

April 23, 2018

Tim Geary
1660 Shamrock Ave.
Upland, CA 91784

Honorable Judge Dennis Craig
Kim C. Hammond Justice Center
1769 E. Moody Blvd., Building 1
Bunnell, FL 32110

Your Honor,

I am writing to you in regards to my son Brenden Geary. I am shocked and appalled to hear what Brenden has done, as everyone is. We have had pets on our home his entire life, mostly dogs however we did have rabbit and fostered a litter of kittens that lost their mother. The shelter that we worked with wanted us to do it again because our kittens were very social, which made the kittens very easy to adopt to permanent homes. The reason the kittens were so social is, Brenden, Brenden's sisters and all of their friends played with the kittens so much. Brenden has always been loving and kind to our animals, he was never violent towards any animal

Brenden's mother died in an off-roading accident when he was in first grade. I put Brenden and his sisters in group and individual counseling to help them with the tragedy of losing their mother. We moved about a year after the accident to the house I live in today. I enrolled Brenden in kindergarten to help him get back on track, with an August birthday it worked out well; he went from the youngest to the oldest kid in his class. Brenden started to excel in school and continued to excel throughout his education.

Brenden was interested in science, technology and engineering from a very early age. Brenden came to me while in the 7th grade to ask about building a payload that would fly to near space, around 100,000 feet. I said research it and let me know how we should proceed. He handed me a few pages of

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handwritten notes, the answer to almost every question I could think of was answered, but one. The one answer I didn't see was how do we find it when it lands, Brenden's replied with "GPS Dad! Come on that is the easy part." We acquired the necessary parts and a HAM radio license; KJ6HVP is Brenden's call. He was able to use his HAM license and computer programming skills to program the payload. The payload would transmit its GPS location as well as temperature inside and out of the payload, atmospheric pressure and many other sensors. Brenden was able to capture photos of the earth that showed the curve and the blackness of space, breathtaking photos. He flew a dozen or more flights starting in the 7th grade and I think his last flight was during his junior year.

Brenden came to me during his 8th grade summer to say that while researching colleges he has decided to join the high school wrestling team. Yes, dad all the good colleges want you to have a sport he said. Whether or not that is true, I thought it was a good idea. I preferred golf over wrestling, however I could see Brenden had his mind made up. Brenden was not very athletic and I thought golf was safe and something he could use his throughout his life. I was also excited because I wrestled in high school but nervous as I knew firsthand how physically demanding it would be. He made the wrestling team and was regarded highly by his team and coach. Making wrestling a priority he was able to make the varsity team his junior year and CIF playoffs his senior year.

During his sophomore year he designed and built a trebuchet (medieval catapult) as part of his AP Physics class. His trebuchet was able to toss a 10lb pumpkin 100 yards. Brenden's trebuchet was so well built, it was built out of metal and wood, it should last 100 years or more. He donated the trebuchet to Upland High school where it is used every year as an example of what to shoot for. Brenden is a fabricator's engineer, meaning he knows how to design something from scratch and he can also build what he designs from raw material.

As a junior in high school he started a robot club to compete in the FIRST robot competitions. FIRST is a worldwide competition started by Dean Kamen the inventor of the insulin pump and many other great inventions. Brenden was able to raise \$10,000 in his first year as a FIRST team, the Nerotoxins. He went to the Principal of Upland High School to start this as a sophomore however he said no. When Brenden found out that school support was only a recommendation and not a FIRST requirement his team was created. When UHS saw the success he had building out of our garage, the team was welcomed onto campus the next year. The next season, Brenden's senior year he and the team were able to raise over \$40,000. The team/club is still in existence today.

Brenden also entered the History Day contest for his AP History class. Brenden took home History Day top honors for California in the video documentary category. He went on to represent California and Upland High school at the national competition in Maryland, where he was a finalist.

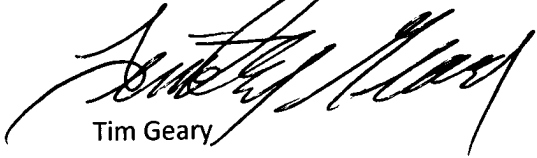
Brenden also taught himself to weld aluminum with a heliarc welder. Aluminum and heliarc are both considered some of the most difficult to use, Brenden started with the hardest to use. Brenden is a self-starter with the tenacity to accomplish any task. Whether it is flying a camera to near space, wrestling or welding aluminum, Brenden is able to start a task with little to no knowledge or experience and finish as an expert.

I tell you all of these accomplishments so you will know that Brenden is a smart and ambitious young man with a bright future ahead of him. Brenden is a great kid that lost his temper and made a huge mistake. I am not condoning his behavior by any means. It is my hope that this mistake does not follow or hold him back from pursuing his dreams. Brenden has never had as much as a speeding ticket nor

been on this side of the law in California or Florida. It is my hope that the court would find a way to reduce the charge to a misdemeanor. I believe that this would allow Brenden the ability to come back to California. I believe this is where he needs to be so he can get the love and support of his friend and family.

Here is a link to his YouTube page that he used in high school.
<https://www.youtube.com/user/brendog217>

Thank you for your time and consideration,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tim Geary', written in a cursive style.

Tim Geary

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