



405 Lexington Ave. Fl. 62
New York, NY 10074

September 22, 2016

Re: Statement by Shelby Sullivan-Bennis, Private Counsel for Khalid Qasim (ISN 242)

Esteemed Periodic Review Board Members,

My name is Shelby Sullivan-Bennis. On behalf of those at Reprieve, it is my privilege to represent Khalid Qasim in this process. Khalid and I approach this file review today with a distinct determination to answer questions about his past that were left unanswered in his initial hearing.

In previous submissions, we have done our best to display for the board the great extent to which Khalid will be supported upon release by Reprieve and by his family. I believe there can be no doubt as to the magnitude of that support or his intellectual and practical capacity to find employment wherever he may resettle. Khalid is inarguably a sharp and capable person who has demonstrated the ease with which he can amass new languages and skills.

What we seek to clarify in this set of submissions are any lingering questions that the board may have with regard to Khalid's past, and any associated affiliations. In so doing, we now submit multiple declarations from government officials regarding those topics, and ask again for an opportunity to speak directly to the board on those findings.

In addition to Khalid's eagerness to answer the board's questions, he is also willing to enter into any sort of post-release program that the board sees fit. Khalid believes, as we do, that anyone who has been in prison as long as he has will need structured support to reintegrate into society—whether that be provided by Reprieve or by a host government, it is necessary and welcome.

Khalid was fortunate enough to have an educational base when he first arrived at Guantánamo that enabled him to engage with the material provided to him here, to engage with new concepts, turn them around in his mind, and intelligently respond to them: to grow. Indeed, as he has grown since his first day here, he has also grown since the board's final determination in early 2015, something we hope the board will see, if given the opportunity.

Finally, on a personal note, it is important for the board to understand that Khalid is a gracious person who has repeatedly sought to put what he saw as my interests before his own. He goes out of his way to translate for and aid his fellow detainees and has managed to maintain a steady, cheerful temperament throughout. From his initial hearing, the board has firsthand experience with some of these traits; we now ask for the opportunity to fill in whatever blanks remain in whatever manner possible.

Statement by Private Counsel for Khalid Qasim (ISN 242)



Sincerely,

Shelby Sullivan-Bennis
Reprieve US

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Shelby Sullivan-Bennis". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a dark ink.