

David L Johnson OH

Jul 12

In 2012 David Johnson waived trial by jury and pleaded guilty to nine charges of sexual battery and one charge of gross sexual imposition on a victim aged under 18.

He was sentenced to the agreed plea deal of 12 years imprisonment and then supervision for five years post-release. He was classified as a Tier II Offender and required to reregister annually for 10 years.

In 2018, 2020 and 2022 he applied to reopen the case for Judicial release. Each time the Court found that Judicial Release was not warranted and was denied, so he remains in prison until 2024.

The 2018 application for release was supported by references written by John Wilbur (worker) and five friends. John Wilbur also wrote a pre-sentence reference in 2012.

In July 2023 John Wilbur has written the letter below, which is an example of repentance. He didn't make excuses, he acknowledged that writing the reference letters was hurtful (even though he didn't intend for them to be) and he wants to be part of the solution.

Tuesday, July 11, 2023

To all:

I am so sorry. This morning I read the letters I wrote and I cringed. I was asked by David's family to write them. We thought we were doing the right thing, but we were not. If I understood then what I understand now, I never would have written them. That is not an excuse. I was wrong.

Specifically, I said that I did not think David would abuse again. I was wrong to say that. I understand now that I have no way of knowing that.

Particularly, I am sorry to the survivor of David's abuse. I understand that the letters I wrote minimized your suffering. I have thought of you many times over the years. You never should have faced what you faced.

I am sorry to all who have suffered abuse. I have heard your stories — thank you for sharing them. You are courageous. I am with you. When I was in grades 4 and 5, I was abused by an elementary school teacher. I still am not ready to talk about it. I know what you have suffered has affected your life. It has affected mine.

People are angry and I understand why. If you are able, please forgive me — although I understand if you cannot yet. Far too many people have been hurt for far too long. I do not want to hurt anyone. I want to help you heal.

I am so sorry for the hurt I have caused.

Sincerely,

John Willbur

[david-l-johnson-court-recordDownload](#)

[john_willbur_apologyDownload](#)