pereira;
5. Letter from A.J. Leto;
6. Letter from Abraham Gonzalez
7. Letter from Rayma Ferrer;
8. Letter from Momcilo Dimitrijevic; and
9. Letter of Vittorio Ettore.

Counsel received these letters after the filing of the Sentencing Memorandum on September 10, 2021.

Dated: September 30, 2021

Respectfully submitted,

BRIAN R. WALSHE

By his attorneys,

/s/ Tracy A. Miner

Tracy A. Miner (BBO No. 547137)

Miner Siddall LLP

101 Federal Street, Suite 650

Boston, MA 02110

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tminer@msdefenders.com

Samuel Goldberg (BBO No. 549248)

Law Offices of Samuel Goldberg

120 Washington Street, Office 100A

Salem, MA 01970

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that the foregoing document was served by ECF on counsel for the government on September 30, 2021.

/s/ Tracy A. Miner

Tracy A. Miner

TO: The Honorable Judge Douglas P. Woodlock
Senior Judge of the United State District Court for the District of Massachusetts
1 Courthouse Way
Boston, MA 02210

FR: Nikola Dimitrijevic
188 Elena Crescent
Maple, ON L6A 2K2
Canada
nikdivic02@gmail.com

RE: Brian Walshe

Dear Judge Woodlock,

My name is Nikola Dimitrijevic, I am a member of the Zanchin Auto Group and a proud member of Volkswagen Canada.

Brian Walshe is my uncle and husband to my aunt. They have been married for several years now, had children and have grown to be parents together.

Ever since I have known Brian he has been an open and charming character. When we would visit, he would try his hardest to make sure that we would be comfortable and has proven that he has a place in his heart for our family. I tend to reflect on the time we spent together before the pandemic struck. The numerous trips that my family has gone through to support my aunt and Brian have all been very memorable. Trips ranging from the Smithsonian museums in DC to spending time together by the port in Montreal, it is good to see everyone coming together in Boston to welcome the arrival of my two new cousins.

Overtime I have learned to accept Brian's humour, which is a big part of what I relate to when thinking about Brian. It is difficult to believe that a person as complex as Brian is, would end up rooted in a situation such as this one. No matter when I see him, he always has a positive message to spread.

The many memories we have made together wouldn't have been possible without the well thought out daily plans that Brian made before our arrival. He has enabled me to experience the culture in the U.S and has helped me open up my eyes as a young person to what life has in store for me, whether that be at home or somewhere else.

During the pandemic, Brian has not only supported my family by contacting us regularly but has also reached out to others in order to aid those who need help most. These times have separated many friends, families and businesses from the people who matter most to them. I hope to return to the U.S to visit my closest family and hope to be reunited with this side of my family after a two year absence.

I believe that Brian will be able to scale this time in his life as he has gone through so many challenges so far in his life.

I look forward to seeing him once again.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'ND' with a stylized flourish.

Nikola Dimitrijevic

In Maple, September 29th, 2021

Jesse Deveau

700 Winthrop Ave #6
Revere, MA 02151
(508)345-2207
jesse@freshpullz.com

September 28, 2021

TO: The Honorable Judge Douglas P. Woodlock

Senior Judge of the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts
1 Courthouse Way
Boston, MA 02210

Dear Judge Woodlock,,

I was honored when I was asked to speak to Brian's character in this capacity. I have been looking for an opportunity to express to him just how much of a role he has played in my recent success. My name is Jesse Deveau, and when I first met Brian Walshe I was a young doorman at the Ritz Carlton Hotel in Boston. I had known him as a recurring guest of the hotel for years when he married his wife Ana. Ana was my direct supervisor at the hotel and invited me to participate in the Boston Breakthrough Academy's leadership program alongside Brian in 2019, just before the pandemic decimated the hospitality industry. That singular experience, along with Brian's unwavering support, prepared me to make the leap from my career in the service industry to my current role as Co-founder and C.O.O. of a multi-million dollar sportscard start-up company.

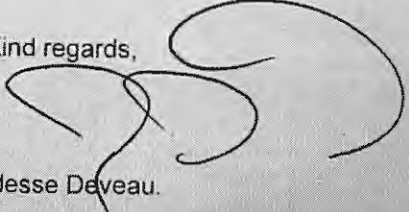
As a close personal advisor and friend, Brian has been by my side over the better part of the last two, most influential years of my life. While many of my close friends and former co-workers are still trying to figure out how they are going to support their families in this new landscape, I have been able to forge a path of financial freedom that would not have been otherwise possible. As a business advisor and mentor, Brian has taken our company from the kitchen table in my cousin's apartment all the way to the pages of The Boston Herald and The Wall Street Journal. None of this would have been possible without him.

One of the first times that I got to see just how powerful Brian could be was when we were looking for ways to give back to the community as a part of our leadership program. It seemed nearly impossible to raise money in such uncertain times, while the entire country was just starting to go into lockdown and preparing for an uncertain future. Brian emerged as the team leader almost immediately and evoked a clear vision of possibility that led to us raising \$180,000 for Lovin Spoonfuls in a time when donations had all but dried up, threatening their ability to feed Boston's most vulnerable residents.

Getting to know him outside the hotel setting has allowed me to see what a great man and loving father Brian is. We began to share our visions for our future and the events that had shaped our past. He confided in me some of the details of this current matter and how it has shaped his life in the present, and how it pushes him to continue to embrace the work of transformation. Brian embodies this work in his everyday life and continues to invite others to find their greatest potential as a coach and mentor, all while continuing to work on his own personal growth and development. I cannot wait to see what Brian creates next.

I am happy to make myself available for any further questions, or if there is anything at all I can do to shed some more light on the real Brian Waishe.

Kind regards,


-Jesse Deveau.

Peter Kirby
75 Preston Ter
Marshfield MA 02050

The Honorable Judge Douglas P. Woodlock
Senior Judge of the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts
1 Courthouse Way Boston, MA 02210

Dear Judge Woodlock,

I have the deep privilege and joy to be a close family friend and colleague of Brian and Ana Walshe and their 3 delightful children. Brian and I met through a leadership program and we continue to learn, mentor, and grow businesses together.

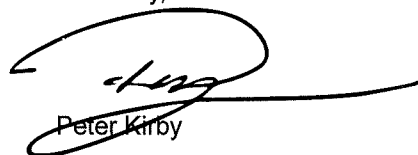
In my experience, **Brian is a man of generosity.** He's generous with donations, but more importantly, he's generous with his time and his love. Even though he has 3 children under 5 years old, Brian still donates his time to raise funds for causes he believes in. He led a team that raised \$180,000 for Lovin' Spoonfuls, a charity that gifts meals to hungry children. This led to 500,000 meals donated in the height of the Covid Pandemic. He has raised \$75,000 for refugee support, and \$75,000 for Yes We Care as well as \$10's of thousands for cancer treatment, ocean conservancy, habitat for humanity. Brian is truly generous with all of his resources.

Brian is also a truly kind and thoughtful man. When a close friend needed dental reconstructive surgery, Brian reached out to his network and found a surgeon willing to do the work at the cost of materials. Brian also helped raise the money needed for the surgery. Brian once hosted a dinner for my wife (at 9 months pregnant, her final pre-kid social outing) and carefully crafted the meal plan to celebrate her Massachusetts heritage. Brian deeply cares about his people and finds small, thoughtful ways to love them.

Brian is a man of integrity. He was vulnerable and honest when he revealed to me his legal struggles. He owned his mistakes and acknowledged the difficulty that his actions caused his family. He expressed a willingness to take responsibility and correct the situation. I've made plenty of bone-headed decisions in my life, so I totally get it. He would love a do-over. But obviously that's not possible. He owns his responsibility and offers his deepest regrets and apologies.

Brian and I continue to mentor businesses together. Brian is generous with his time, wisdom, and connections. Brian is thoughtful and patient as a mentor and as a father. In his actions I see over and over him acting to put situations back into integrity. He acknowledges reality, but also holds a vision of what's possible. He works hard for results in his business life and in the charities that he champions. He deals with negative situations with grace and good humor. We trust that Brian has our back always. **Brian is a transformational leader and a loving friend, husband, and dad.**

Sincerely,



Peter Kirby

September 22,2021

TO: The Honorable Judge Douglas P. Woodlock
Senior Judge of the United States District of Massachusetts
1 Courthouse Way
Boston, Ma 02210

FR: Brian Neto Pereira
1075 County St
New Bedford, Ma 02746
508-889-5022
Brian4torch@gmail.com

RE: Brian Walshe

Dear Judge Woodlock,

My name is Brian Neto Pereira, I am a man of faith and my current occupation is a Union Laborer out of local 223 located in Boston, Ma... I am a youth group leader at His Mercy Church located in downtown New Bedford, Ma. I also coach football, and baseball, in the city of New Bedford for the pass !0 years. I felt it wasn't enough. I wanted to create opportunities for teens in my community, to inspire them to go after their dreams and become successful in their own way. I was then introduced to the Torch Foundation where I now coach and mentor teens for the past 3 years. The program teaches teens responsibility, social and emotional intelligence while rewriting their story to make better choices in life. I wasn't the only volunteer of course, I was excited to see other like minded individuals serving their community and Brian Walshe was one of them.

I met Brian Walshe while I was attending an adult leadership training through Boston Breakthrough Academy. Similar to the teen leadership training, the adult training supports students to create new possibilities for their lives. The tools of the training take students on a journey of self discovery, breakthroughs, and Leadership skills. Brian had already completed his journey by the time I had my experience but his name was circulating through the program along with what his class had created together. While our team was having difficulty with our Community Service Project that's when I finally got to see Brian's powerful leadership skills.

Brian had explained to my team how during his Leadership journey the pandemic had hit and his training went virtual. Brian shared what he had initiated with his team during a challenging time in our world. Brian had stepped up as Captain in his team and saw that families would need food while the world began to lock down. Captain Brian's and his team's community service project was to raise funds for Lovin' Spoonfuls, which is a food rescue organization in Boston, MA. Brian Walshe's class under his leadership raised \$180,000 feeding many families during the pandemic. This inspired our team to think of the children and what they must be

going through on lockdown. Brian Walshe with his classmates began to create a teen program called LICA Leader's in Committed Action. They raised over \$75,000 to launch that program and I wanted to be like Brian. I wanted to be as confident and compassionate as Brian. His big heart and gentle yet firm way to lead a team to reach a declared goal amazed me to follow in his footsteps. I'm actually grateful to be on Brian's team now in our Master Leadership Program.

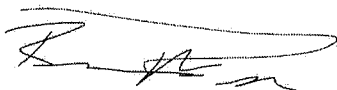
Getting to know Brian while being on his team has been such a privilege. Brian is funny, smart, and always willing to support his teammates. While on Brian's team I've had the honor to witness the type of loving, playful father and family man that Brian Walshe is when he is not in the training. His love for the community and to make a difference in the world is so admirable to me. Working with Brian at the Torch Foundation and being on his team has created a lasting friendship between the two of us and I'm looking forward to future projects as Brian Walshe leads the way.

As a friend of the family, Brian has shared with me his legal situation while we were brainstorming over the phone discussing future programs. I could hear that this really troubled Brian's thoughts and it didn't match the Brian that I have now come to know. This gave me a new look at my mentor and a better understanding of why Brian works with at-risk teens speaking into second chances in life and the importance of personal development. Everyone makes mistakes as Brian has said to the teens, one can either stay down, remaining stuck in self beat up, or they can rise up and choose to better themselves. Brian owning his story has empowered teens and inspired many adults to believe in second chances while making a huge impact in our world. Knowing Brian and his family has been a blessing in my life.

Your Honor, as strange as this may sound, I believe this legal situation has been a blessing in Brian's life. This has shifted Brian's life in such a way that he is now a part of my personal growth and families. I've personally seen how his words have changed the lives of many people and I don't believe he plans on stopping anytime soon. This is just the beginning of a new chapter in Brian's life. Your Honor I pray that however this legal situation comes to a completion I am certain Brian will continue changing lives with his kind, loving, and compassionate ways of being.

Please contact me with any questions. Brian has always given me great advice and expressed an abundance of love for my family and I. I can only pray that this letter supports Brian during this time.

Warm Regards,



Brian Neto Pereira

AJ Leto

4 Woodford Street
Worcester, MA 01604
508.762.4812
aj@ajleto.com

The Honorable Judge Douglas P. Woodlock

Senior Judge of the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts
1 Courthouse Way
Boston, MA 02210

September 24, 2021

Dear Judge Woodlock,

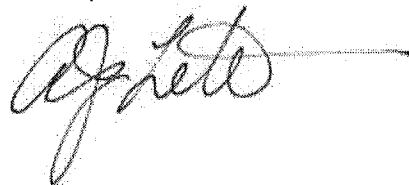
I had the privilege of meeting Brian Walshe in early 2020 while he was a student in an intensive personal development program offered by my company, the Boston Breakthrough Academy (BBA). BBA is a transformational emotional intelligence leadership training organization that provides its students the opportunity to discover what is blocking self and breakthrough those barriers by stepping into contribution to the world and practicing the skills of love, generosity, and community service with one's team throughout the four-month program.

During his experience, Brian stepped into an influential leadership role within his team by leading their community service project where he and his team of peers raised \$180,000 for Lovin' Spoonfuls. This charitable organization serves the hungry of Boston. Brian's leadership allowed for 500,000 meals to be eaten by food insecure individuals instead of being left in waste sites by food distributors and suppliers in and around Boston.

While I was aware of Brian's prior action, which you are presently choosing a decision regarding, I've seen Brian's contrary to this incident. My experience of Brian is honest, forthright, and certainly at a level that is indicative of this incident being an isolated event. Brian's focus on excellent service is the practice of rigorous amends and most definitely evidence of his authentic love for humanity. The single incident is a blip on the consistent pattern of service and kindness for others and I, with respect, request that you choose to allow Brian to continue to serve the community in the fantastic way that he does. His actions continue to serve the Boston and Eastern Massachusetts population with the significant impact he stands for every day.

I respect the discernment and leadership you stand for in all of us and acknowledge your impact on our world by your decisions. However, I know that you will choose to serve the whole population in your reach with this decision.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'AJ Leto', with a horizontal line extending to the right from the end of the signature.

AJ Leto



September 24, 2024

The Honorable Judge Douglas P. Woodlock
Senior Judge of the United States District Court of the District of Massachusetts
1 Courthouse Way
Boston, MA 02210

Your Honor Judge Woodlock,

My name is Abraham Gonzalez. I am the president and owner of General Construction company in Massachusetts.

Brian Walshe asked me to write a letter of character of support and I do so willingly because I believe its inconsistent with his legal situation. I met Brian June 2021 during a Master Leadership Training with Boston Breakthrough Academy (BBA). For the time in the program we have been buddies doing daily check-ins to make sure the areas of our lives that are most important (family, business and community) are getting the benefit of the lessons learned. By a process of getting to know each other to our surprise we discovered our fathers left us early in our childhood. Not that we are victims of this circumstance but victorious in that it has given us values of which we know the importance of staying committed and loving our wife and kids.

Expanding upon Brian love for his family during our leadership training I saw him firsthand include them in a community service activity. A remember specifically for September 11, bringing his children to the Cohasset Fire House with food and having his kids acknowledge the firemen for the heroic contribution to our safety and well-being. In speaking with Brian he mentioned growing up he never had the opportunity to do that with his mother and father. But he did not stop with acknowledging them he also raised \$3,200.00 overnight for first responder families.

In the upcoming month Brian and I signed up to volunteer and be class coaches for BBA, in an effort to give back to others and support participants going through their transformational journey. This contribution to others is taking a stand to care enough to make a difference so that their lives are changed. Brian knows that participating and completing the training can ultimately save someone's life and he is willing to take the risk to ensure the student gets the benefit. This to me is the ultimate sacrifice where you show you give a shit about another person's life and take time from your free time to support someone else's journey. Brian will not get paid for his volunteering but he knows being a coach will enrich his life while concurrently rescuing a participants from the depth of depression, anger, and fear to make this world a better place.

Your honor if you should have any further questions do not hesitate contacting me!

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Abh Gonzalez", written over a white background.

Abraham Gonzalez, President
One Way Development, Inc.

The Honorable Judge Douglas P. Woodlock
Senior Judge of the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts
1 Courthouse Way
Boston, MA 02210

Rayma Ferrer
101 Parkview Road
Waltham, MA 02451
617.504.0636
raymaferrer@gmail.com

Dear Judge Woodlock,

My name is Rayma Ferrer. I am the Area Director of Human Resources at Highgate Hotels, professional investor, leadership coach and equity partner at Boston Breakthrough Academy.

I have known Brian Walshe since 2017. I met him through his wife Ana Walshe, whom I hired and worked with at the Taj Boston, previously known as the Ritz Carlton, and now known as The Newbury Boston. The first time I met Brian was at the Children's Christmas party we organized at the hotel, which he and Ana attended with their eldest son Thomas.

Both Ana and Brian went through the emotional intelligence leadership program called The Boston Breakthrough Academy. I took the program myself 14 years ago and it changed my life. I have been part of Brian's transformation from the beginning as a coach in his class and I have seen his growth first hand. While we were raising funds for Lovin' Spoonfuls as a part of our community service project, Brian encouraged my artistic endeavors and promoted the sale of my paintings through an auction for the benefit of the charity. I have always been self-conscious about my artistic capabilities, and Brian instilled confidence in my talent and encouraged me to do more. Brian worked diligently with every member of his class to be in contribution and created a sense of belonging for the whole team.

Brian is a caring friend, loving father and dedicated husband who supports Ana in her personal and professional growth.

As a single mother of two boys, I can not emphasize enough what a wonderful father Brian is to his three sons. If I only ever saw him in the role of a father, without any of his other charitable work, I could not imagine him being out of integrity again. He wishes to set an example for his children, and help them learn from his own experiences. I know the struggles personally of not having a partner to raise your children. The entire family suffers when the father is not present.

As I said before, I have known Brian for almost five years. He has always been kind, but initially kept our relationship superficial. Having been his coach during his leadership training, I saw him break through his fears and sadness, and become a servant leader in his community. I have witnessed who Brian Walshe truly is, a man who committed himself to feeding the hungry during the pandemic, cleaning the oceans for our children, sheltering the homeless and supporting our at-risk youth. I saw a withdrawn self-centered man become an open, loving leader to all.

I am aware of Brian's legal circumstances and I write this letter to let you know about the redemption story Brian is creating. Brian deeply regrets how his actions have affected others and has dedicated his life to the service of others.

If I may be of any further support to Brian, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,


Rayma Ferrer

To: Honorable Judge Douglas P. Woodlock

Senior Judge of the United States District Court, District of Massachusetts
at 1 Courthouse Way, Boston, MA 02210

In reference to Brian Walshe's personal character

Who am I:

A brother-in-law, married to Brian's wife's elder sister for 21 years and a father of 2 teenage boys.

My name is Momcilo (Moma) Dimitrijevic and I am an IT Consultant in the Big Data field, currently on projects with Bell Canada for nearly 3 years as a Senior Developer with the Network Engineering team that is providing essential Internet, phone and video services to Canadians within Bell's coverage 24/7.

Why this letter:

Details about the case I have learned about are hard to believe and sound so out-of-character for the Brian Wlashe I know.

When have I found out about the case:

Just recently, in early June, I found myself overwhelmed and disturbed to learn about the unfortunate circumstances Brian Walshe had found himself in.

My wife Aleksandra found out from her sister and relayed it to me.

Where have I taken this news to:

Speaking directly to Brian and Ana about what I have learned from Aleksandra and how deeply it has affected me. I have pointed out that it is in every way counter to the values we carry in the family. Brian has admitted that one reason he has not relayed it to us earlier was his regret and shame of how things have turned the corner with this case. He hopes for an opportunity to remedy and correct the actions that have taken place.

What I know about Brian:

Brian is a well educated, exceptionally mannered and caring person to all members of our family as well as to all his personal friends we have met. One could only learn from the way and the compassion in which Brian acts and speaks to those around him and how much effort he puts into making the ones around him comfortable, amused and fulfilled.

Professionally, I have heard that Brian has made many successful business deals in the past, with art as well as in real-estate, in business consulting and in leading charitable activities he is very passionate about. I am not aware about any of them being carried out in any fraudulent manner.

Brian cares very much about his wife and 3 sons, the eldest one being only 5 years of age. He's been walking an extra mile for his boys ever since they've taken a first breath coming to this world. He is their support, their teacher and caregiver. I feel he would do anything for them.

In support of the above notion: As a father of 2 senior teenage kids who have proven their worth at school with honors, participated in numerous charitable and compassionate activities supporting children with special needs, have played Ice Hockey in a largest minor league and thrived within top 10% of most skilled players, working hard and learning along the way to play for the name on the front of the jersey and not the one on the back, I know how important the role of a father is in lives of the young men, from the first steps they make to the steps they take in life as young men.

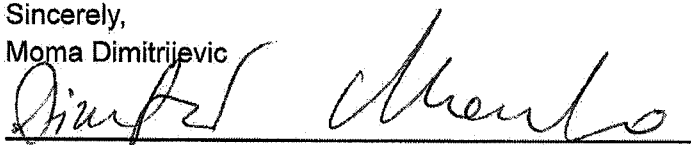
Brian has also been of help and support to his mother who fights tough illness for many years. She returns the favor without frills with her love for him, the grandsons and supports Brian and Ana back in every way the one could wish for, when she feels good. She is around the grandchildren whenever possible, plays with them, teaches them manners, letters and reads to them.

However, she does need Brian's support on all other days, when the illness comes back in the full swing.

A thank you:

I am humbled with you reading these few words that I was able to share about my experience with Brian Walshe and what I believe is true in best faith. It would mean a lot to me if you could also take in consideration Brian's values and the need of others in his life alongside the facts and proven actions that Brian is willing to correct.

Sincerely,
Moma Dimitrijevic

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Moma Dimitrijevic', written over a horizontal line.

In Canada, Ontario, Maple on September the 5th, 2021

September 10th, 2021
Vittorio Ettore and Jill Chiara
2 Meadowcroft Road
Winchester MA. 01890

Dear Judge Woodlock,

We are writing this letter to provide a character reference for our good friend, Brian Walshe. Our names are Jill Chiara and Vittorio Ettore. We are married with 2 children and live in Winchester, MA. We are both professionals. Jill is a Chief Revenue Officer at a software startup based in Indianapolis, IN and Vittorio is a chef/owner of two restaurants, one in Medford, MA and one in Winchester, MA.

We met Brian over 20 years ago and have been acquainted with him ever since. Brian was a patron of one of our restaurants in Medford, MA. We got to know him and some of his friends as they were fond of up and coming restaurants and we had just opened Bistro 5. Brian has always been complimentary of Vittorio's food and for many years would visit the restaurant and engage in lively conversations about the food and wine.

Brian married Ana Walshe several years ago and we attended their celebration. They have since had 3 boys and recently bought a house on the South Shore. We have remained in touch with both of them throughout these milestones and have seen them on occasion when time has allowed.

Brian attended the Boston Breakthrough Academy which seemed to teach him a great deal about himself and others. His fundraising efforts as a part of this program are remarkable. As a result of this, Brian started a company in the Learning and Development space with two gentlemen he met during this program. Early on, Brian asked Jill to advise them on this start up business. Jill has been impressed with what they've put together professionally. Brian has been very appreciative of the advice and has been a wonderful connection in the business world and is always willing to offer up ways to support Jill with any relevant business connection.

While we don't know the details of Brian's lawsuit, we know he deeply regrets his previous actions. We believe he is a respectful, kind and generous person and has over the past few years he has become a loving father and husband. He continues to be a caring friend.

Please feel free to contact us for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Jill Chiara

Vittorio Ettore