

Christopher DuVall  
2176 Amicks Ferry Rd.  
Chapin, SC 29036  
December 22, 2015

The Honorable Governor Nikki Haley  
Office of the Governor  
1205 Pendleton St.  
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

Dear Governor Haley,

I am writing to inform you that I am aware of killers in my little town.

I know many of them personally. I have seen them do reprehensible things to the weak. I have listened as they spoke of young women as if they were toys to be used and discarded like garbage. Their actions have spawned crime and atrocities in my community. I have witnessed them manipulating the mentally ill to promote their offensive and dark agendas. While the murders these people cause do not generally make the headlines, they are homicide just the same. These individuals sell cocaine, heroin, and meth. They do not use the horror they sell—they know how deadly and destructive illegal drugs can be.

People who are unfamiliar with this issue suggest that users are to blame. Studies have shown that many users of hard drugs are mentally ill and unable to deal with life. I am one of those people. My life is forever shattered by the things that have occurred to me because of my disease. I will never get back the wasted potential and squandered blessings. These things are long gone. I came very close to suffering my own death. Now I am working hard on my recovery and on rebuilding my life. That is what brings me to write this letter.

A year ago I lost a 26 year old nephew who overdosed with heroin. Recently a friend passed out while driving and ran off the road. His vehicle hit a tree and it burned up. There was not much left of my friend

to bury. I know for a fact where he bought his heroin. I saw others purchase from the same person. I know exactly who these people are and where they live. I know their telephone numbers and the vehicles they drive.

I contacted SLED but was unable to get anyone to meet with me. I have the deepest respect and appreciation for our law enforcement. I do not blame them for being overwhelmed with all of their other responsibilities and for being unable to meet with me. They are the good guys and put their lives on the line to protect the rest of us. I just can no longer stand by and let mothers lose their sons and daughters.

I believe that sellers should pay a heavy price for the destruction and heartache they cause. Even people who are sober are victims of the crime and terrible consequences created by drug dealers. My desire is to help law enforcement protect those young people that come after me and their families. I want to stop the drug dealers in my little town from destroying more lives and promoting crime. Please help me to stop the illicit trade of heroin, crack cocaine, and meth in our otherwise beautiful community.

As I write this I have six months in recovery. I am in no current legal trouble. I do not seek deals or monetary gain. I want to stop drug dealers. I was able to witness the great pain and mourning for the loss of my sister's son. I want to prevent other mothers from crying themselves to sleep. The loss of family members to drugs is not ever totally overcome. It can only be endured. I want and need to make a difference in this fight. While I never sold drugs, I used them and my life spiraled to a place I would never have believed possible. Please help me to protect others in our local communities.

I understand our law enforcement people are overstressed and carry great burdens. I want to be on record as stating I know they are the good guys in this story.

I feel so upset about what I know and have seen. During my descent into drug addiction I have met the worst human beings I have ever seen. I know what they are capable of and what has occurred in this area. The neighborhood where I would go to purchase crack has become increasingly worse. New unfamiliar faces are cropping up. A much harsher more violent tone is gripping the area. Normal law abiding citizens just don't realize how bad things are within a few blocks of their homes. I will never be able to feel completely safe as long as these gangs continue with their secret acts of murder and robbery. Although I have done everything possible to change my life, I cannot fully escape the trauma that I subjected myself to. As a young person there were two things I despised and would never do-- Lie and steal. As I found myself to be a full blown addict, I committed both of these ugly sins. I hurt people who believed and trusted me.

If I was asked to do so ,I would not be able to personally assist the law enforcement officers beyond giving them accurate and true information---the dealers know where I live and I cannot risk the lives of my parents.

I am not sure exactly what to do but please help me to save others from this pain. Thank you so much.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Christopher DuVall". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first letters of "Christopher" and "DuVall" being capitalized and prominent.

Christopher DuVall