

Darr Dentistry

Dr. Pamela Johnson-Darr DDS PA
Family Dentistry

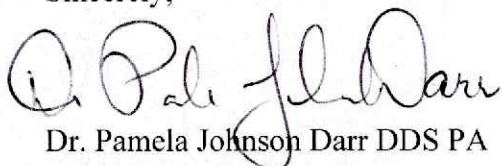
Judge,

Throughout my 24 years in dentistry, I have met and formed personal relationships with many people. My staff and I view dentistry as a very intimate form of healthcare and take pride in getting to know our patients and forming lifelong relationships with each one. Our patients are more than just a chart and teeth numbers to us. We share their joys and triumphs with them as well as their tears and their pain. Often, we provide treatment to entire families, and we get the honor to watch the children grow into adults, and the parents into grandparents. We share the joys when something wonderful happens such as the joy of a grandchild being born. However, we also share the tears and heartache when a tragedy occurs. My patients are more than just a patient. They are friends that we cherish deeply. As a result of building relationships with our patients, we are allowed to see their personality shine through the different stories we share. More importantly, we have the privilege to see their heart and their true character.

Laura Steele has been a patient with us for over a decade and my staff and I have had the privilege to get to know her and her family over the years. Laura Steele is a wonderful mother, wife and grandmother. She is passionate about her family and her love for them shines through. She is an upstanding member of the community and lives to serve others. Her heart is full of kindness, and she is always willing to do right by her fellow man. Often, we can see the good in a person through their children and Laura Steele is no different. She has raised two young men who are selfless individuals. Both of her children are members of the High Point Police Department. They both live to serve their community, a trait they no doubt inherited from their mother. Every encounter my staff and I have had with Laura and her family, have been a positive experience. They have never been rude or angry, only polite and friendly. Laura Steele and her family are patients we look forward to seeing each time they come in.

In regard to the charges brought against Mrs. Laura Steele, I find the current accusations out of character for Laura Steele. Mrs. Steele, as a former police officer of 11 years, understands the value of respecting others and their property as well as the laws of this country. It is not in her nature to destroy, disrespect or cause harm to anyone or their property. I ask that the court please take into consideration the woman that Mrs. Laura Steele is. She is a loving grandmother, wife and mother. She is a former law enforcement officer and has instilled good moral and values into her children. She serves others and is respectful and kind towards all. I thank you for your time.

Sincerely,


Dr. Pamela Johnson Darr DDS PA

508 Turner Street Thomasville, NC 27360
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Phone: (336) 475-1614 Email: teamdarrpjd@gmail.com



Dr. Pamela Johnson-Darr DDS PA

Family Dentistry

This document is to certify that Laura Steele is a patient of Dr. Pamela Johnson Darr DDS PA. Dr. Darr has been practicing for over 23 years and is a leader of oral healthcare in her community. It is Dr. Darr's professional opinion that Laura Steele must be able to obtain her night-guard at all times and that this device should not be taken away from Mrs. Steele for any reason whatsoever. This device allows Mrs. Steele to maintain strong and healthy teeth. A night-guard prevents the grinding and clenching of teeth which in turn produce fractures throughout the tooth structure. Grinding and clenching of teeth can occur anytime of day or night. A tooth structure with fractures can lead to far more serious issues such as broken teeth, exposed nerves and severe infections that can quickly infiltrate the blood stream and cause serious illnesses. Broken and fractured teeth can also inhibit a person from eating and chewing which in turn can affect nutritional absorption and the overall health of a person. Mrs. Steele's night-guard prevents the health concerns listed above and allow her to properly maintain care of her teeth so that she may remain in good health throughout her sentence. It is Dr. Darr's professional opinion that Mrs. Steele must have access to her night-guard while she sleeps at night due to the severity of the stress of the situation as well as the overall health of Mrs. Steele. It is also Dr. Darr's professional opinion that should Mrs. Steele's night guard be compromised for any reason, Dr. Darr's office should be notified and a new night-guard be made for Mrs. Steele so that her overall health is not impacted in anyway.

Cordially,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Dr. Pamela Johnson-Darr'.

Dr. Pamela Johnson Darr DDS PA

508 Turner Street Thomasville, NC 27360

www.drpamelajohnsondarr.com

Phone: (336) 475-1614 Email: teamdarrpjd@gmail.com

Loretta Gallagher
8353 W Harrell Road
Oak Ridge, North Carolina 27310

August 10, 2023

The Honorable Judge Amit P. Mehta
The U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia
333 Constitution Avenue N.W.
Washington D.C. 20001

Subject: Steele, Laura
Case Number: 1:21-cr-28

Dear Honorable Judge Mehta:

I had come to know Laura in the summer of 2021 after we had been introduced through a friend. After our meeting I learned of her case, and we began to meet as a small group in support of her dealing with her house arrest and the isolation from society to which she suffered.

Laura has always answered questions to that January 6th day without hesitation. Her strength through this ordeal goes without measure. Yet she has a unique gentleness about her personality that anyone would take a liking to. She has always retained her innocence in every capacity, up until this day.

It is my opinion that Laura has suffered an emotional disconnect from many people in her circle that have submissively shuttered themselves out of her life. That is far beyond any sentence that one person should endure. If this nation were filled with more people with the perseverance and humbleness that Lara has, what a better world we would live in. It has been an honor getting to know Laura and I do hope that our friendship will last my lifetime.

Sincerely,



Loretta Gallagher

"The rights of man come not from the generosity of the state, but from the hand of God."

President John F. Kennedy

Strib Boynton
High Point City Manager - Retired
1230 Westminster Drive
High Point, NC 27262-7357
Phone: 336-906-5041
August 10, 2023

Honorable Judge Amit Mehta
United States District Court
District of Columbia
Washington, DC

Re: Laura Lee Steele

Dear Judge Mehta:

I have known Laura Steele for more than 25 years, initially meeting her as a young High Point police officer while also serving as city manager supervising the High Point Police Department.

Significantly and importantly, I also know Laura Steele as the wise and caring mother, who along with her husband (now a retired ranking High Point police officer), carefully and wisely raised 2 young boys who now also serve as mature High Point police officers. Laura was instrumental in their growth and development.

After leaving the High Point Police Department, she continued her desire to serve others through private security work at Novant Health in Kernersville. In addition to her security work, Laura also assisted Novant's patients, their family members, and staff successfully navigate the difficult COVID protocols and procedures.

I am familiar with the activities and charges under which Laura was convicted. Her sideline presence in the January 6, 2021 activities was a one-time lapse of the credible good judgement of the Laura Steele that I have known, trusted and respected for more than 25 years as an officer, and as a mother, wife and now grandmother. The lapse does not define Laura's life.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,



Strib Boynton
High Point City Manager - Retired

To: The Honorable Judge Mehta
U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia
333 Constitution Ave, N W.,
Washington, D.C. 20001

August 14th, 2023

Your Honor,

My name is Holly Steele and I am writing to you on behalf of my mother-in-law, Laura Steele. I met Laura in September of 2020 when I began my relationship with my now husband, Jacob. From the first day that I met Laura she always made me feel welcome and as if I was already a part of the family. She had a genuine interest in getting to know me on a personal level and I often felt very comfortable talking and opening up to her. It did not take long for me, a naturally shy person, to feel comfortable with Laura and often looked forward to nights that she was off work so that Jacob and I could hang out with her.

In late January 2021 after talking with Jake and learning of the difficult time I was currently walking through Ken and Laura opened up their home to me. That type of generosity is often not seen in the world today, but Laura is one of the most generous people that I have ever met. I am often overwhelmed with the generosity that Laura displays to everyone in her life, but her generosity is not limited to things such as money or possessions. Laura is generous in her service to others and I truly believe she embodies what it means to have a servant's heart. She is always willing to serve others and does so without a second thought.

As my relationship with Jacob continued to grow, so did my relationship with Laura. We bonded over our love of dogs, specifically german shepherds. Jacob and I would welcome a german shepherd puppy, Shelby, into the family in May of 2022. Laura was there for us every

step of the way when it came to having a new puppy. As the first female K9 handler with High Point Police Department Laura is very knowledgeable when it comes to dogs and how to train them. She helped us train Shelby and also kept an eye on her while we were both working, as german shepherds are prone to separation anxiety. Shelby and Laura have a very special bond, Shelby has learned that Laura is “grandma” and will become visibly excited at just the mention of that name.

Laura is not only known as Grandma to our dog Shelby but also to our daughter Adaline. Just a few short weeks after Jacob and I were married we found out that we were expecting and in November of 2022 we welcomed our daughter into the world. Laura is an active and attentive grandma, just like she was as a mother to my husband and brother-in-law. Ken and Laura are Adaline’s full time babysitters and as such she has created a close bond with her granddaughter. She was at the hospital when Adaline was born and has been present for many of Adaline’s “firsts”, such as her first laugh. She loves to play with Adaline and will watch *The Lion King* as many times as it makes Adaline happy.

Your Honor, as the date for Laura’s sentencing approaches I hope that you take all the letters that you receive on her behalf into consideration when determining her sentencing. She is a beloved friend, wife, mother, mother-in-law and grandmother that has positively impacted the lives of many people.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Holly Marie Steele". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with some loops and flourishes.

Holly Marie Steele

Honorable Judge Meta,

I would like to start by saying that I wish nothing more than to be present with my mother in court, but unfortunately, I have been subpoenaed for a superior court case on the day the sentencing is scheduled.

My mother and I have a very close relationship due to her unwavering desire to help people and support those that are in need. There are many instances in my personal experience with her that show just how selfless she actually is.

When I was in elementary school, my mother lost her job, and it was just a single-income household for quite a while, but my mother made the decision to stay home and support the family the best that she could by helping my father raise my brother and me. I always had a difficult time during school; I would receive mediocre grades and try very hard to pay attention; however, I could just not comprehend the lessons being taught. I would come home with the mindset that maybe that was just all I could achieve. Some of my teachers also assumed that idea (I was told later on). My mother wouldn't accept that she attempted many things to get me where I could thrive in my academic career. She took me to my pediatrician, and I was diagnosed with ADHD. I was prescribed medicine that allowed me to focus and thrive in academia. She would set aside time in the summers to set up reading regimens and mathematics lessons to help me catch up to my peers. I was on the verge of being held back many times in elementary school due to my ADHD, but she tried her hardest to help me achieve the potential she saw in me that I could not see for myself.

I was a very wild and energetic child. I wanted to do all of these fun activities. My mother had the idea of introducing me to the field of mixed martial arts. I gained discipline, confidence, and patience while dedicating my time to this sport. I gained the opportunity to teach a varying array of students what I learned. It was very enlightening. Looking back on it now, I can see why my mother wanted so often to help others and support them on their path to success is a wonderful experience.

Later on in my life, my mother started to relax in her tendency to take a heavy-handed role in my personal and educational development. With that freedom, I was able to obtain a black belt in my martial art, and I was able to be elected Vice president of the Beta Club in high school. I graduated from Appalachian State University with my bachelor's degree, and now I am currently employed where I envisioned myself being since I was little; I am a police officer at the High Point Police Department in North Carolina. I am just starting my career and exactly where I want to be in my professional life.

I am positive that without my mother's help and intervention, I would be nowhere close to being as self-confident and where I want to be in life. She has undoubtedly helped me through troubling experiences. When I speak to her peers, I hear nothing but retellings of anecdotes that paint her to be someone that people admire or as that rare person you can trust and confide in. That is who she is to me as well. I have had some very troubling experiences at work or in my personal life. Even while all this troubling news regarding her current and future situation is occurring, she makes the time for me to sit down and discuss my problems. While I'm sure my problems to her may be small and trivial in comparison to hers, she sits down and helps me work through them. She doesn't just do this for me; she'll sit on the phone for hours, helping someone talk about their problems. She is selfless and always looks for avenues in which she can put herself in a situation to help better a person.

I thank you for reading my letter and for entertaining the notion of considering my words as a reflection of my mother's character. I hope this letter gives you an insight into the kind of person that stands before you. I humbly ask you to take into consideration my words when determining the sentencing of my mother.

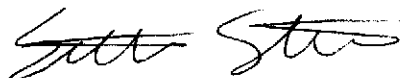
Regards,

Seth Steele

249 Newcastle Ct.

Thomasville, NC, 27360

(336) 425-9862

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Seth Steele", written in a cursive style.

Jolene Young
249 Newcastle Court
Thomasville, NC
540-729-9425
Jo.young@twc.com

June 21, 2023

Honorable Judge Amit Mehta,

My name is Jolene Young, and I am the mother of Laura Steele and naturally I have known Laura all of her life. Laura is a loving and caring family and community member who believes strongly in the rule of law and the constitution.

As a young lady she decided to pursue a career in the law. She joined the police force where she met Ken at the academy. They later married and had two sons. Ken retired as a major in the force and their two sons are now both police officers. All of the family are strong believers in following the law and supporting the constitution. As far as being a helpful caring person, before and after my husband died of Alzheimer's, Laura would drive 400+ miles to spend part of her days-off time helping me with what was needed. This was after a 4-day 12-hour shift as a Security Officer and while she and the family were finishing the upstairs in their house so that I could live there if I so chose. This went on for months until her father died and I was able to sell the house. At another time she drove hundreds of miles to pick up donated twin beds to deliver to her friend who had no money to buy beds for her children. And even now while she is waiting for her sentencing, she volunteered to keep watch and take care of her neighbor's house while the neighbor went on her second marriage honeymoon and her grown children who live with her decided to go to the beach while she was gone.

It is unfortunate she has been caught up in this unfortunate incident. Her brother, Graydon, has pleaded guilty in a plea deal that he was aware of talk of taking some kind of action at the capital; however, he only told Laura that the Oath Keepers were going to provide security for VIPs at the rally and she would need to fill out a form for temporary membership. When they returned home on January 6 later that evening before we sat down to dinner, he apologized to everyone for involving the family in what happened that day. We did not know why he was so overly upset until the day he took the plea deal. Of course, Laura's family is very upset with him as am I for putting Laura in this position.

Laura is an upstanding citizen she is concerned with what happened and that it never happens again I believe society is enriched with Laura living and participating in her community as a law-abiding citizen.

Sincerely,


Jolene Young

Angela Norris

246 Newcastle Court
Thomasville, NC 27360
336-689-4420
asnmamaw@yahoo.com


Subject: Convicted January 6th Oath Keeper Laura Steele

To: Honorable U.S. District Judge Amit Mehta

Dear Honorable Judge Mehta,

I am writing this character reference letter on behalf of Laura Steele. Laura has been my neighbor since 2008. Laura is a very special lady. She will go above and beyond to do anything to help. Laura takes care of her elderly mother . She also takes care of her son that lives in the the house. Laura is constantly working on her house and yard. She has one of the nicest yards in our neighborhood. She truly is a pleasure to be around because she is alway willing to help in any way. The times that she has helped me is unbelievable .My husband passed away in 2019, Laura has been here to help me in every possible way since he died. She is the most considerate lady I know. I have never known her to do anything to harm or disrespect anyone. She respects all of our neighbors and will lend a hand to help all of us. In the charges that were brought against Laura I don't think she meant to harm or disrespect anyone. I truly believe that she thought she was there to help and provide protection for others. I truly feel like she is not a threat to anyone. She is one of the nicest,honest, hardworking ladies that I know and I am forever grateful that she is not only my neighbor but truly a very special friend to me. I ask that you take this letter into consideration when passing down sentencing to her.

Thank you,
Angela Norris



8/9/2023

Matt and Michelle Mueller

294 Newcastle Court

Thomasville, NC 27360

Mmueller@triad.rr.com

Subject: Convicted January 6th Oath Keeper Laura Steele

To: Honorable U.S. District Judge Amit Mehta

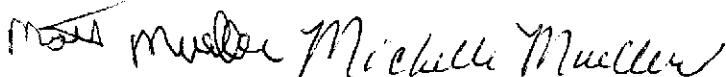
Dear Honorable Judge Mehta,

I am writing this character reference letter on behalf of Laura Steele. My wife, Michelle Mueller and I purchased our home on the same street as Laura Steele in July of 2022. We had not had a lot of interaction with Laura and her family until my wife, who was out walking our dog, became distracted and tripped and fell over a speed bump in the road. The fall dazed my wife and she lay in the roadway flat on her face. Laura and her mother, Jolene, came to my wife's aid. Laura helped my wife stand up and assessed her injuries. She offered to get her water or come to her house and sit for a minute. My wife was embarrassed and continued to insist that she was okay. Even though she had abrasions on her hands and had injured her knees, Laura was so kind and continued to reassure my wife that everything was okay and even offered to help my wife home. After a few minutes my wife regained her footing and came home. I was out of town on business and when my wife told me what happened I was very grateful for a kind neighbor looking out for, at the time, was a stranger.

We have come to know Laura. She lives not only with her husband, but also with her elderly mom and her son. She and her family keep a very nice home and yard and it's so nice for us to know that we have neighbors on our street that we can trust, and we can all look out for one another. I know what Laura did was wrong and I do not condone what happened, but my wife and I do hope that this letter will help you to understand that Laura is a good person and caregiver to her mother, and a kind and helpful, and wonderful neighbor.

We hope that you will take these things into consideration and please be lenient with Laura Steele during her sentencing.

Sincerely and respectfully,

 Michelle Mueller

Matt and Michelle Mueller

August 10, 2023

Dear Judge Amit Mehta,

Re: Laura Steele CR21-000028-07

I am writing this letter to let you know who Laura Steele truly is and to ask for leniency with her sentencing.

I met Laura when I started working for the High Point Police Department in 1996. At first, we were co-workers and through that relationship, we became friends. Over the past 27 years, we have remained friends. We lost touch for some years within that time frame but it had nothing to do with anything other than life. It just made it easier to stay in touch when we worked together. I would like to tell you about the impact she made on my daughter and the support that she gave me during a difficult time in my life.

My job with the police department was becoming increasingly harder to deal with, my husband was a heavy drinker during those times and he would become violent. I also had a daughter approaching the age of 16 where a straight A student flipped a switch and began to rebel. She was hanging out with the wrong people and her drive for her education and goals in life seemed to be fading rapidly. Laura was one of the few people I could count on to talk through things and find a way to make me laugh in the end. I don't know if I would be here today without her support, encouragement, and honesty. I had the utmost trust in her to help me and to help my daughter.

For the next couple years, Laura was someone that my daughter and I could turn to any time of day or night even if it was just to talk while she listened. My daughter made it through high school, graduated with good grades and went into the Air Force within a couple months of graduating from high school. She served our country working from N.O.R.A.D. until the day she had to take a medical retirement with full military benefits.

Laura has always been upbeat and positive about things. It seemed anytime I was having issues in my life, she would find a way to bring perspective to the situation. Her listening skills and interaction in a conversation are like no other. She didn't just tell me what she thought I wanted to hear; she told me what she felt was a good neutral point of view.

I firmly believe that without Laura in my life and that of my daughter, things would have been very different.

Most recently, Laura had been working security at a local hospital. Once COVID hit, there were stories of scared and some terrified patients talking to her about COVID and the mask requirements. By the time their conversations were over, people were more at ease because of the compassion that she showed them.

In my heart of hearts, I feel that leniency here will allow not only the people that love and support Laura to see a sense of kindness, understanding and humanity but will also give you a person that will advocate for the justice system's process.

Respectfully,


Jacqueline Weakland

Penny Carroll

390 Rimer Rd

Salisbury, NC 28146

(704) 791-5177 | pennyrcarroll@gmail.com

August 6, 2023

The Honorable Amit Mehta

U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia

Dear Judge Mehta,

I am writing this letter to attest to the character of my life-long friend, Laura Steele, who is facing court sentencing. I have known Laura for over 4 decades, since elementary school. We have shared many experiences and milestones throughout our lives. We have not seen each other as often the past 20 years but have always remained in touch.

Laura has always been a loyal and supportive friend, who never hesitated to help me or others. I recall many years ago that she and her then fiancée/now husband were in town visiting during college and changed my car's flat tire. More recently, Laura and I were at an event in October 2020. I suddenly felt faint. Laura immediately asked if I needed anything and kept checking periodically to ensure I was ok. I have always been able to depend on Laura.

Laura is a hard-working and responsible person, who has achieved many goals in her personal and professional life. I was proud to see her earn her degree from Appalachian State University and to see her become a police officer. She served 11 years in this challenging career. She is also a loving and devoted daughter, wife, mother, and grandmother who cares deeply for her family and their well-being.

Laura is not a violent or aggressive person. I was shocked and saddened to learn about the events on January 6, 2021, that led to her arrest. I am aware that she went to Washington D.C. under the impression that she was helping to provide security assistance at the rally and thought no differently due how the group was treated at the rally. She has always respected the law and the rights of others, and I am confident that she will never repeat this conduct. Laura is a good person, who deserves a second chance to prove herself and to rebuild her life.

I respectfully ask you to consider Laura's character and history, and to show her leniency and compassion. She is not a threat to society, but rather a valuable member of it. She has my full support and trust, and I hope that you will see her as I do: a friend who made a bad decision, but who can learn from it and move forward.

Sincerely,

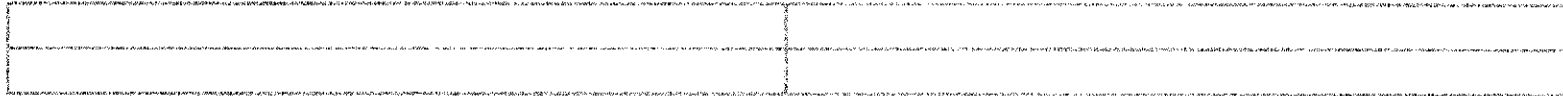


Penny Carroll

Penny Carroll

Judith Morris
3621 Lakeshore Drive
High Point, N.C. 27265
Contact: 336-689-2553

July 18, 2023



Your Honor,

I am writing this letter in support of Laura Steele, who stands before you today. I am a retired Registered Nurse. I worked nearly thirty years at High Point Regional Hospital. I have known Laura for a long time. I first met her about 30 years ago. She and Ken had the team Christmas party. When I met her, I really felt very comfortable around her. My husband is a retired police. My husband, Laura and Ken all met at the same time. They were on the same team, as well as police family. We have lunch and dinner with Laura and Ken often. They also come to our house to play board games. We enjoy being with them.

Laura is so easy to be around. She has been a good mom, a good wife, and a good friend. She is easy going and has a great personality. She is always ready to help other people in there time of need. She doesn't hesitate to donate goods or money to charities.

Both of Laura and Ken's sons are now police officers. Laura has a new grandchild, who she baby sits for when her son is on duty. She loves this child very much. I know Laura wants to be able to care for her granddaughter and be there as a grandmother as the child gets older. Also, Laura's mother lives with her. They have made her a place of her own in the upper potion of their home. Laura has been the caretaker of her mom since her father passed away.

With respect, I ask that you consider my words and give Laura a second chance for herself, her family, and her friends.

Sincerely



Judith Morris



Bob Morris

7-19-2023

3621 Lakeshore Drive
High Point, NC 27265
336-689-9691

Judge Mehta,

I am writing to you today on behalf of Laura Steele. Laura and I have known each other for over 30 years. I am a retired police officer having worked in West Virginia State Police in the early seventies and the High Point Police starting in 1988. Laura began working at the High Point Police department in 1992, and I met her when she started her field training in patrol as I was one of the training officers on the team. Several years later we worked together on Charlie Team, I was a patrol officer and Laura was our team's K-9 officer. While Laura was our team's K-9 officer she was dedicated and a diligent worker. Laura later worked as a Housing Authority Officer and then later as a School Resource Officer. She had a good reputation while a High Point Officer and was known for her dedication and work ethic.

Over the years my wife and I have become good friends with Laura and her husband who I also worked with up until my retirement in 2010. After my retirement in High Point I started working at the federal courthouse in Greensboro, N.C. as a Court Security Officer. I have known Laura to be extremely committed to her job and training and always willing to help those in need.

Laura has always been dedicated as a mother and wife. One of her greatest joys is taking care of her eight month old granddaughter four days each week. Laura's mother also lives with her and Laura is very dedicated toward her as she is the rest of the family. Anytime I have ever seen Laura she always has a smile on her face and known for being a pleasant person to talk to.

I appreciate you taking the time to read my letter and my opinion about Laura. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,
Robert Morris

To the Honorable Judge Amit P. Mehta US District Court for the District of Columbia.

Sir, I am reaching out to you in regards to my dear friend and now convicted felon awaiting sentencing in your court. Her name is Laura Steele. I retired from the United States Marine Corps in September 1991 after 20 years of honorable service.

I met Laura Young later to become Mrs. Laure Steele in the High Point Police Academy in March of 1992. She was and still is an exceptional individual. We became friends and I still consider her one of my very best friends even to this day. I worked with Laura off and on for most of my career when we were both employed by the City of the High Point, at the Police Department. She was and still is in my opinion a very caring and driven human being.

She has always attempted to be a safe and nurturing person to include all the calls we went on together and many of those calls were often anything but or like one see's on television or cable. She always attempted to follow up at some later time and attempted to give closure to our citizens and especially the victims in her cases.

I've known this woman 31 years now and she is the same today as she was 31+ years ago. She encouraged me to go from a GED and obtain not only a 4 year degree, but eventually my Master Degree. She is loyal to a fault and has always given of herself and attempted to help anyone who appeared to need assistance. I have witnessed this on many occasions whether on a call with her or as we were both recently standing in a Walmart parking lot when a person from a church group approached us asking for financial assistance by way of donations to help recovering drug addicts. She reached in her pocket and gave \$10.00 dollars while I did nothing to help. She is apparently much more sensitive to the needs of others than I am.

She is a wife, mother and a home maker and both her sons serve on the High Point Police Department. She is not anti-police or even anti-government, she is someone who when asked makes herself available and is always helping people based on my years of working and knowing her.

When it comes to her family, she is unwavering. I've met her father and mother, before her father's passing some years back and her mother is currently living with Laura and her husband Ken Steele a retired High Point Assistant Chief of Police. I've never known her brother who was also convicted for the January sixth debacle. I truly believe it was her brother who brought her into this situation and she basically followed him to D.C. as these events unfolded. Often that's what family does even if they are or were wrong.

I truly believe she went to DC on January sixth to be of help and was unaffraid when it came to supporting her brother who brought her on board not even 72 hours before going to the Capital. There wasn't much time to overthrow our Republic on her part, but enough time to be duped into helping others who may have had other thoughts and intetions as well as their actions.

Sir, I'm asking you on behalf of my good friend to be lenient in your sentencing of Laura Steel. Anyone can make a mistake even with good intentions, its almost impossible to take something like this back, it just takes a wise person to see the differences in such a case and show mercy.

Respectfully and sincerely,

Johnny Russo

52 Cub Drive

Thomasville, NC 27360-9261

To:

Honorable Judge Amit Mehta

Date: 10 August 2023

Dear Honorable Judge Mehta,

Thank you for your time in considering my statement as a character witness for Laura Steele. My statement is rooted in a respectful fear of our Father God who I believe we will all answer to one day.

I met Laura in 1992 when I began working at the High Point Police Department. We were acquaintances as co-workers until 1996 when I left the department. In my dealing with her as an officer, I only knew her to be someone who followed the rules and law. She seemed to want to help people. As I would think you would know, not every officer is like that. If I had ever witnessed her in her work being anything other than honorable, I would not be writing this letter.

Several years later, our paths crossed again as moms and we became fast friends due to the commonality of dedication to our families. I found her to be very loving and active in the lives of her sons, Jacob and Seth. From all appearances, her work and dedication to them paid off as they have grown up to be good men and assets to our community. In recent months she has been blessed to become a grandmother to a sweet little girl, Adalyn

I spoke with her on numerous occasions prior to January 6th and I can attest with absolute certainty what her intentions were because she told me directly. She was going to help people in the capacity of safety. She let me know she had been asked, because of her skills she acquired while working in law enforcement and security, to help escort people whose well being may be at risk from people who did not believe everyone has the right to speak. It really was that simple.

I know her well enough to know she welcomed the opportunity to volunteer to use her experience to once again help others. There are people in the world who have a drive to help and she is one of them.

I see her as an asset to not only her family but our community. She has served our community in various capacities over the years regarding safety and I've never known her to be anything other than a loving wife, mother, grandmother and friend.

In consideration of your time, I will close this letter. If you have any questions regarding my testimony, feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Wendy R. Queen
3812 Brandt Lake Ct.
Greensboro, NC 27410

August 7, 2023

Dear Honorable Judge Amit Mehta,

I am a retired 40-year 911, police/ fire dispatch veteran. My calling began in 1978 at the Key West Police Department in Florida, went on to dispatch for the Florida Highway Patrol in Miami, then spent 10 years as a police dispatcher for the Metro-Dade Police Department (renamed and now known as the Miami Dade Police Department). Afterward, I moved to North Carolina, where I completed my career with 27 more years at the High Point Communications Center as a 911, Police and Fire dispatcher. I loved my chosen field of helping people during their most trying, fearful and chaotic times of their lives. I felt responsible for every citizen that I served gladly and with joy each and every day. Above all, I felt strongly about protecting my officers, firefighters and EMS personnel, who went into dangerous situations, many times a day, not knowing if they would be hurt or killed in the line of duty. I ensured they were equipped with pertinent information and what to watch out for. I feel proud and honored that God chose me to embark on this hectic, stressful, yet fulfilling purpose in life.

I met Laura Steele during the latter part of 1992, after she graduated from rookie school to become a police officer for High Point Police Department. One requirement for Laura's first year of training was to sit in the Communications Center, one-on-one, with a dispatcher for a week to learn what we did on the other side of the radio, how we handled calls for help, the information we obtained, and how we dispatched officers to those calls. During that week, we would also get to know each other better, the officer learned they could trust and depend on us to look out for them and have their back. I found that I had a stronger bond with officers that sat with me, and that's how Laura and I became work buddies. After her training was complete, and she was on her own on the street, if Laura heard my voice on the radio, she would come by the Communications Center, between her calls for service, to bring donuts or coffee for our team working that shift. She would share what happened on the calls we sent her to, since the only information we had was what was told to us over the phone. She would share funny stories about her dogs, we'd share recipes and opinions of current movies we saw, talk about current events and she was always kind, funny and friendly to us all. Laura was always calm on the radio, even when in danger, during a fight, burglary or robbery in progress, vehicle or foot pursuit and wasn't afraid, like some female officers, to be the first one on the scene, not waiting for backup officers, to handle whatever was going on. This alone, caused us all to respect her very much. I remember having several people call in to the Comm Center, requesting her, by name, to come or call them to help them out with a problem.. When asked why another officer couldn't help, I was told, "Because Laura takes the time to help solve the issue, instead of brushing me off as if I didn't matter." I feel that shows the true character of a person. She and I would occasionally go for coffee after work, my dispatch team welcomed and held her babies, when she visited the Communications Center with them in tow, while she was on maternity leave. We were a work family and treated each other as such, since we actually spent more time with one another, working 12-hour shifts, than with our own families..

The Laura Steele that I know personally is an honest team player, willing to go out of her way to help people, no matter who they are, never intent on harming anyone. Maybe it's the way so many of us older people were raised; to be kind, helpful, compassionate and to do unto others as we would have others do unto us. That's the Laura Steele that I know and treasure as a friend.

I acknowledge and respect the fact that she has been found guilty with regards to the January 6th incident. She actually told me of her plans to attend the Trump rally and asked me to go along. However, at that time, I was busy packing for a move, had never been interested in attending a political event with large crowds, so I declined, said I would watch it on TV, told her that if she found herself in front of a news crew camera, to wave and say "hi" to me. We giggled, with her agreeing that she would, and the career dispatcher in me asked her to please be careful.

In closing, Your Honor, I want to thank you for allowing me the opportunity to write to you, on Laura's behalf, and for taking the time to read this letter.

Respectfully,



Valerie Snaden

1208 Avery Way

Kernersville, NC 27284

(336) 906-4271 valerie.snaden@gmail.com

Ken Steele
249 Newcastle Ct.
Thomasville NC, 27360

336-442-2472
Ken.steele@northstate.net

18 August 2023

Judge Amit Mehta
US District Court for the District of Columbia

Judge Mehta

My name is Ken Steele, I am a retired police officer who retired January 1st, 2021 after serving for 30 years at the rank of Major or Assistant Chief with the High Point Police Department in North Carolina. The High Point Police Department holds a special place in my heart because I loved my job, but it is also where I met my wife, Laura Steele. We met during rookie school and got married in 1994. We have raised two wonderful children, Jacob and Seth who failed to follow our advice and pursued a career in law enforcement and they both now work for the High Point Police Department.

Laura was one of the best police officers I have worked with, she accomplished a lot in her time with the High Point Police Department, she was the first female SWAT team member, she was also the department's first female K-9 officer. The thing that always made an impression on me is that she always strived to do what was right. One night while at work she witnessed a wreck between two ranking officers, both Lieutenants. They were going to try to sweep the crash under the rug but Laura wouldn't play ball and kept her account of what happened true to the facts because she knew that if either of those Lieutenants had been investigating one of their officers for being involved in a crash, they would have held those officers accountable. Later in my career I was the Commander of the department's Internal Affairs Unit and I had the occasion of review Laura's Internal Affairs file when she applied for a private investigator's license through the

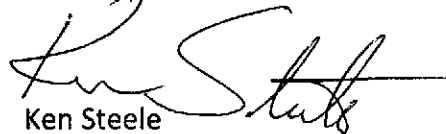
state of North Carolina. I found that Laura, when she had done something wrong self-reported even if it meant she was going to get into trouble. You cannot imagine how rare that is, most people just sit back and hope the heat blows over, but Laura would walk in and say hey I may have messed up and then explain the situation. This is the kind of integrity that she has helped to instill into both of our children and as a parent there is no higher praise than to hear that your children are held in high regard by the people they interact with.

I know my wife to be truthful and to have a great deal of integrity, and I am confident that her sole purpose for being in DC on January 6th, 2021 was to help. She had wanted to go and even asked me to go with her. I declined, I had just retired and had been through probably one of the worst years for a police officer in America in 2020. BLM rallies where the protestors burned down businesses, broke into stores and looted, destroyed government buildings and any time arrests were made the protests got worse to include huge crowds gathering at the Police Department and protesting. I was an Assistant Chief at the time so I was involved in all of these things in some form or fashion. Due to my many years in Internal Affairs a lot of the angry citizens requested to meet with me since most of them had dealings with me back with I was in Internal Affairs, so when I was asked to go to DC for a Donald Trump rally, I was not about to go insert myself into the middle of that type of gathering where I knew the police would be out numbered and over worked, I was ready for the quiet life of retirement. Unfortunately, Laura's brother Graydon Young was going and had joined a group called the Oath Keepers. He wanted her to go with him and a few days before the rally he told her to fill out an application on their website so that she could stand with them inside the VIP area where Donald Trump would be speaking. Laura was also

hopeful that she would get to meet General Flynn who was supposed to be a guest speaker, so she filled out the application and sent it in but never got a reply and she just went ahead and went to DC with her brother. I honestly believe that had her brother told her what all he was a party to in the Oath Keepers, Laura would not have gone, it just isn't what she is all about.

My hope is that one bad day doesn't define Laura's lifetime of work that has touched so many people for the good.

Sincerely,


Ken Steele

Major High Point Police Department - Retired

From: Lisa Lunsford lisacoe86@yahoo.com

Subject: Character Reference for Laura Steele

Date: Aug 16, 2023 at 5:59:50 PM

To: ken.steele@northstate.net

Character Reference for Laura Steele

I have a dear friend who is awaiting sentencing for her involvement in a very unfortunate incident. My friend of more than 40 years, Laura Steele, went to the Capitol on January 6, 2021. She didn't go to storm the building or to deface property, and she certainly didn't go with the intention of hurting anyone. Instead, she went to do what is in her nature. She went to provide protection to people who were scheduled to speak that day. It is now evident that her decision to go was not the right one, but with the benefit of hindsight, who of us would not make different choices? I would not call her decision to go a bad one, but rather a misinformed one.

Laura is a kind, warm-hearted person who has been a voice of reason and a steadfast friend since the day I

met her. She lends a helping hand to whoever needs it and is a protector by nature. She is a beloved daughter and cares for her aging mother who lives with her. She is a devoted wife to her husband, Ken; a loving mother to her two sons, Jacob and Seth; a doting grandmother to her beautiful granddaughter, Addie; and a wonderful dog mom to a precious retired police canine, Sable.

If there was ever anyone who deserves a second chance, it's Laura. As with all of us, she is wiser as a result of her experience. She has a beautiful life and she deserves the chance to continue to be there for her friends, family and community. I ask you to please take into consideration the positive impacts Laura has made, and could continue to make, on the people around her and to strongly consider showing her leniency and compassion as her sentencing is determined.

Sincerely,
Lisa C. Lunsford

Dear Judge Amit Mehta,

Re: Character Reference for Laura Steele CR21-000028-07

I am writing this letter to provide a character reference for Laura Steele in context to her significant impact on my life during a crucial period of my teenage years. I pray that understanding the immeasurable compassion and positive influence she has had on me will give the court valuable insight as you deliberate on her sentencing.

I first met Laura during a challenging period in my life when I was consumed by the consequences of being raised in an environment marred by alcoholism, and abuse. I began to rebel and started spending my time with people associated with gangs and drugs because I felt safe and protected; I knew my dad couldn't hurt me when I was with them. Even though I was not involved in a gang or doing drugs I was spending my time with people that were so I quickly found myself on a course of self-destruction. At the time many people had written me off as a lost cause, but Laura saw beyond my rebellious facade and recognized my potential. She gave guidance, mentorship, and genuinely cared; she helped me break free from the destructive cycle that was devouring me. She showed me a different perspective and became a steady presence of encouragement.

Laura's impact on my life was profound. She saw something in me that deserved a second chance. With this second chance and guidance, she helped me to get on the right path and remain there, and then I flourished!

I was able to fulfill my commitment to the delayed entry program into the US Air Force. I left for Air Force bootcamp a month before my 18th birthday and spent

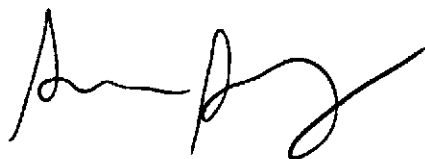
my career as a Space Systems Operator and Missile Warning Crew Chief. This foundation helped pave the way for a distinguished military career, numerous awards, academic achievements, college degrees and personal growth that I could not have imagined before.

After the military, I helped to form and lead a ministry for survivors of domestic violence called All Hope Restored. For a lot of us who have lived through domestic violence, there is no hope left at the end of a very dark tunnel. Laura was the first memorable experience I have of someone showing me there is still hope and a future after abuse, even if we make mistakes along the way.

I am now in a healthy marriage of 14 years, raising two children in a loving environment. My family and I are blessed to be living in Japan, relishing the experiences and opportunities that life has to offer. None of this would have been possible without Laura's instrumental role in shaping the beginning of this journey.

I wholeheartedly attest to Laura Steele's exceptional character and the significant impact she has had on my life. Her belief in me and dedication to my well-being helped me break free from a cycle of abuse and addiction, which I was able to share with other women. I cannot begin to count number of lives she impacted just by saving mine. I implore the court to choose leniency, just as she did for me.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stephanie Soliz', with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Stephanie Soliz

Darr Dentistry

Tonda Shick
Registered Dental Hygienist
3660 Clodfelter Rd.
Winston Salem 27107
07/31/2023

Dr. Pamela Johnson-Darr DDS PA
Family Dentistry

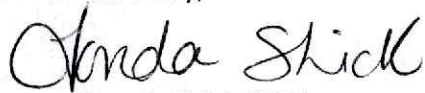
Judge Mehta,

As a dental hygienist, I have the opportunity to become a part of each of my patient's lives. I share their celebrations and their heartaches. I get to witness major milestones in each of their lives and in the lives of their families as well. I build personal relationships with these patients and share my life with them as they do with me. I learn about their likes and dislikes; I learn about the adventures that life takes them on. I see them on their good and bad days, and I get to know who they are at their core. I also more often than not, get to treat their children. Our children are our biggest critics and often show us where we in turn are flawed as people.

Laura Steele has been a patient with our office for over a decade. I also have the pleasure of treating her two sons, Seth and Jacob. I have watched them grow from boys into men and in turn, watched Laura grow into a grandmother. Laura's heart is not one filled with malice and hatred. She is a kind and giving soul. She values her family and does not shy away from protecting others. Laura has always been a warm and kind person in my hygiene chair. I have never seen any hatred or anger, only love and understanding. As a veteran of the police force, Laura understands what it means to serve others and to selflessly give your life to protect your community. Her two sons have followed in her footsteps and are currently officers with the High Point Police Department. They no doubt got their willingness to serve and protect their community from their mother. Laura Steele is an upstanding member of the community. She is kind and respectful and instilled those values in her children. They have grown into kind and brave men, who understand the law and live to serve their community. I believe that Laura's children are the biggest testimony to her character. The values she instilled in them shine through and you can see the love and kindness they have in their heart for their community and the people of that community.

In the wake of the accusations being made against Mrs. Laura Steele, I feel as though the person I know and the person I am reading about are two separate people. I know Laura would not condone destruction of anyone's property or any disrespect of any kind. She understands the law and looks to resolve situations with kindness rather than violence. She is a mother and a grandmother. Laura Steele is not vengeful; she is not arrogant. She is a kind woman with a good heart and her children are proof of that. I ask that the court please take into consideration the true character of Mrs. Laura Steele and know that she is not a bad person. She is kind and respectful and selfless. Thank you for your time.

Cordially,


Tonda Shick RDH

508 Turner Street Thomasville, NC 27360
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Phone: (336) 475-1614 Email: teamdarrpj@gmail.com