

Dear Mrs. Swan,

1-23-2019

Greetings. I hope that this letter finds you and yours doing well. I recently had the "Request for Serious Release Consideration" given to me and it was suggested that I fill it out and send to you. I hemmed and hawed for a while mainly due to the fact that I am in prison for a violent crime and as such I figured that I may not be a good candidate for release politically.

I decided to fill out the form and send it because I am not NOW a violent offender. I committed my crime 23 years ago when I was a lost, 16 year old kid. I am a 40 year old man now. I have been doing all of the programs that the W.D.C. will let me do which isn't much, but it is a lot. I have been meeting with the woman I shot on November 4th, 1995 at least once per year, Jackie Millar, through the Restorative Justice Project at the UW-Madison Law School and I figured that if she can forgive me and see me as a human being maybe the new Tony Evers led government can as well.

Thank you for your time and effort in all of this. God Bless. peace

Sincerely,

Craig Jussch #214681

Request for Serious Release Consideration

1. Name and Number: CRAIG SUSSEK #314681
2. Birthdate / Age Now: 11-11-1978 40
3. Date & Age at Incarceration: 11-4-1995 (date of crime) 16 years old. 6-27-1996 (date of incarceration) 17.
4. Years in prison: 23
5. Offense Description: First Degree Attempt. Homicide (45 years) & Armed Burglary (35 years). When I was a 16 year old kid myself and another kid (15 years old) broke into a stranger's home looking for keys to a car that was in the garage. In the process of looking for the keys I entered a room and saw someone sleeping in the bed. I grabbed my co-defendant and said we had to leave because someone was in the house. ~~For~~ While we were about to leave the person confronted us in the garage. Things quickly got worse, I made more horrible choices, and, sadly, I wound up shooting the person. Every single day I wish I could change what I did. Since I can't I do all that I can to better myself.
6. Length of Sentence: 80 years
7. Current Prison: Fox Lake Correctional Inst.
8. MR/PMR Date: ~~October 2015~~ 8-1-2049
9. Original parole eligibility date: October 2015
10. Programs taken: H.S.E.D., Vocational Cabinet Making, C.G.I.P. 122 (these were the only state mandated programs... the following were taken due to my own inclination): Restorative Justice Project via un-m... I have been meeting with the lady I shot once a year (at least) since 1997. From this I have grown as a person and FULLY realize the impact my actions have had. We have been interviewed by many newspapers and t.v. programs including: the Oprah Winfrey show, 60 Minutes, NBC 15 news Madison, Dateline Australia and a Milwaukee station in the late '90s. Restorative Justice (different program than the above that is held here at F.L.C.I.), Restorative Justice at work, Challenges & Possibilities, ABLE minds, Microsoft office XP (Excel, Access, Word, Power Point), Intro to Grammar, Elements of Algebra, Elements of Geometry, Certified tutor - Pro-literacy of America / Wisconsin Literacy, odyssey challenge, Diversity Enhancement Program, 20 self-help Carey packets with my social worker, 20 Re-Entry packets, volunteer work via crocheting various products and sewing blankets for those in need out there in the community. I would have done more programs, but I am routinely denied participation due to my MR being in 2049, I've also held numerous prison jobs including: plumbing, carpentry, food service, clerical, maintenance, community services, canteen, tailor and most recently (currently) as a C.N.C. Programmer and operator.
11. Number of Parole hearings / number and length of deferments: 2 hearings. 1st: October 20
I was given a 24mo. defer by Mr. S. Landreman and this was increased to a 36mo. defer by Mr. D. Stensberg, October 2018. I was given a 12mo. defer with no endorsement to a minimum security prison.

2. official reason for denial/deferment: "You have NOT served sufficient time for punishment." "Release at this time would involve an unreasonable risk to the public."
13. Do you have a verifiable support system? (Release support needs): YES!! I have family and friends that have stated that they will help me in whatever way they can. These are the people that have been supporting me for the past 23 years while I've been in prison. My release support needs are "Simple" and pre-emptive; I need the parole system in Wisconsin to realize that I am NOT the 16 year old kid that made some terrible choices and give me the opportunity to go home to my family and friends while I'm still young enough to start a life that can be of benefit to my community. Support my humanity.

Statement (couple paragraphs)

First and foremost I am truly sorry for my actions on November 4th, 1995. I can never make up for what I have done, but I have been doing everything I am able to improve myself as a person and give back while in prison. If released today I would be a benefit to the community in an untold number of ways. I have a large system of support and I have developed an over abundance of skills to help me be successful in the workplace as well as the traits needed to be a good person.

I am a realist so I don't expect to be released in the very near future so my "request" isn't to get released today, but getting the ball rolling is a very real request. If not for myself then for people similar to myself that have little to no hope of getting out I ask that we be allowed to go to community custody minimums where we can work, save money, get familiar with the outside world after two plus decades away, take any Re-Entry programs available and ~~pro~~ prove our readiness to Re-Enter society and our worth as people to do so. Then released

Thank you for your time. Sincerely Craig Sussex #31468