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October 2, 2008

Mr. Roger C. Adams, Esquire
Office of the Pardon Attorney
1425 New York Avenue, N.W.
Suite 11000
Washington, D.C. 20530

Dear Mr. Adams:

About a year ago, I wrote you to share my thoughts on Mr. Frank Vennes, who was seeking a Presidential pardon. I had known Mr. Vennes for some time and was familiar with his good works with local charity organizations. Like so many others, I was under the impression that he had turned his life around and was seeking to do right by those less fortunate.

Regrettably, it now appears that I may have too hastily accepted his claims of redemption and I must withdraw my previous letter. Many less privileged people benefited from his outward demonstrations of community support. And, such visible signs of hope, along with his affirmations of his shame at his previous actions, led me and so many others to believe that public redemption should be brought to bear in his case. But, the power of a Presidential pardon should be reserved only for those who truly deserve it. While Mr. Vennes showed public regret, he still clearly needs to reconcile his inner struggles and I am no longer convinced that he would be an appropriate candidate for a Presidential pardon.

I appreciate your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Michele Bachmann

Michele Bachmann
Member of Congress