



# aish NEW YORK

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September 20, 2004

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Honorable Jose L. Linares  
United States District Judge  
United States District Court  
Martin Luther King, Jr.  
Federal Building & Courthouse  
50 Walnut Street  
Newark, New Jersey 07101

Re: United States v. Charles Kushner

CR 04-580 (JLL)

Dear Judge Linares,

My name is Rabbi Yitz Greenman and I am the Executive Director of Aish HaTorah / Discovery. We are a not-for-profit educational institution. I am writing on behalf of Mr. Kushner and begging leniency on his behalf. Please allow me to explain why.

Over the past seven years my organization has approached Mr. Kushner on no less than nine occasions to use the Grand Ballroom in the Puck Building, one of Mr. Kushner's landmark properties in New York City. Each time we approached him the response we received was the same. We were allowed to use the facility for free. These generous donations had a major impact on our organization, every time.

When we received the first positive response seven years ago, you can imagine how elated we were to know that running our charity event there and saving costs of between \$10,000 and \$20,000, we could in turn, now earmark those monies for educational purposes. This experience was amazingly repeated at least once annually since then. Thank G-d.

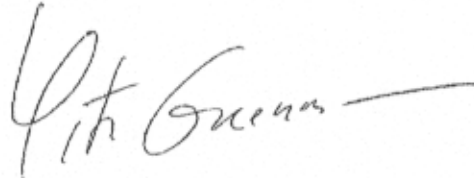
These acts of kindness done by Mr. Kushner for our organization certainly bear mention. Nevertheless, if I were to end my plea on Mr. Kushner's behalf here I would be leaving out the most incredible nature of his kindness to us, and that is the following: HE DOESN'T KNOW ME OR MY ORGANIZATION. To date, I have never met or spoken with Mr. Kushner. Each time he donated the use of this valuable space at a time when he could have been making money by renting it out, he was responding to an educational organization's request for help. Period. [I have been told that subsequent to his donations to our local chapter, Mr. Kushner became supportive of other branches of Aish HaTorah, as we are found in 30 cities.]

Your Honor, I have been a fundraiser for 18 years and I am responsible for a multi million dollar budget. That being said, I don't remember receiving such a response from anyone, no less a stranger, on such a continued basis. It is almost unheard of, yet in fact it is a true testimony to the generous and giving nature of Mr. Kushner.

In closing, Your Honor, I have read about the charges against Mr. Kushner and of his guilty plea.

My request is for leniency for a man who temporarily lost his moral compass. The Talmud adjures us that when judging others we must look at and consider the whole individual. I beg that when you make your decision that you take these aspects of Mr. Kushner's giving nature in mind.

Most sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Yitz Greenman". The signature is written in dark ink and includes a long horizontal flourish at the end.

Rabbi Yitz Greenman

Executive Director

YG: cb