

**SUSAN YANKOWITZ**  
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**July 24, 2006**

Ms. Monica David, Chair  
Florida Parole Commission  
2601 Blair Stone Rd., Bldg C  
Tallahassee, Fl. 32399-2450

Dear Ms. David,

I am writing in support of Charles P. Norman's application for a hearing regarding his release on parole.

Several years ago, P.E.N.—an internationally known organization of poets, essayists, and novelists—requested that I participate in the Prisoner Writing Program. When I agreed, I was sent the works of two prisoners, one of whom was Charles Norman; in my role as mentor, it was my job to comment on the manuscripts and suggest revisions or new directions.

I consider myself very fortunate to have been assigned, at random, the portfolio of Mr. Norman. His work is extremely impressive in every respect: in its control, its large vocabulary, its innate sense of structure, and the seriousness of its content. In addition, I have seen several samples of his art work, which is meticulous and highly sophisticated; he is a talented illustrator and graphic artist as well as a writer. Although I have never met Mr. Norman in person, it is evident from the work I have seen that he is intelligent, talented, responsive to others, and hard-working. He was, in fact, awarded a first prize from the PEN American Center for his writing.

I believe that a man who has spent twenty-nine years in prison and has demonstrated remarkably good character and moral growth during that period is entitled to serious consideration by the parole board regarding his release. I urge you to allow him the opportunity to present his case to you.

Sincerely,

Susan Yankowitz