

Nov. 17, 2015

To Whom It May Concern-

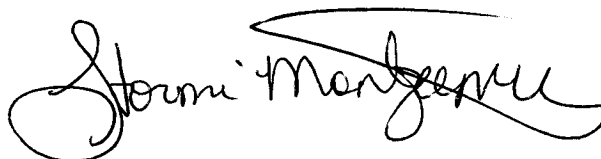
I am writing as the mother of Joshua Montgomery (the victim) in the said case for Jamal Beal (inmate #003544862 SID# 01923435). Jamal Beal is again up for parole and I strongly disagree with his possible release. My son was almost fatally shot in the head during the incident at hand, and I have been assured by Mr. Strom Thurmond (Aiken Co. Solicitor) and the lead investigator Detective Prince, that based on the evidence Jamal Beal was without a doubt the shooter, not accessory (as charged). He was charged accessory after the fact. I was told he would be pleading guilty to assault and battery high and aggravated, which in my opinion was him admitting he hurt my son. I was never told by Strom Thurmond that he was pleading as accessory to the crime. If so, I would have chosen to take this to trial and Jamal Beal could have been sentenced to 25 years. His initial charge was ATTEMPTED MURDER and his bond was one million dollars. I did not learn he was charged as an accessory until I looked him up in the SCDC website, and saw he was labeled non-violent and was charged as an accessory, in unfenced yard. Which I immediately took up with Strom Thurmond, as I felt we had been misled in the matter and been victimized by the Solicitors office by being lied to. Our agreement was Jamal Beal would do 5 years straight time and the judge sentenced him to 10 years. He has served 3.5 years and that is not fair to my child.

My son has suffered greatly due to all of this. He is now paralyzed in his right hand, has grandmal seizures and is on medication for anxiety, depression and panic attacks, due to the PTSD from being shot in the head at 16 years old. He is on disability, cannot do normal daily tasks, as tying his own shoes, buttoning his own pants or opening a pill bottle. He will never ride a roller coaster again, because of the bullet embedded in his brain could move. If he falls and hits his head he could die. His life and the other children in that car was forever changed when Jamal Beal decided to open fire at a car full of under age children.

Thankfully, my son survived this horrific event or this would have been a murder case. Mr. Beal is still not accepting guilt for this, which causes me to question his remorse in the matter. Will he get out and want to retaliate against my child? Will he want to harm the people that wrote statements against him? This is my fear and my plea to the parole board today. If he is released how soon before he returns back to prision and this time may be due to possibly succeeding in murdering someone.

I am asking on behalf of my son and my family that you give us the justice we were promised and that Jamal Beal serves the full 5 years in exchange for his plea agreement. If he is released that my son and family are provided with an order of protection from this VIOLENT criminal, who chose on June 2, 2012 to shoot at a CHILD in the backseat of a vehicle. When he was already a convicted felon and should not have been in the possession of a gun in the first place.

Thank you-

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stormi Montgomery". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end of the last name.

Stormi Montgomery