

Mr. Michael Eagen, Chairperson &
Parole & Commutation Board
P.O. Box 30003
Lansing, Michigan 48909

Governor Rick Snyder
George Romney Bldg.
111 South Capitol Avenue
Lansing, Michigan 48933

Dear Mr. Eagen & Governor Snyder:

I am writing in support of a grant of commutation for Nancy Seaman #520695 to remedy the injustice in her case and to return her to her family and the community.

Nancy Seaman, convicted of first degree murder in 2004 for the death of her abusive husband, is now 65-years-old and has spent the last 14 years in prison. She has publicly expressed remorse and has accepted responsibility for her actions which took her husband's life. Before this domestic violence tragedy, Ms. Seaman was a productive, responsible citizen and teacher with no criminal history or assaultive behavior and according to psychologist, Mr. Nels Thompson, "Ms. Seaman would pose no threat to society if released from prison." I am requesting that she be given that chance.

If something exceptional must occur for commutation to be granted, then I ask you to consider that the verdict in her case has been overturned in the state and federal courts with the following professionals stating:

Trial Judge John McDonald: "This is the only case that haunts me after 17 years as a circuit court judge. Had the jury been provided with all the evidence, there is a high probability they could have come up with a completely different verdict - maybe manslaughter or self-defense."

Federal Judge Bernard Friedman: "Ms. Seaman seems to be a good candidate for commutation of sentence, and I would have no objection to the Governor giving serious consideration to the request."

Psychologist Mr. Nels Thompson: "Nancy Seaman did not premeditate to kill her husband, in fact, she premeditated how to safely leave him without confrontation."

Battered Woman Syndrome expert, Dr. Lenore Walker: "In my professional opinion, Ms. Seaman was a battered woman in her relationship with her husband and she had a reasonable perception of imminent danger to herself at the time she killed him."

Finally, please consider that the nurse examining Nancy Seaman at the time of arrest documented "extensive bruising" which she classified as "defensive injuries" and the pathologist testified that Nancy's husband was under the influence of alcohol and amphetamines when he assaulted her.

If the true intent of commutation is to remedy injustice, then I believe a grant of commutation would be a fair and just outcome in Nancy Seaman's case. Please schedule a public hearing and give the community an opportunity to voice their support for Nancy Seaman.

Sincerely,