

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

March 31, 2015

Mr. Terry Andre Barnes  
FCI Yazoo City  
Federal Correctional Institution  
2225 Haley Barbour Parkway  
Yazoo City, Mississippi 39194

Dear Terry:

I wanted to personally inform you that I have granted your application for commutation.

The power to grant pardons and commutations is one of the most profound authorities granted to the President of the United States. It embodies the basic belief in our democracy that people deserve a second chance after having made a mistake in their lives that led to a conviction under our laws. Thousands of individuals have applied for commutation, and only a fraction of these applications are approved.

I am granting your application because you have demonstrated the potential to turn your life around. Now it is up to you to make the most of this opportunity. It will not be easy, and you will confront many who doubt people with criminal records can change. Perhaps even you are unsure of how you will adjust to your new circumstances.

But remember that you have the capacity to make good choices. By doing so, you will affect not only your own life, but those close to you. You will also influence, through your example, the possibility that others in your circumstances get their own second chance in the future.

I believe in your ability to prove the doubters wrong. So good luck, and Godspeed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be Barack Obama's signature, consisting of a large, stylized 'B' followed by a cursive 'O' and a long horizontal line extending to the right.