

Jan 8, 2021

Ken Wong

Phone no. 415- 802-7127

To: Honorable Judge William H. Orrick

My name is Ken Wong. I was the Parole Agent III/Supervisor at the Division of Adult Parole Operations of State of California Sheriff Department in the department and worked for the department for 25 years. Currently I am retired. I have known Florence Kong for over 10 years. Florence is very active in the community. I have run into her many times in community events. My experiences with Florence over the years have resulted in my feeling that she is a very passionate person who always like to help others.

Florence had a medium size steel company. She employed over 100 employees. A few years ago when I was working at the Parole Department I thought that if she could hire some of our local felons, it would be of great help the felons to lead normal lives in society. We had a meeting in my office. I was very impressed that Florence feels that the hiring of felons is the social responsibility of a business owner and of a community leader setting example for others. She said that everyone should give a second chance to people who had committed crime. If all businesses would provide job opportunities to them, the community will be better. The felons would not want to commit crime again. Society should give the felons a chance to have a new life. A stable income and a sign of acceptance will be a key to encourage them not to make mistake again. In this way it also helps the economy with the felons' new productivity and the community will be safer.

We scheduled a site visit in San Joaquin prison so that Florence could have a better understanding of what the felons could do. Florence and a few of our coworkers spent almost a whole day to walked through the jail. The fact of the matter is that Florence as the CEO did not need to be there and she could have sent a staff to complete this chore. That day, I saw the sincerity and heart in Florence. Her company started to hire a few felons after the visit. The most exciting result was a few felons stayed with her company for many years and did not commit crime again. To this day, the ex-felons enjoy their new lives. They were very proud of themselves. They have a lot of respect for Florence Kong for giving them a chance to enter society again and for her commitment to help others.

Florence made a mistake this time. She showed to me that she is very remorseful to have committed a criminal act. My experience with Florence gives me the confidence that Florence will learn from her mistake, make correction and can continue to help others with her energy and commitment. If anyone deserves court leniency, I truly believe in my heart that Florence is a prime person deserving the court's time to examine her kindness, her positive accomplishments for the community and her potential contributions in the future. I do not believe society would benefit from Florence's incarceration and hope the court will come to the same conclusion as I have.

Yours Respectfully,

Ken Wong