

SB25/HB7 – Reckless and Negligent Driving – Death of Another – Must-Appear Violation (Sherry’s and Christian’s Law)

Stephanie Butcher Testimony
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•STAND TALL FOR WHAT YOU BELIEVE•
In honor of Travis “Christian” Butcher

Christian just celebrated his 19th birthday in October of 2016. He was a motorcycle and car enthusiast, and worked on all of his own vehicles. At the time he rode a Suzuki TL 1000. It wasn't his dream bike, but it worked. He got a temporary job at Kohl's warehouse, but he dreamed of being a professional motorcycle racer, or a K-9 Police officer. Anything he thought of he made a reality. On Thanksgiving Eve, Christian had picked up an extra shift at the warehouse. He was headed to work traveling within the speed limit on Route 7 (PHILADELPHIA RD.) in Abingdon, MD. A woman was attempting to make a left turn from Route 136 (HARKINS RD.) after a stop sign. My brother, on his motorcycle, was struck by her vehicle and thrown from his bike. He had the right of way, and she did not yield to him. My brother was unconscious upon EMS arrival, and was flown to Shock Trauma in Baltimore. He suffered from a broken femur, a ruptured spleen, bruising on the brain, and many other wounds. He underwent emergency surgery when he arrived. Devastatingly, after 3 days in the hospital, Christian passed away. That is the hardest sentence for to type, let alone speak. My brother was my best friend, an amazing uncle, a great son, a caring grandson, fun cousin, he was EVERYTHING. He was such a genuine and pure soul. His laughter lit up the room. His jokes made anyone smile. If you were around him you felt his positive energy and good vibes. People make mistakes, and I believe they should suffer the consequences for those mistakes. Currently, the woman who killed Christian has a lengthy rap sheet criminal, civil, and multiple tragic charges. Prior to the accident, and after. Why hasn't her license been revoked? Why did she only have to pay \$850 dollars for taking a life? I don't think that fits the scenario. How can you put a dollar amount on someone's life? My brother's life? It's not fair, and something has to be done to better the laws that are currently in place. Other families in the future won't have to feel the way my family does. Nothing will bring our loved ones back, but we will be able to have some closure, knowing the person who so carelessly took a life has to suffer the consequences.

Ride in Paradise Christian,
We love and Miss you always.