

Jewish Voice for Peace



קו ל יהודי לשלום

Jewish Voice for Peace-Chicago

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Honorable Judge Gershwin Drain:

I am writing to urge leniency from you in the March 12 sentencing of Rasmea Odeh. As a long-time leader of a Jewish organization (jvp.org) that advocates for a just peace for Israelis and Palestinians, I value Rasmea and her organization and the partnership that we have enjoyed in this work. Over the years, we have come to truly admire Rasmea's warmth, compassion and selfless leadership.

Just this summer, I had the pleasure of attending a meeting of seven prominent women who were planning a Chicago woman's conference. Rasmea was there and I truly admired the way that -- in the midst of her own crisis -- she focused solely on the needs of the women immigrants who she helps to adjust to life in America.

Should Rasmea not win her appeal, Jewish Voice for Peace will lose a valuable partner in our work for a just peace. Some 600 women in Chicago will lose someone who plays a central role in their lives.

As a survivor of torture, Rasmea has suffered enough. I urge you to keep Rasmea in her community, engaged in the work that is so important to her emotional health.

Respectfully yours,

Lynn Pollack

DEFENDANT'S
EXHIBIT

C-28