

Dear Governor Cooper,

I hope this letter finds you well. My name is Michael Bloch, and I am writing to you as a Father, Husband, CEO, Special Operations Veteran, Knight of Columbus, a Virginian, and an American. I am reaching out to you in a time of great need and urgency, as I find myself at a crossroads where justice and my life's work hang in the balance.

I have dedicated my life to serving this great nation, first as a member of the Special Operations community stationed in North Carolina, then as an Intelligence Contractor for JSOC, HQ'd in North Carolina, and now as the CEO of a defense contracting company. The principles of honor, duty, and unity that I hold dear were the driving forces behind my service. Unfortunately, I now find myself facing a situation that challenges these very principles.

I have attached documents and provided links to offer you a comprehensive view of my background, accomplishments, and the pressing circumstances I face. An article from UAP (<https://www.uap.org/post/michael-bloch-marine-raider-case/>) summarizes the essence of my current situation. The essence of the matter is that I am appealing to your esteemed office to intervene on my behalf with North Carolina's authorities. It is my belief that North Carolina has a unique opportunity to demonstrate how the legal system should treat veterans who have faithfully served their country.

The charges I face are a result of a tragic sequence of events triggered by medical negligence and mental health challenges. As attested to by experts and eyewitnesses who know me, I suffered a PTSD/TBI related incident where I had no idea with I was doing, and discharged my firearm into my vehicle and into passing vehicles. Nobody was hurt. I have no prior criminal record. I have received extensive treatment for these conditions since that time. The county where the charges have been filed is home to a Veterans Treatment Court funded by the state of North Carolina, designed to offer veterans like myself an alternative to the traditional criminal process. Regrettably, the Onslow County District Attorney is resisting the transfer of my case to this specialized court, despite the parallel and fair treatment it could offer. He instead wants to try me for 2 felony charges of maliciously shooting a firearm into an occupied vehicle.

Prominent individuals within North Carolina have approached the District Attorney to advocate for a fair consideration of transferring my case. However, political agendas and gamesmanship seem to take precedence over justice and compassion. My intent is not to escape accountability, but to ensure that my case is treated with the fairness and empathy that a fellow veteran deserves.

I write to you today to request an opportunity to present my case in person. I am aware that as the Governor of North Carolina, you possess the authority to pardon and expunge charges, although I am not positive about the extent of your legal powers. In this context, I am compelled to assert that a trial would only squander taxpayer funds, undermine the integrity of our justice system, and subject me to public scrutiny on a date as significant as September 11th.

The best outcome the prosecution can hope for is a hung jury, which would prolong this ordeal and further delay justice. My life has been put on hold for a year and a half, with significant personal and professional consequences. My business, EBS, plays a crucial role in national security and prosperity, holding contracts vital to the interests of your state and the nation.

I must bring to your attention that the timing of this trial coincides with critical assignments related to our national security. EBS holds a contract to support a partner force of a USG Special Operations element in Eastern Africa, and my presence is imperative for its success. Additionally, EBS, as a Subcontractor, recently secured a vital cyber vulnerability research contract with Marine Corps Forces Cyber. I have a TS/SCI top secret clearance. This opportunity not only promises revenue for my company and Virginia but also the critical Facility Security Clearance required for such endeavors, but my security clearance is being held up now in adjudication due to these pending charges. Additionally, I have a request pending before the Secretary of Defense to provide night vision goggles to the Ukrainians. I also have helped raise funds for Ukrainian refugees, and I run a small not for profit, Project VETWERX, to help wounded warriors like myself.

In conclusion, I humbly request the opportunity to personally present my case to you and your office in North Carolina. I believe that your intervention and influence can prevent this situation from escalating further, and instead,

pave the way for a just and compassionate resolution. I wish to see my case serve as a model for how our legal system can recognize the challenges faced by veterans and provide a path to redemption.

Thank you for considering my plea. Your wisdom, empathy, and commitment to justice have the potential to change the course of my life and set a precedent for others. I believe that our shared values of unity, compassion, and honor can guide us towards a resolution that not only serves justice but also strengthens the ties that bind us as a nation. Semper Fi.

Respectfully,

**Michael Bloch**