

Dear Judge Forrest,

I have been an inmate at MCC awaiting trial for the past 18 months. Ross Ulbricht came into my unit earlier this year. When he first came in, he struck me as a very calm and collected individual. I knew he was facing serious charges and going to trial, yet every night when he'd come back from court, I'd see him mingling with the other inmates, getting to know them, playing table tennis and just being at ease. Of all the people in our unit, Ross is facing the most time, but he never complains or tries to bring anyone down. On the contrary, he's often the one to remind us to look on the bright side and be grateful for the blessings we still have.

A few weeks after he arrived, I invited him to live with me in my cell. I got to know him since then and consider him a friend. It's incredibly hard to be away from my family over seas and it's easy to get overwhelmed with grief and despair, but when I see Ross, who's situation is so much worse, and how he remains friendly and kind to me and the others in our unit, it gives me the strength to do the same.

I know Ross would continue to set an example for how to be a strong and peaceful person if he were given his freedom back. I can think of few who would deserve it more.

Sincerely,

Scott [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]