

THE STATE OF  
  
TENNESSEE  
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER

**COMMUTATION**

**TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, GREETINGS:**

**WHEREAS**, in November of 2011, in the Criminal Court for Putnam County, Tennessee, Laquan Johnson (TOMIS #362564) was convicted of one count of possessing schedule II drugs with intent to sell in a school zone (case no. 11-0153). He received a twelve-year sentence, including a sentence enhancement for the violation of Tennessee's drug-free school zone statute, Tenn. Code Ann. § 39-17-432; and

**WHEREAS**, Tennessee's constitution and statutory law authorize the governor to grant executive clemency, including the power to commute sentences; and

**WHEREAS**, this case appears to me to be a proper one for the exercise of executive clemency for the following reasons:

After Mr. Johnson's commission of the offense, the Tennessee General Assembly amended the drug-free school zone statute by changing the circumstances in which enhanced sentencing may apply. The circumstances of Mr. Johnson's offense do not appear to warrant enhanced sentencing under the drug-free school zone statute as amended.

**NOW THEREFORE**, I, Bill Lee, Governor of the State of Tennessee, by virtue of the power and authority vested in me by Article III, Section 6 of the Tennessee Constitution and by the laws of the State of Tennessee, do hereby commute the sentence imposed upon Mr. Laquan Johnson for his conviction of possessing schedule II drugs with intent to sell in a school zone to make him eligible for parole consideration by the Tennessee Board of Parole. Mr. Johnson shall live the life of a good citizen and shall not violate any of the laws of the United States, the State of Tennessee, or any other state and shall not be guilty of conduct which is illegal or improper in the opinion of the governor.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State to be affixed at Nashville, Tennessee on this 22nd day of December, 2022.

  
GOVERNOR

  
SECRETARY OF STATE

