



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1169		DATE: 3/12/2025	
COMMITTEE: Judiciary			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ARNIE C."HONEST-ABE" DIENOFF-STATE PUBLIC ADVOCATE		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: arniedienoff@yahoo.com		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/12/2025 11:57 PM
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: DELLA R STEELE		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: dsteale5@sbcglobal.net	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 3/12/2025 10:50 AM
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I, Della Steele, on behalf of the family of Casey Williamson, would like to express our thoughts on the process involved with carrying out the death penalty and the impact that process has on families. Twenty-one years is a long time. Too long. During those twenty-one years, I feel that the family was left sitting in our grief. It delayed the grieving process and, in my opinion, resulted in two more deaths in our family. We lost my brother, Jim Wideman, and Casey's sister, Chelsea. Both deaths took place over ten years from the sentencing. They were stuck in a place of self-blame and faced various problems that eventually led to their deaths. If the process was quicker, and they could have known that justice had been served, maybe, just maybe, they could've found some sense of peace from a hell that we could not pull them from. As for the rest of us, we were not only stuck in the grieving process but also felt as though we were constantly on guard to make sure that someone didn't get him moved to the mental health system where he may have been released. That would have offered him the opportunity to hurt another child, and we all knew we could not allow that to happen. So, you can imagine how constantly dealing with those issues, along with the constant and unexpected media stories, could trap you in a mode that did not allow you to progress through the grieving process properly. Now, I feel that we can finally let our guard down and focus on remembering Casey without the distraction of the process. In closure, twenty-one years is too long for a family to be re-traumatized over and over again. I'd also like to clarify that I did not reach out to Casey's mother because these situations always cause her to have a huge set back. This week is especially hard as it is the anniversary of Chelsea's death. I did speak to my three daughters and my mother, Casey's great-grandmother. These are some of their statements. 1. I think that 21 years allows too much time for people who didn't experience the loss of an innocent six-year-old, and were not traumatized by the crime, to speak out against the death penalty when their opinion is not based in reality. They didn't live it. It allows too much time for it to become politicized as well. If you asked someone's opinion even five years after the crime, their response would possibly be different if you asked them after twenty. It gives too much time for people to forget the heinous act. Also, many people who are fighting against the death penalty, and advocating for this person who took an innocent life and created so much pain, were not directly impacted, or may not even be alive, when the event actually took place. All of this puts the family in a position of defending, and fighting for, the death penalty. That's a position that none of us ever would have wanted to be in and was re-traumatizing. 2. The fact that it took 21 years for the sentence to be carried out just drags out the family's grief and the trauma that goes along with losing a child. Possibly, if the sentence had been carried out sooner, Chelsea and Uncle Jimmy may still be here. Knowing that he (Johnny Johnson) is gone has provided some piece of mind that he will not get out and hurt another child or purposely target the rest of us. 3. Him being gone has released us from constantly being in fight mode and allows us to move forward in the grieving process. We can now remember Casey and not have to worry that he will be released. Also: This process has a substantial

negative impact on victim's families by causing prolonged pain and emotional distress due to repeatedly re-living the trauma and loss. The constant delays caused by the process of legal appeals denies the victim's family the ability to have any closure.⁴ I feared every day that I would turn on the television and hear that they had let him out. Now, I don't have to worry about that. We urge you to speed up the process. Especially in cases where there is undeniable guilt backed by testimony, confessions, and scientific evidence. Our system spent 21 years allowing him to waste taxpayer dollars. Because of him, Casey was only able to live 6 years. He certainly had no regard for her life, and we, as a people, had too much regard for his. Rather than see my hard-earned money be used to support him, I would have rather been buying Casey birthday presents, maybe a graduation, wedding, and baby gift. She never even got to experience the tooth fairy! Twenty-one years before justice was served for Casey. Casey is gone, and our lives are forever changed. This type of trauma changes your thought processes and impacts every role in your life. Please take action to cut down on delays, and carry out sentences in a more timely fashion.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: DIANA MOSIER		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:		SUBMIT DATE: 3/12/2025 12:00 AM
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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: GREGORY M. GOODMAN		PHONE NUMBER: 573-751-7017	
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI ATTORNEY GENERAL's OFFICE		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: PO BOX 899			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65109
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 3/12/2025 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: TRACI DUNCAN		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ROBERT MCMULLIN		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: shellymcmullin20@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 3/12/2025 10:56 AM
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My brother was Sgt. Carl Dewayne Graham Jr. He was a proud, dedicated Missouri State Trooper. From an early age, his dream was to be part of the Missouri State Highway Patrol – which he accomplished in 1993. On March 20, 2005, at 5:00 pm, my family was devastated by the news that Dewayne had been ambushed and murdered in cold blood outside his residence. Time seemed to stop.... *Our dad, Carl Graham Sr., was 58 years old. *Our mom, Beverly Graham, was 57 years old. *I was 35 years old. *Dewayne's son, Hayden, was only 5 years old. Losing him that day took a heavy toll on our family. On the day of the funeral, we were notified that an arrest had been made. So, we started preparing for a trial....2005 rolled into 2006, and then into 2007, and into 2008. Finally, after 4 long years, we finally go to trial in 2009. Lance Shockley is found guilty of first degree capital murder, and he is sentenced to death. Fast forward 16 more years, and here we are in 2025 – still with no execution date. Those 16 years have come and gone with no progress made toward the execution of Lance Shockley; yet, in those 16 years a lot has changed in our family. *Our dad, Carl passed away on March 1, 2025, at the age of 79 – he will never have the closure that is owed to him or witness the justice that is owed to his son. *Dewayne's son, Hayden has now grown from that 5-year old boy into a 25-year old young man – never getting the chance to know his father. *I am now 55 years old – close to the age of my parents when Dewayne was killed. The past 3 years have been the slowest for me. My brother was Sgt. Carl Dewayne Graham Jr. He has now been gone for 20 years. We have been waiting for justice and closure for: *20 years *7,304 days *175,316 hours *10,518,984 minutes *631,139,040 seconds Time marches on, but the longing for closure and justice never goes away. Robert McMullin