

Abbey Kane_FAV_SB0563

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Position: FAV

Support SB 563

Dear Chairman and Members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee

My name is Abbey Kane and I am a senior at LaSalle University in Philadelphia, PA. I received a call from the Anne Arundel County Sheriff's Department stating I had a warrant issued for my arrest. The warrant was for failure to appear for jury duty. I was upset and didn't know what to think. I told my mom and we immediately drove to the courthouse in Annapolis to turn myself in. I was told on the phone to tell the sheriff's office that I was there for a body attachment. The sheriff's office had no paperwork or idea why I was there to turn myself in. Once the paperwork was found, an officer came out and took me in through a door to an office area. The officer then proceeded to say that he had to cuff and shackle me and put me in a cell. I was upset and afraid because I had never experienced anything this. After an hour in the cell, shackled and cuffed, I was lead before the Judge. The Judge ask why I was there, I said failure to appear for jury duty. The Judge then said "It's obviously more than that because of the way you were presented". The circumstances for my arrest was not for a lack of trying to remedy the jury summons. I was away at school and my family had moved. Having said that, I do realize that I broke the law. Once being notified of the warrant, I wasted no time in turning myself in. Did not anticipate the experience I went through. I do believe that being shackled ,handcuffed and put in a cell was excessive. I voluntarily turned myself in with my mom with me, I personally didn't think I was a flight risk. If the officer was truly bound by law to shackle ,handcuff and lock me in cell for the failure to appear for jury duty, then I do believe it should change.

I thank you for your time.

Abbey Kane

Abbey Kane2_FAV_SB0563

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SB 563

JPR

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Abbey Kane

Lisa Kane_FAV_SB0563

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SUPPORT SB 563

Dear Chairman and Members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee,

My name is Lisa Kane the mother of Abbey Kane. The Afternoon that Abbey came to me to tell me she has a voice mail stating that there is a warrant for her arrest still upsets me which is the reason that I am here. I hope that another person does not have to go through this situation again as it could have been avoided. Abbey was shackled and hand cuffed like a criminal. I know in the eyes of the law she was a criminal and we both respect the system but this was excessive and did not need to happen with a few changes in place. Abbey did not ignore her obligation to Jury Duty. She followed the directions to waive her right because she would be in a different state going to college at the time she would be obligated to Jury duty. In the mean time we sold our house and moved. This is where I think the system is broken because Abbey not only changed her address with the MVA but we also had her fill out a forward of mail to our new address. I was told that if you have a warrant with the court system any mail will not forward which is why she never received the 2nd and 3rd notice of failure to appear for Jury Duty. Abbey thought it was taken care of when she followed the directions that was asked of her. I find it ironic that the Sheriff's office had Abbey's cell phone # to call her about a warrant for her arrest but can't find her new address.

We took that call very serious and went right to the court house as soon as we received it. Apparently we got there to fast because the workers at the front desk had no clue what we were talking about. After a few minutes a sheriff came out with hand cuffs and I said are you going to put them on her and his response was he had too. He did wait until he was behind the doors so I didn't have to see her with hand cuffs on. They told me to wait upstairs outside the court room as they were going to try to have her see a judge the same day. Needless to say I was very upset. She was put behind bars with shackles on. The judge did see her that day about an hour or so later. The judge thought that Abbey had done something worse because when she saw Abbey in shackle she said "you had to do something more." She spoke down to Abbey like she was a criminal and acted like Abbey didn't take her obligation to Jury duty seriously. Abbey was excited to be able to register to vote when she turned 18 and knew her obligation to Jury duty. She is also a full time student in a different state and working part time to support herself along the way. If the court system and MVA systems all worked together in tracking down people who moved then this would not have happened especially in Abbey's case where she did not know that she had a case open with the court system since she thought she did everything she needed to do to cancel her Jury duty obligation.

Thank you

MGA_Bryan Simonaire_FAV_SB0563

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Education, Health, and
Environmental Affairs Committee

Subcommittees

Chair, Alcohol

Health

Joint Committee on the Chesapeake and
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The Senate of Maryland
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Written Testimony in SUPPORT of SB 563

Chairman and members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee, I am here to introduce and voice my support for Senate Bill 563 – *Maryland Police Training and Standards Commission – Use of Handcuffs – Body Attachments Policy*.

Senate Bill 563 would require the Maryland Police Training and Standards Commission to develop written policies on the appropriate use of handcuffs when taking a person into custody on a body attachment.