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Mayor: I Did Not Ask For Leniency in Man's Sentence

Barberio said he wrote letter on behalf of friend whose son received 5 years for drug offense.
October 21, 2011

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Daniel Moses, 26, a former basketball and soccer player at Parsippany High School, [was sentenced on Friday to five years in prison for conspiring to sell marijuana, according a report by the Daily Record.](#)

The sentencing came despite a letter from Parsippany Mayor James Barberio on behalf of Moses. Barberio told Patch Moses' father is a friend of his. The report says Barberio wrote requesting the Superior Court show Moses leniency.

Barberio told Patch that was not the case.

"I did not ask for leniency," Barberio said. "What the young man did was wrong, and he will pay for his crime. I commend the Parsippany Police Department for their work in this case. Yes, I wrote a letter. I wrote it on behalf of Daniel Moses' father, who has been my friend for many years. They're a good family, and he is a good man who has volunteered with many groups for the benefit of Parsippany Troy-Hills. But I never asked for a reduction in sentence, and I am glad justice was done."

According to the Daily Record report, Moses pleaded guilty last month to conspiracy to distribute eight pounds of marijuana and he will be eligible for parole after one year.

[For the full report, head here.](#)

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Ann K

4:01 pm on Friday, October 21, 2011

Perhaps a request for leniency wasn't made outright but why write the letter except in the hopes of exerting some amount of influence?

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Mark

12:01 am on Saturday, October 22, 2011

He should release a copy of the letter he wrote. Was it sent on letterhead from the Mayor's Office? If so, he is acting on behalf of the people of the town in the position which he was elected to. The people who voted for Mr. Barberio deserve to know if he chose to exert influence in this manner, or whether he outright asked for leniency for the defendant and is now trying to backtrack publicly for political reasons.

Flag as inappropriate

Bob Crawford

6:43 pm on Friday, October 21, 2011

Mayor Barberio has got to decide whether he wants to try to be everybody's best friend or if he wants to become a leader and start to work on behalf of all of Parsippany's residents. Jamie's need to be liked rather than his ability and willingness to govern will be his legacy as a one term mayor.

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Mel

1:18 am on Saturday, October 22, 2011

Mayor Barberio has never been qualified to be mayor.....his election and win were financed by "good old boys" like Gov. Christie. Parsippany needs a well educated, knowledgeable leader. Jaime is neither of those.

Flag as inappropriate

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Mel

1:31 am on Saturday, October 22, 2011

Good 'Ole boy tactics are not what this town will favorably respond to. I like Jaime, he's a "nice" guy but that is not what makes a good mayor. I want someone with an education, a high school diploma should never be a qualification for mayorship. Education on a higher level DOES mean something. Barbario has no clue. Maybe if Barberio had some college level courses he wouldn't be so clueless and close minded. Education opens and expands your horizons. Stupid people who voted him in....did you check his credentials???? Or just voted by the number of lawn signs???

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Mismatch

5:22 pm on Sunday, October 23, 2011

The letter was stupidly written on a Township letterhead, big deal. If a piece of paper is what makes you politically powerful, then there is not much to be said for you. Its whats inside of someone that matters. He did a favor for a friend. A precedence was set. Now he should do it for anyone who has an issue and wants a politically powerful piece of paper written on for them.

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Robyn M.

1:49 pm on Monday, October 24, 2011

I disagree. When you work for a company and write someone a letter on their letterhead, you write as a representative of the company. When the mayor sends out a letter using our letterhead, it represents us. If he wanted to send it out from home, he could have bought a card from the \$.99 store or sent it from his own yahoo email account or something.

Flag as inappropriate

Mark

11:31 am on Monday, October 24, 2011

It's his right to try to help a friend out but his explanation is pretty hard to believe. He leniency, then what is there to hide?

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Fix America

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4:01 pm on Monday, October 24, 2011

The real issue is the legalization of marijuana. We should not be wasting tax dollars locking up non-violent criminals who are productive members of society. I believe the mayor was attempting to help save New Jersey tax dollars.

[Reply](#)

Mark

Flag as inappropriate

4:40 pm on Monday, October 24, 2011

I don't see that as the point here. The criminal in the case was not sentenced for possessing a small amount of pot for recreational use, he was caught with 13 pounds, that is serious trafficking. If you legalize marijuana, drug traffickers will move on to selling more dangerous drugs if that's the way they're making a living. It's hard to argue that a person trafficking large amounts of marijuana is a productive member of society.

Mismatch

Flag as inappropriate

7:50 am on Tuesday, October 25, 2011

Yes, he was attempting to help save NJ tax dollars. LOL. Jamie for Pres!

Get over it. No one, except the paranoid, believes this was done as a representation of Parsippany. It was a poor move on his part that he may or may not regret. Everyone, and I mean EVERYONE, does something stupid, with or without good intentions, that they should not have done.

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SusanB

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11:04 am on Tuesday, October 25, 2011

According to article in Star Ledger: Mayor was quoted "I hope that the court will be as lenient as possible while sentencing Daniel..."

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Mark

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12:10 pm on Tuesday, October 25, 2011

I hope there will be a follow-up on this. Mayor Barberio should release the letter he wrote. If he won't, I hope Patch or another local source will obtain the letter and publish it.

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