

January 1, 2007

The Honorable Ellen Segal Huvelle
United States District Court for the District of Columbia
333 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20001

Re: United States v. Ney, No. 06-cr-272 (ESH)

Dear Judge Huvelle:

I am writing on behalf of Robert (Bob) W. Ney who is scheduled to appear before you for sentencing on January 19, 2007. I have known Bob for over nine years and have had the high privilege to witness first hand his work ethic and dedication to his family and the people he was elected to serve.

Having worked for Bob from December 1997 to January 2001 in senior positions in his office, I spent countless hours traveling between Ohio and Washington, DC, traditionally via car, in order to save the taxpayers the cost of airfare. During those five-hour drives (one way), Bob was always working on behalf of the constituents of Ohio's 18th Congressional District. He constantly checked voice mail, returned calls to people who needed help and reached out to elected officials to see how he could help them and their cities and towns. Often Bob would leave his office voicemails at 3:00 AM in order for staff to follow up on important matters first thing in the morning. When it came to the people who elected him, he didn't care if they were Republicans, Democrats or unregistered voters, he made sure everyone received a return call and their problem was addressed to the best resolution possible.

In order to understand Bob, you must understand that he never forgot where he came from. Putting his constituents before his personal life, often missing family events to keep commitments his staff had booked for him, Bob was the consummate professional. Bob never spent a weekend in Washington regardless of what was taking place, he preferred to be in Ohio amongst the people who elected him.

Bob was respected by colleagues on both sides of the aisle in Washington, forging lasting relationships with the most unlikely of allies such as Congresswoman Maxine Waters of California. The two could not be more ideologically different, but Bob believes that everyone deserves the same respect and that belief is what allowed him to achieve so much success in Washington.

I had the privilege of spending 20 hours a day with Bob seven days a week for over three years. In that time, I learned more about life, people, politics, friendships and the importance of family than I ever could have imagined. Bob served as a mentor to me, as a surrogate father, and as a best friend all in one. No one can make excuses for what has occurred but I know a different Bob than what is portrayed in media accounts.

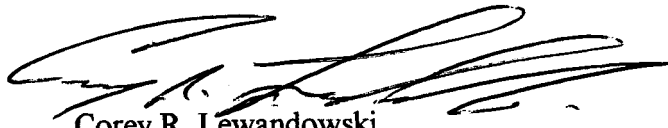
I know the Bob who wants to be home with his family and not attending another political event. I know the Bob before he became Chairman of a powerful Committee in Congress and was befriended by people who didn't have his best intentions in mind.

I know the true Bob Ney and I ask you to consider all he has done for his family, his friends, his colleagues, and his constituents in totality when you issue your sentence. There is no question in my mind that the people of Ohio are better off because Bob Ney served them over a twenty-five year career than if Bob would have stayed in Iran to teach English to underprivileged children.

Before you sentence Bob, I hope you will consider all the good that Bob Ney brought to the Ohio valley, a severely depressed region of the country; all the time he missed away from his family in order to serve the people of Ohio and the sacrifices he made for a truly thankless job. I can assure you that during my tenure as his employee, Bob Ney was the hardest working man in Ohio and Washington. I can further assure you the work that he did and the decisions he made were done with integrity and the highest regard for his office and those he served.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Corey R. Lewandowski', with a stylized, flowing script.

Corey R. Lewandowski
Former Administrative Assistant
US Congressman Robert W. Ney