

years. She is getting older and this is a great hardship to them both.

He is remorseful, has taken responsibility and apologized to the living victim and the family of the deceased victim. He has had no misconducts for many years in prison. He has become an educated adult. He has never had a wife, a child, a home of his own. He worries about his mother, who is getting older, and wants to be able to support her so she doesn't have to work.

It is ironic that, considering the direction Mr. Meade was heading at age 19 when this crime was committed, he probably would never have achieved this level of education, focus, and aspiration in later life absent the crime and sentence. But life is like that. Things happen, and things --and people -- change. I think the time has come to change the sentence, though a judge would have no power to do so. Only you can perform this miracle for him.

At this point, he has served 29 years in prison. I believe that is more than sufficient for this crime, and I ask that his Application be granted. If I were sentencing today, had discretion, and was not bound by the mandatory sentence, I probably would have sentenced him to no more than his co-defendant, who was convicted of the lesser offense, and Mr. Meade would have walked out of prison 17 years ago. I was bound by the felony murder law. The Parole Board and the Governor, however, are not so bound, and you can right this injustice by recommending commutation.

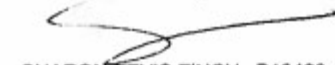
Thank you for your consideration. I hope that you, the Parole Board and Governor, can see your way toward giving this now 48 year old man the second chance which he so richly deserves.

HE HAS PAID HIS DEBT TO SOCIETY. HE IS A CHANGED PERSON. HE CAN DO GOOD IN THE WORLD. I believe he should be given a chance to live a responsible adult life "on the outside." I hope you agree.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,



SHARON TEVIS FINCH P13420
CIRCUIT JUDGE, THIRD CIRCUIT COURT OF MICHIGAN (RETIRED)