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## NATHAN FLETCHER

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March 1, 2017

Governor Edmund G. Brown, Jr.  
State Capitol  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Brown,

Since the founding of our country, we have asked non-citizens to serve in America's armed forces. Some have made the ultimate sacrifice, giving their life for "their" country. Many others have served with distinction, often being awarded some of the nation's highest awards for valor and gallantry. Tragically, hundreds of honorably discharged veterans have now been deported from the very country they were willing to give their life to defend.

All non-citizens who joined our armed forces are promised full citizenship in exchange for their military service. However, due to a variety of bureaucratic failures, many of their applications slip through the cracks. If they commit a criminal offense after their military service they are subject to deportation. This is true even for many minor, non-violent offenses including substance abuse violations.

When veterans commit crimes, they are rightfully held accountable for their offense and pay their debt to society. Then a grateful nation offers them a path to rehabilitation and redemption. Tragically for hundreds of non-citizen veterans, after being held accountable for their crimes, they have been deported. None of them would have been deported had the promise of citizenship been fulfilled by our government. The crimes they committed are only deportable offenses due to draconian immigration laws passed in the 1990s.

The coalition working to help these veterans respectfully asks you to consider a pardon for the individuals enclosed. You can see from the descriptions each of them has paid the full price for their infraction. You can also see the record of honorable service and love of our country. We believe that a pardon would give them the ability to apply to naturalize as U.S. citizen based on their military service and allow them an opportunity to return to the country for which they were willing to give their life. You have a chance to right a terrible wrong and reunite these brave individuals with the country and families they love.

If I can provide any additional information, please do not hesitate from contacting me. We have a team of lawyers who worked on their cases standing by to provide anything needed as well.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Nathan Fletcher". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending from the end of the name.

Nathan Fletcher  
Chair, Honorably Discharged/Dishonorably Deported Coalition  
United State Marine Corps Combat Veteran

Enclosures - pardon applications