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RECEIVED

February 15, 1974

FEB 18 1974

LA. STATE PENITENTIARY
RECORDS OFFICE

The Honorable Frank J. Shea
Judge, Section G
Criminal Court Building
2700 Tulane Avenue
New Orleans, Louisiana 70119

Dear Judge Shea:

Re: Hezekiah Brown
PMB# 71118

On May 20, 1970 the above named individual was resentenced in your Court from Death to a Life sentence.

On April 17, 1972 a white officer was killed by three black militants from the New Orleans area. Brown testified for the State and on the basis of his testimony these three individuals received a life sentence each.

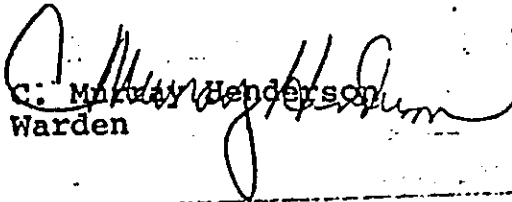
Mr. Brown is 67 years old, is in poor health, and will by necessity leave the state if his sentence is commuted to time served. In any event, he is a protection case at the penitentiary, his life is in danger, and the only way we can protect him is to restrict his freedom which doesn't encourage other people to help the State when heinous crimes are committed.

Mr. Brown's case is scheduled to be heard by the next Pardon Board and I would appreciate any consideration that you would give him. It is my opinion that at his age and his general physical condition, he is not going to be in conflict with the

Judge Frank J. Shea
Page 2
February 15, 1974

law and his release, I believe, is well deserved. He has now served a total of Seven Years and Seven Months although officially his sentence did not begin until 1970.

Sincerely yours,


C. Murray Henderson
Warden

CMH:pjg

3

April 22, 1974

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APR 23 1974

LA. STATE PENITENTIARY
RECORDS OFFICE

Elayn Hunt, Director
Department of Corrections
Pentagon Courts
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Dear Mrs. Hunt:

Re: Hezekiah Brown
PMB# 71118

It is my understanding that the above referenced case was considered by the Pardon Board during its last session and that favorable consideration has tentatively been given depending upon a favorable recommendation from you.

You will recall that Mr. Brown was a key witness in the apprehension and conviction of the three inmates who killed Brent Miller, a correctional officer at the Louisiana State Penitentiary, two years ago.

Although Mr. Brown's record indicates that he was only sentenced January 7, 1971, he has been incarcerated almost eight years at this time.

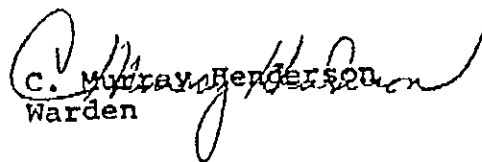
Mr. Brown has an excellent conduct record, he has never had a disciplinary report since his incarceration, he is now 67 years old and in poor health and plans to leave the State if he is granted relief. Because of his testimony and the fact that he was a State witness he does not feel that he can safely return to New Orleans.

Murray H. ...

Elayn Hunt
Page 2
April 22, 1974

I would personally appreciate any consideration you would give him. It is my opinion that at his age and general physical condition, he is not going to be in conflict with the law and his release I believe is well deserved.

Sincerely yours,


C. Murray Henderson
Warden

CMH:pjg

4

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OCT 9 1975
LA. STATE PENITENTIARY
RECORDS OFFICE

September 18, 1975

The Honorable Frank Shea
Judge, Section "G"
2700 Tulane Avenue
Criminal Courts Building
New Orleans, Louisiana 70119

Dear Judge Shea:

Re: Hezekiah Brown
PMB# 71118

In April, 1972 Hezekiah Brown witnessed the murder of a correctional officer at Angola. As a result of his willingness to come forward, other witnesses were found and convictions of three inmates were obtained.

Since that time, Mr. Brown has been a protection case and it has been necessary to keep him at the dog pen.

It is my personal opinion that the State has an obligation to try to help this individual in some way. I realize the seriousness of Mr. Brown's crime; however, at his age I think it is extremely doubtful that he will be involved in this type of offense in the future. He has a heart condition which makes it impossible for him to walk any distance without becoming extremely short of breath. However, because of his testimony, he is afraid to go to the Angola Hospital or for that matter any of the charity hospitals where inmates are kept. The specific type of relief we are requesting is that his sentence be commuted to parole eligibility then we will attempt to work out plans for him in Michigan where he has relatives. He knows that he cannot return to New Orleans since the three individuals he testified against

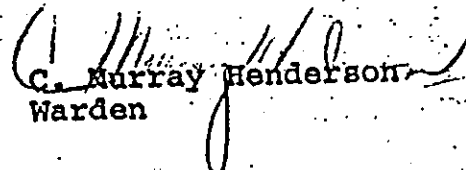
The Honorable Frank Shea
Page 2
September 18, 1975

are from there.

Any consideration given him will be greatly appreciated. When he appeared before you helped him but the Lieutenant Governor and the Attorney General, as I remember, did not go along.

With kindest personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours,


C. Murray Henderson
Warden

CMH:pjg

November 4, 1975

Mr. Hezikiah Brown
LSP #71118
Louisiana State Penitentiary
Angola, Louisiana 70712

Mr. William L. Carroll, Jr.
Board of Pardons
One American Place
Suite 1402
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70825

Dear Mr. Carroll:

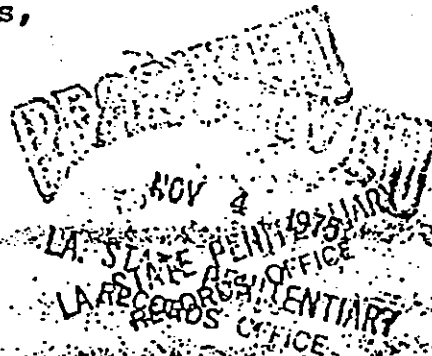
This will acknowledge your letter of October 24, 1975, informing me that my case has been docketed to be heard at 1:00 p.m., November 13, 1975.

Those persons interested in appearing on my behalf are; Mr. Bobby Oliveaux, Correctional Officer II; Mr. Bert Dixon, Correctional Officer IV; Mr. Hilton Butler, Associate Warden for Custody; Mr. Leon Picou, District Attorney for West Feliciana Parish; Billy Travis, Deputy Sheriff for West Feliciana Parish; and Mr. C. Murray Henderson, Warden of the Louisiana State Penitentiary.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation for my case being put on the docket and I will do my utmost to justify any assistance given me.

Sincerely yours,

Hazikiah Brown



6.

November 13, 1975

George Lee

7/11/8

Re: Hezekiah Brown

Mr. Brown has rendered valuable assistance to the Louisiana State Penitentiary by testifying in court against three individuals who were found guilty of murdering a correctional officer. I feel that it would be appropriate for the institution to pay the cost of the advertisement to be used for Clemency request.

Sincerely yours,

C. Murray Henderson
C. Murray Henderson
Warden

CMH:chr

LA. STATE PENITENTIARY
RECORDS OFFICE

LOUISIANA STATE PENITENTIARY

UNIT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
Angola, Louisiana 70712

Frank C. Blackburn
Warden

Jan

Paul Phelps
Secretary of Corrections



Edwin W. Edwards
Governor

April 7, 1978

TO: C. Paul Phelps
Secretary of Corrections

FROM: Frank C. Blackburn
Warden

RE: Hezekiah Brown
PMB# 71118

As discussed with you I would like to have issued to the above named inmate one (1) carton of cigarettes per week. This, I feel, would partially fulfill commitments made to him in the past with respect to his testimony in the state's behalf in the Brent Miller murder case.

Awaiting your decision in this matter, be assured of my cooperation at all times.

Frank C. Blackburn
Warden

FCB
cds

RECEIVED
MAY 2 1978

*cc: Records
OK 5/11/78
(cc)*

25 April 78

LA. STATE PENITENTIARY
RECORDS OFFICE

To: Warden Blackburn
MURKENS OFFICE

I concur with Henderson ~~made~~ made the original agreement with Brown. Because of his status as a protection case I think we should honor the agreement.

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[Signature]

State of



Louisiana

Executive Department

To THE SECRETARY, LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONS:

Whereas, At a session of the Honorable the Criminal District Court, in and for the Parish of Orleans,

held on the 29th day of May, 1970 (originally on the 9th day of June, 1965),

HEZEKIAH BROWN was tried and

convicted of the crime of aggravated rape,

and for said offense was sentenced by His Honor, the Judge of said court, to life imprisonment at hard labor in the custody of the Louisiana State Penitentiary (originally sentenced to death on June 9, 1965).

And, Whereas, upon the recommendation of the Honorable Board of Pardons, I have thought proper to grant a commutation of sentence to time served to Hezekiah Brown.

Now, Therefore, I, EDWIN W. EDWARDS, Governor of the State of Louisiana, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Constitution, do hereby grant a commutation of sentence to time served to Hezekiah Brown,

and do hereby direct you to act accordingly,
and for so doing this shall be your sufficient warrant and authority.



Given under my signature and the Great Seal of the State of Louisiana,
at the City of Baton Rouge, this 2nd day of June, A. D., 19 86

Edwin Edwards
Governor

By The Governor:

Jim Bran
Secretary of State

A TRUE COPY:
JAMES H. "Jim" BRAN
SECRETARY OF STATE