

Aug. 4, 2009

Dear Stephanie

Thank you for your lovely letter. It meant so much to me, hearing about what is going on with the children and Mark. I'm so happy to hear that he enjoys Nantucket and has had some good days amongst all the bad days. Please try and make him aware of how much I love and miss him. I can't understand how that attorney I met with made that comment that I don't care about my sons. The subject never came up and I assume it was just another example of the press saying whatever they feel will make me look horrible. I love my sons more than life itself and live in constant torment with the pain I have inflicted on them. They helped me build a wonderful firm which had nothing to do with the fraud I committed and they should be proud of that. Regardless of what people believe, they both know that and must try and remember this as difficult as it is. In time I will be able to tell my story as how and why this problem occurred and hopefully it will put a different light on things. All of the conjecture and govt. theories are just that, theories and not fact.

As for how I am doing here, I am doing O.K. I am lucky to have been

poor, h. put

sent ^{to} ~~at~~ Butner which is considered to be the best and most layback prison in the U.S. It has the look and feel of a college campus with lovely lawns and trees. I live in a dorm (one story) with 24 other guys with plenty of privacy. I can come & go pretty much as I please with no lock ups. I have a clerks job and everyone treats me with respect and great friendship. I have loads of friends to talk to even if most are covered with tattoos. (you would fit right in). As you can imagine I am quite the celebrity and am treated like a Mafia Don. They call me either Uncle Bernie or Mr. Madd. I can't walk anywhere without someone shouting their greetings and encouragement to keep my spirits up. It's really quite sweet how concerned everyone is about my well being, including the staff. It is perfectly safe with no fights and never have experienced a stabbing in spite of how the media has reported. It's much safer here than walking the streets of N.Y. Roth came to visit me Sunday for 4 hours and I telephone her every day which makes things much easier.

As for how I am going to leave prison I am locked to leave prison

3)

I walk the ~~th~~ track each day and also started pumping iron. They have plenty of recreation here. two baseball fields, volley ball, handball + racquet ball, bocci, horseshoes, outdoor + indoor basketball courts. twelve pool tables, pottery + Art classes, etc.

I have been asked to teach a business class once I get settled in. I have been so busy that I have not even been watching T.V.

Well thats enough about me. Stephanie I can't tell you how much your attention to Ruth has meant to both of us. She would not have been able to go on without it. Please try and make Mark understand I never wanted this to happen but circumstances were beyond my control and someday will explain this to him. I can only hope he remembers me as the loving father I am and not the person I'm characterized as now.

Thank you for the pictures of Ardrey + Nick. He is absolutely a Nick!!

I'm so happy he had your disposition. You both need it now.

I love you all so much,
Bernie