



STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
KRISTI NOEM | GOVERNOR

November 18, 2020

The Honorable Donald J. Trump  
President of the United States  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.

RE: FEDERAL PARDON APPLICATIONS OF GREGORY L. JORGENSEN AND  
DEBORAH L. JORGENSEN AND CONCERNING MARTIN F. JORGENSEN, JR.  
3:95-CR-30034-CBK-1; 3:95-CR-30034-CBK-3; and 3:95-CR-30034-CBK-2

Dear President Trump,

I am writing this letter in support of the pardon applications of Gregory L. Jorgensen, and Deborah L. Jorgensen, and to request consideration of a posthumous pardon for Martin F. Jorgensen, Jr. They were each convicted of several counts in United States District Court for the District of South Dakota, Case Nos. 3:95-CR-30034-CBK-1; 3:95-CR-30034-CBK-3; and 3:95-CR-30034-CBK-2 respectively.

Greg is the oldest son of Martin F. Jorgensen, Jr. and Mary Jorgensen. Greg has led an exemplary life of service and leadership.

Greg was twice elected to the Tripp County Board of Commissioners. During his time as a Commissioner, he spearheaded infrastructure improvement projects targeted to improve access for Native American communities and to improve farm to market access.

Greg has also been very active in his church. He served eight years on the Catholic Church Council. Most recently, Greg took a leadership role in the restoration of the Catholic Church in Winner, South Dakota, and the renovation of the Church's Community Hall. Greg has also been a Meals on Wheels volunteer for many years.

Deb is Greg's wife. In addition to devoting her time and attention to the farm and her family, Deb has also been very active in the community and in the church. She is a life-long member of the P.E.O., a non-profit dedicated to promoting educational opportunities for women, and served on the board of directors of the Winner Regional



Healthcare Center Foundation. She works side-by-side with Greg on the church restoration projects described above. She serves as a hospice volunteer at the local hospital and is heavily involved in a local breast cancer support operation called the Pink Posse.

Greg and Deb raised four children and now have twelve grandchildren.

Until recently, Martin resided in a long-term care facility in Winner, South Dakota. Martin passed away on August 9, 2019. Martin is deserving of a posthumous pardon. Martin led an exemplary life, providing service and leadership in his church, his community, and his beloved career of farming and ranching. Martin was a major driving force in the creation of the Tripp County Water User District, one of the first rural water systems in South Dakota. Martin also served as the first president of the board of directors.

Martin spent his entire life building a successful farming and ranching operation near Ideal, South Dakota. The Jorgensen Angus brand, started by Martin, is known worldwide. In 1984, Martin was named South Dakota's Eminent Farmer, one of the highest honors that can be bestowed upon a farmer or rancher in South Dakota. Martin was also named the National Beef Cattlemen's Association Businessman of the Year – a nationwide honor.

The convictions for which the pardons are sought were an aberration and are a significant blemish upon the lives and reputations of hardworking, honest, honorable, and well-thought of members of the Winner and Ideal, South Dakota communities. The Jorgensen's are a family who are very deserving of this pardon.

Sincerely,



Kristi Noem  
Governor