

# Kimberly Mitchell

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May 11, 2007

Honorable Kenneth A. Marra  
United States Court Judge  
Federal Courthouse  
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33301

Dear Judge Marra:

I am writing on behalf of a longtime friend of mine, James Exline.

Jim and I became friends more than 20 years ago at Florida State University. We kept in touch with each other over the years. When Jim first ran for political office, I supported him and was proud to do so.

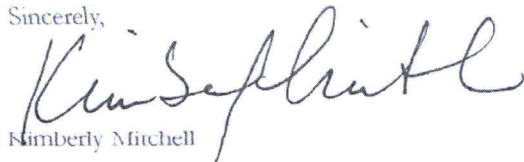
In 2002, I was elected to the West Palm Beach City Commission and was then serving with Jim. Because of the nature of the Sunshine Laws, Jim and I never really spent much time together while we served on the Commission. But I always counted on him for two things: his brilliant planning talent during meetings and his wonderful sense of humor.

I can tell you his departure has created a vacuum on the City Commission as it relates to planning issues. I miss him in that regard. But now that he is no longer serving, I look forward to going back to a friendship relationship with Jim. And as a bonus, I will now look forward to calling on his expertise from time to time when I may be in doubt on important planning decisions before the Commission.

I do not know the entire nature of the crime committed -- only what I have read in the Palm Beach Post. And I remember commiserating with him when I went through a divorce around the same time he did. But I can say with sincerity Jim is someone who will learn from his mistake.

My hope is the Court will show leniency. And I will offer, though not requested and for what it is worth, my opinion of what the Court should require of Jim that will be in the best interest of society, specifically our community. It is this: Jim Exline has an amazing talent when it comes to planning issues. There are many affordable housing nonprofits that would benefit from his pro bono expertise to help their plans come to fruition and ultimately contribute to our community.

Sincerely,



Kimberly Mitchell