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THE SENATE
STATE OF NEW YORK



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August 18, 2020

Department of Corrections and Community
Supervision
Attn: Chairwoman Tina M. Sanford, NYS Board of Parole
1220 Washington Ave.
Albany, N.Y. 12226

Re: Parole of Samuel Ayala DIN# 78A0767

Dear Chairwoman Sanford:

It has been brought to my attention that Samuel Ayala (DIN #78A0767) has been recently granted parole. I understand and appreciate the thoroughness of the process undertaken by the New York State Board of Parole in reviewing these cases; however, I want to impress upon your office the impact this will have on the community in which the crime occurred, as well as the children and the families of the victims.

Constituents in my district are concerned that someone guilty of such violent crimes would be released from prison. Many of the same residents, friends and family members of the victims still live in the region and are concerned not only for their welfare but the negative psychological impacts that the release of Mr. Ayala would cause. It does not seem in the best interest of the community to grant parole to this individual.

Additionally, Covid-19 and the subsequent restrictions on a courtroom presence for this hearing did not allow for these same family members and friends of the victims to present their concerns in person. I understand the need to maintain social distance and a reduced density, but that in a case of this nature accommodations were not made for them to present their concerns directly to the Board of Parole as they have done in the past is entirely dismaying.

I respectfully request that you keep these concerns in mind as this process moves forward. If you should have any questions, please feel free to contact my office 914-241-4600 or harckham@nysenate.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter B. Blakely". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Peter" being the most prominent.

Cc: Walter William Smith
Joseph P. Crangle
Ellen Evans Alexander
Marc Coppola
Otis Cruse
Tana Agostini
Erik Berliner
Tyece Drake
Caryne Demosthenes
Charles Davis
Michael Corley
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Sheila Samuels
Elsie Segarra
Carlton Mitchell