

Family and Friends of Mr. Maliki Latine,

Thank you for writing a letter of support for Mr. Latine's parole packet. He will definitely appreciate you speaking up for his release!

**Letters should be mailed to the address below (Law Offices of Rankin & Taylor) on or before February 29, 2016.**

Please print and sign two copies of your letter of support. Mail the signed letters to the address below:

Law Offices of Rankin & Taylor

Attn: Katie Beth White, PPP

11 Park Place, #914

New York, NY 10007

*On the letter itself you can put the Shawangunk address but on the envelope put the Rankin & Taylor address and mail it there! Many thanks to the NLG Parole Preparation Project for their help with this!*

## LETTER OF SUPPORT TEMPLATE

[Your name  
Full address]

Attn: Shawangunk SORC  
Shawangunk Correctional Facility  
200 Quick Road  
P.O. Box 750  
Wallkill, New York 12589-0750

New York State Board of Parole  
1220 Washington Ave, Building 2  
Albany, NY 12226-2050

### **Re: Letter of Support for Maliki Shakur Latine [DIN # 81-A-4469]**

To the Board of Parole Commissioners:

- **Personal Details**
  - Share your name, what you do for work (if you're employed), any details about your family that you'd like to share (that you have children, for example, or live with a parent).
- **Relationship to the Mr. Latine**
  - What's the nature of your relationship? (cousin, brother, friend, etc.)
  - How long have you known him?
  - Do you speak to him on the phone, exchange letters, or visit regularly? [If you don't call or visit, then you don't need to mention]
- **Crime of Conviction**
  - Avoid talking about why Mr. Latine is in prison unless he has shared something with you that might be useful in showing the parole board that he has remorse and is not likely to find himself behind bars again if released. **If you don't have anything to say, just skip this section and move on to the next one.**
  - Do not explain or justify the run-in with police with Mr. Latine's past political affiliations or with arguments involving self defense, white supremacy, the system, etc. Do not argue the case or the political context of the case.
  - Has Mr. Latine expressed remorse (that he's sorry) to you? When and how? What did it mean to you that he was able to do so? If you are aware of the letter of remorse that he sent to the officer's family, please share your sentiments on this matter. You might mention that while Mr. Latine was an idealistic young man trying to do good, he now looks at some of his behavior as youthful and reckless and he regrets what happened.

- **Time in Prison**
  - What positive changes have noticed in Mr. Latine since he has been in prison? How has prison affected him? How has their imprisonment impacted you and your family?
  - Do you know what programs Mr. Latine has participated in since he's been in prison? You are welcome to write about Mr. Latine's continued community work and study through increasingly wise, mature, and peaceful means. He has continued to study philosophy, ancient civilizations, Islam, and many other topics. Mr. Latine has completed Aggression Replacement Training (ART), Abuse Treatment (ASAT). He has served as a program assistant and an electrician's helper. He's taken vocational classes and received his GED in 2011. He has not received any disciplinary action in the past six years. He has served on Inmate Liaison Committees at several facilities and has taught classes on reentry and release. He writes letters and receives visits so as to connect with his community, give advice, and make contributions. (<http://justiceformaliki.org/about/>)
  
- **Post-Release Support**
  - Are you able to support Mr. Latine if he is released?
    - Can you help financially or emotionally?
    - Can you offer employment or housing, etc.?
  
- **Confidence**
  - The Board of Parole is always worried that if they release someone, that person will be a danger to society. If you feel confident that your family member or friend will not have contact with the criminal justice system again, explain why. You might mention how Mr. Latine has not received disciplinary action in six years; how he often watches or reads the news and is very upset about criminal violence in society. He is a Muslim and believes very strongly in the teachings that promote a peaceful way of life and in harmony among people. He speaks often about communalism and how community programs can benefit neighborhoods.
  
- **Things to Avoid**
  - The Board isn't interested in hearing complaints about the criminal justice system or what could have been argued at trial in letters of support. Although your friend or family member has likely experienced *many* injustices at the hands of the courts, the prison system and law enforcement, a letter of support isn't the time to address those experiences.

Thank you for considering this letter when you make a decision about Mr. Maliki Latine's parole release.

Sincerely,  
[sign your name]

[print your name]