



December 30, 2021

Nicholas Wells

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Mr. Wells:

I am writing to inform you that I am granting your application for a commutation. After learning about your case, I am commuting your sentence by granting you a parole eligibility date of January 15, 2022.

My decision today is based on the circumstances of your case alone. The clemency power is unique and reserved for only the most deserving. My decision is not to be taken as a judgement on the wisdom of your conviction or a statement about any particular aspect of our criminal justice system. Those questions are better resolved through our courts and our legislature. My decision today is based solely on the circumstances of your case.

As of the date of this letter, you have served over 10 years of your 48-year sentence. The crimes you were convicted of are serious. Nonetheless, I believe you deserve an opportunity for parole for several reasons.

After a jury trial, you were sentenced to 48 years in the Department of Corrections. If you were convicted today, however, because of changes to our sentencing laws, your sentence would be a maximum of 24-32 years, with further reductions for earned time.

Within the Department of Corrections, you have exhibited exemplary behavior and remained sober for 12 years. You have proven to have "exceptional conduct and work ethic." Recently, you focused your efforts with CrossFit Redemption Road, and empowered yourself and others to prioritize health and exercise. You have become a Level 2 certified CrossFit coach. You have had an exemplary disciplinary record - you have not had a single COPD violation in the last 10 years. You have also demonstrated a commitment to working with prison guards, including one who became a mentor to you. Lastly, and significantly, you have a strong support network of family and friends who are prepared to assist you when you return home.

You have taken accountability for your actions and recognize the mistakes you made in the past. You are remorseful and ready to advance to a new phase of life. I believe you will be successful upon your release. You have shown that rehabilitation is possible and demonstrate how every offender can use their time in the Department of Corrections.

This commutation will change your future. It is up to you to make the most of this opportunity.

Good luck to you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jared Polis". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jared Polis
Governor