

# West Virginia

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Dear Honorable Judge Hedric,

I am writing to you on behalf of Corie Blount. Corie played basketball for me at The University of Cincinnati in 1991-92 and 1992-93. He was extremely coachable, a great teammate, and an above average student. This coming from a young man who did not graduate from high school and was discovered by a junior college coach while working at K-Mart.

Athletically, Corie progressed so well he was drafted in the first round of the NBA draft by the Chicago Bulls. Corie continued to play in the league because he remained a great person and an unbelievable teammate. He returned to Cincinnati the summer after his first season, walked into my office and asked if there were any young men on our team he could mentor. Corie returned every summer and mentored any and every player I asked him to.

Every summer we talked about him finishing his degree and getting into coaching. Corie would tell me, "Coach, I will finish my degree as soon as I am done playing." This past spring, I attended his graduation at The University of Cincinnati.

When I received the news of his arrest, I was in a state of shock. This could not be true. Corie spent his summer off days helping other young men get and stay on the right path. In speaking to Corie, he expressed tremendous remorse, not for himself, but for how it reflected on his teammates, his coaching staff, and The University of Cincinnati. Judge Hedric, Corie Blount is a great person who still has the capacity to help many young people out there. Much as he turned his academic plight around, he can use this experience as an opportunity to better others as well as himself. I truly believe Corie can be a positive influence on young people because I have seen it from him before.

Hopefully you can see the good in this young man and help him channel it in a positive direction. There is absolutely no question in my mind he will do the right thing. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,



Bob Huggins

