COL. MATÍAS FARÍAS, USAF (RET.)

April 1, 2026

The Honorable Judge Jacqueline Becerra

United States District Court

Southern District of Florida

Re: United States v. Angelica Pacheco, Case No. 24-CR-20253 — Sentencing Character Letter

Dear Judge Becerra:

I am Matías Farías, a retired Colonel in the United States Air Force. During my career I served in intelligence assignments and later taught military intelligence, roles that demanded accuracy, discretion, and judgment. I do not offer character assessments lightly; the observations below are based on my personal interactions with Ms. Pacheco over several years.

I write with the utmost respect for this Court and the seriousness of these proceedings. I do not write to argue the case. I write to provide the Court with my personal, long-term assessment of Ms. Angelica Pacheco's character, reliability, and capacity to remain a stable, productive, law-abiding member of the community.

I have known Angelica for approximately seven years as a friend, mentor, and advisor. My support for her has been public, and it remains steadfast because it is based on years of consistent observation. I have remained in regular contact with her throughout that time, including during her campaigns, her time in office, and during the most difficult periods of her life.

I was by Angelica's side through multiple campaigns for public office and observed the strain and sacrifice of sustained grassroots work with limited resources. After she was elected to the Hialeah City Council, I continued to observe her approach to public service: she asked questions, sought answers, and communicated directly with residents, even when doing so brought criticism and pressure.

During her time in office, Angelica spoke with me on multiple occasions to seek advice after receiving serious warnings and criticism from the administration in connection with her official duties. What stood out to me was not anger or impulsiveness, but consistency and self-control.

She continued to perform her responsibilities, and she remained focused on serving constituents. In my experience, pressure reveals character. She responds to pressure with composure and principle.

One quality I value greatly is a person's word, and I have watched Angelica keep hers. When I contacted her with questions or requests for help for community members, she returned calls, made connections, and stayed engaged until the person was directed to an appropriate next step. In my experience, that level of reliability is uncommon. As recently as March 2026, when I asked her to assist someone I referred to her, she promptly produced a detailed action plan, remained available for follow-up, and declined payment from that person to avoid any appearance of self-interest given her current circumstances.

My radio program has often served as a space where members of the community share problems and ask for guidance. I received calls from people facing eviction, job loss, and family crises. When I believed Angelica could help, I referred people to her because I trusted her seriousness and her follow-through. She did not limit her concern to political supporters or even to those in her district. She worked to connect people to resources, and she followed up.

One example captures her instincts and her compassion. Angelica sought my advice after learning about a woman who had been detained and, upon release, discovered her dog had been taken to a shelter and adopted. The dog had significant emotional importance to the owner. The woman was not in her district, and there was no political benefit to getting involved. She contacted public leadership seeking help for that woman and urged consideration of a policy that would prevent pets from being permanently placed while an owner is detained or hospitalized. In my judgment, that was not performative compassion. It was consistent with who she is.

I also want the Court to understand the scale of the collateral consequences that Angelica has already endured as a result of the charges and the public attention surrounding them. Angelica earned her elected position only after years of persistence. She ran for office multiple times unsuccessfully. She continued, and on her final attempt she won by doing what few candidates are willing to do: knocking on thousands of doors and continuing despite tremendous obstacles.

Yet, only about seven months after being elected, she was removed from public office. From my perspective, that abrupt loss was not only the loss of a title. It was the loss of the work she had fought to do, the income connected to that position, and the chance to continue serving residents who had placed real hope in her.

The damage did not stop there. Angelica and her husband had a small business, the Farm Store. I did not need to visit it to understand how hard they worked. Many times when Angelica and I spoke on the phone on weekends, I could hear her interacting with customers and taking orders

at the store. I also knew she worked Monday through Friday as a nurse for a health plan. She was also a dedicated councilmember of Hialeah who served residents on a daily basis, often times in the evenings. In my assessment, she is a hard-working person in the most practical sense: she worked when others rested, and she carried more than one job because her family depended on it.

I understand that following this case becoming public, the family suffered major financial consequences, including the loss of that business and other disruptions. I mention this with restraint, because a sentencing hearing is not a financial biography, but the Court should know that the reputational and economic effects have been concrete.

Through all of this, Angelica continued carrying family responsibilities. It is consistent with what I have observed that she is a primary support for her household and a key source of stability for family members who depend on her. In my assessment, she is not a person who runs from obligations. She is a person who meets them.

For these reasons, I respectfully ask the Court to impose a sentence that allows Ms. Pacheco to remain in the community under supervision, continue lawful employment and education, care for her family, and satisfy every obligation the Court orders in a realistic and sustainable way.

If the Court would find it helpful, I am willing to appear in person and answer any questions.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully submitted,



Matías Farías

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