



**ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 2F**  
**Government of the District of Columbia**  
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March 21, 2006

Judge John Ramsey Johnson  
DC Superior Court  
Moultrie Courthouse  
500 Indiana Ave., N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20001

*re:* Chris Gaines, case number F06295-05

Honorable Judge Johnson:

We have been informed that criminal defendant Chris Gaines is shortly coming before the court for sentencing on a guilty plea for attempted distribution of cocaine in the above case. I write as Chairman of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2F, ("ANC2F") a governmental body established by District of Columbia statute and comprised of elected ANC commissioners representing the interests of more than 12,000 registered voters and their families in the Logan Circle area. Grimes, whose record evidences a criminal career path, has been arrested 38 time in the District of Columbia on drug, weapon and assault charges. He is frequently observed in the Logan Circle Area selling drugs on the street in in an open and notorious manner, demonstrating total disregard for the law and for the community. We respectfully submit that the interests of justice require that you impose the maximum penalties under current sentencing guidelines at this defendant's upcoming sentencing.

The community is very concerned about this sentencing. For years, as the Logan Circle area has sought to fight against the open street prostitution and drug trafficking that were so prevalent in the area, it has often seemed that the District of Columbia Courts have simply abdicated a responsibility to effective law enforcement by repeatedly passing light sentences on repeat offenders, particularly upon those whose crimes have so harshly and adversely impacted the community. Gaines is typical of such individuals. His virtually uninterrupted history of criminal activity has wrought untold personal harm to those with whom he deals directly; his crimes also telescope throughout the community in a secondary chain reaction of robberies, assaults, burglaries, thefts from cars, and even homicides..

Gaines adds significantly to the fear that grips our streets and adversely affects our citizens. Residents feel unsafe on sidewalks near his accustomed haunts, and are precluded from using the areas parks and amenities due to his activities and the vagrants, addicts and peripheral class he attracts. Logan Circle has progressed far from the days of its slum character. This progress has been achieved by the dedication, diligence and plain hard work of many civic

mindful and determined citizens who want a safe and pleasant community in which to live, work and raise families. For his own personal benefit and without regard for the social consequences of his illegal acts, Gaines poses a threat to these goals.

We are a hard working community, struggling with many challenges in our efforts to create a decent, safe and peaceful neighborhood. We understand the obligations of the courts to apply an even handed justice in the sentencing process, which takes into account the circumstances of the defendant as well as the community. Here, we submit, the appropriate balance of circumstances militates toward removing the cloud of anxiety that this criminal has created, by imposing the maximum sentence.

Chris Gaines, in his own right on the basis of an egregious criminal career and as a deterrent to others, deserves to be given maximum punishment.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Charles D. Reed".

Charles D. Reed  
Chairman, ANC2F

cc: Lt. Michael Smith, Metropolitan Police Department

CCPS 06-07