

Honorable Judge Baker,

I am requesting a compassionate release for extraordinary and compelling reasons. In June 2023 my aunt abandoned my 4 children due to her physical and mental health and moved out of my home.

When I self surrendered in April 2023, the initial plan was for my 70 year old aunt to care for my children in my home. She had full access to my military benefits to take care of all financial needs, as well as medical and dental care for my kids.

When my aunt left my children, she left my 21 year old daughter to care for her 3 sisters, ages 17, 13, and 10. During this time period that my oldest has been responsible for taking care of the finances and the well being of her sisters things have spiraled out of control. My 21 year old deals with severe childhood trauma from being molested for 4 years by my ex-husband. She has full control of my finances and with her mental state, I don't trust her judgement. She has been neglecting the bills and the mortgage is currently in default. If foreclosure happens, this would leave them all homeless.

My 2 younger kids should be starting school again on August 21. It is imperative for them to have stability at home to progress in school.

On August 25, my oldest has a court hearing and could be facing prison time for an incident she was involved in on May 13, 2023. If she is removed from the home, this would leave them with no supervision and no means of support.

As stated in my PSI, the father of my younger kids has been in prison for the last 6 years for sexually abusing my 2 older kids. He is scheduled to be released in March of 2024 and I do believe he will try to harm, if not kill, my older children for speaking out against him if he learns that I am not home with them. My PSI also states that I do not have a relationship with my parents. My aunt was the only caregiver for my children.

Although I am petitioning for the compassionate release, I am very aware of my reasons for being here and I have not wasted this time. I have earned 40 days of FSA credits. I have taken several classes that have assisted with my self improvement and self discovery. I have remained incident free since I arrived here. Even though my funds are limited, I have remained in compliance with my monthly FRP payments as well. I have developed great relationships with all of my counselors and they are all aware of the issues I am experiencing.

On August 30 my military benefits will likely terminate due to my absence and this will cause the resources I left in place for my kids to be depleted.

At this time I would like to humbly request to be considered for a compassionate release or even home confinement. I have exhausted all options for guardianship and financial support for my children and my presence at home is very much needed at this point. Please take into consideration the safety and welfare of my minor children. Upon writing a letter to the acting warden, Mr. C. Brammer, in June 2023, he informed me that the First Step Act Program 5050.50 allows all inmates to petition their sentencing court directly.

My release plan includes returning to my home and ensuring the safety of my children. I would resume my military status until my discharge is properly processed. This would be my means for financial support as well as keeping the benefits in place for my children's medical and dental care. During this time I will be able to get all of my housing expenses caught up and keep my children in their home and ensure their education is not interrupted or negatively affected.

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Case 4:22-cr-00065-RSB-CLR Document 53 Filed 08/22/23 Page 2 of 2

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