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MAX FACTOR III
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IN REPLY PLEASE REFER TO:

March 13, 1997

Hon. Judge Richard Anderson
Division One
Camp Verde Superior Court
3505 W. Highway 260
Camp Verde, AZ 86322

Re: Esther Jean Anderson
Case No. CR99600236-Arizona

Dear Judge Anderson:

I would like to take a moment to introduce myself. For the past twenty-five (25) years, I have been practicing law in Los Angeles County, primarily as a litigator in business, real estate and probate work.

The first few years of my practice were at the Los Angeles City Attorney's Office where I spent just over four years as a prosecutor. I have been fortunate to serve on our local Board of Education and our local Chamber of Commerce. I also serve on the USC Law Center Board of Advisors; the Board of the National Technical Institute for the Deaf and the Center for the Partially Sighted.

I have been blessed with a wonderful family and friends, and a profession that has been very kind to me. Over the years, I have had the opportunity to meet, and refuse to represent many people, and to represent others, some of whom I wish I had better understood at an earlier period of time.

In any event, with the hundreds of people I have represented in civil business litigation and the large number of people about for whom I have been involved in civil and criminal prosecutions, on behalf of the City of Los Angeles and the State of California, I have formed a pretty good data base about the type of person who can genuinely be helped by counseling, as opposed to the type of person who must be incarcerated, both as a punishment and to protect the society from their presence.

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I believe Esther Jean Anderson is a person for whom punishment will serve no useful purpose; a person who will not make society more safe by her absence from the community; and a person who I firmly believe can lead a productive life in an environment in which she is offered family support and counseling.

Several weeks ago I had the opportunity to speak by telephone with the person who I understood to be the court appointed psychiatrist in connection with a review of the sentencing of Esther Jean Anderson. I spent about a half an hour with the gentleman because I have a strong sense that Esther Jean Anderson is a person who needs family, guidance and support, rather than additional punishment. For a period of several years, in Los Angeles, I was a casual friend of Esther Jean Anderson; and I was her attorney. While she always appeared to me to be sensitive and caring, it was clear that she seemed to lack the sophistication, common sense and hardness that is sometimes necessary in life – particularly, in big cities and in competitive occupations. For some years, I do understand that Ms. Anderson was a legitimate actress and ran a legitimate business providing models and escorts for conventions.

Clearly, life's toll and Ms. Anderson's strength and sense of self-worth worked a serious deterioration on her well being and quite probably on her business, too. The last times I spoke to her in Los Angeles was when she called, terribly frightened and scared, because she felt that people were breaking into her home. At the time, I called the police (just in case her fears were true) and I strongly advised her to return home to her family for care and support.

For months after Ms. Anderson left Los Angeles, I received faxes and occasional telephone messages on my voicemail, each expressing a sad alarm. I spoke with her on just a couple of occasions; and once again, I counseled her that she needed help and friendship. She needed to go back home and be with her family. My sense was that that was what she wanted, but she had "gotten in" over her head.

I know that many people differ in their religious views; and many are without faith. I firmly believe that Esther Jean Anderson has a very good soul; and I firmly believe that she is someone who can function in society and help others to learn and to grow. I am not a therapist; and I am certainly not trained in psychiatry.

I do believe that many of us are essentially good at the core; and that nevertheless, we may stray very far from a good and honest life, as Esther Jean Anderson may have done. I believe that further punishment will hurt, not help, Esther Jean Anderson. I do believe that she can and will be helped if there is someone who can take her under their care.

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Undoubtedly, the court will rely heavily on the Report prepared by the psychiatrist that has been retained. I do hope that the information contained therein is such that Ms. Anderson will be placed in a situation where she can return to society, productively, and with the protective custody of a family member or true friend.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Max Factor, III".

Max Factor, III

MF:bc