

1 JEREMY D. WARREN
2 State Bar No. 177900
3 Warren & Burstein
4 501 West Broadway, Suite 240
5 (619) 234-4433
6 jw@wabulaw.com
7
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9 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
10 FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
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13 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

14 Plaintiff,

15 v.

16 GIOVANNI TILOTTA,

17 Defendant.
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Case No.: 19cr4768-GPC

Defendant's supplemental
sentencing letter

March 3, 2023

Attached is an additional support letter undersigned counsel received today.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: February 27, 2023

s/ Jeremy Warren
Jeremy Warren

Nicole Lazar
10748 Lighthouse Pt.
South Lyon, MI 48178

Feb. 27, 2023

To the Honorable Judge Curiel,

I have known Gio Tilotta for nearly 20 years. As my husband's best friend, the best man at our wedding, and someone who took me in when I first moved to California two decades ago, I consider Gio to be my family. Because of our friendship and loyalty to each other, my own mother and father also consider Gio to be family.

Over the years, Gio has shown to be a generous, dependable, and trustworthy friend. It isn't shown loudly or openly, but through his actions. He's someone I can say anything to without being judged - a rarity nowadays. He's a man that takes on burdens that aren't his to carry, and without question.

Over a decade ago, Gio noticed two young girls wandering around his complex during school hours. Wondering why they weren't in school, Gio got to know the family and discovered their mother struggled to provide a consistent homelife for them. It was then that he took them under his wing. Every day since then, Gio has done everything he could to provide them with a normal, stable life. Over the years, Gio has paid for their school clothes, extracurricular activities, and groceries. He stepped in as a much-needed male figure and guided the girls in good decision making when they were faced with tough situations. He ensured they stayed out of trouble, stressed the importance of attending school and getting good grades. He assisted with homework and showed up to important dates for them.

These aren't his kids. He has no real responsibility to them. To many, it's hard to understand why a man would step up and give so much of himself to someone else's children. But this is the Gio so many of us are fortunate to know – a kind, reliable and steady friend with the best intentions and a big heart. I don't know one person in his life that would say something to the contrary. I know the girls will continue to grow into wonderful people, and it is in large part to the consistency and support Gio showed them in such pivotal years. I also know that they had a great impact on Gio's life as well.

Gio leads a simple life that brings him the joy he seeks. He works, plays hockey, and repeats. He owns a company that brings in little profit, but gives him a sense of self and purpose. He works tirelessly without complaint, even though he had had to rebuild his shop and company 3 times within a few years. Setback after setback, Gio carried on – again, without complaint.

Judge Curiel, you have seen a variety of people before you over the years – many who most likely fit a certain mold, and some who you've seen more than once. I cannot stress enough that Gio does not fit that mold, and is someone you will not see again in your courtroom. It is my hope that when deciding his sentence, I have provided you with a glimpse into the man Gio really is, and not what he has been portrayed to be. Good people make mistakes, sometimes without even knowing. But one thing I know about Gio is that he learns and adjusts. You don't stay in friendships and in business for as long as he has if you haven't mastered that.

Thank you for your consideration.

Nicole Lazar