

Testimony for SB-44 Safe Communities Act of 2024

Please support SB044, as convicted murderers should not receive reduced time by “earning” diminution credits. The person who paid for our 17-years old daughter, Stacey Lynne Seaton’s murder, in 2005, was charged with First Degree Murder, Second Degree Murder, and felony use of a handgun. While we expected he would be locked up for a lengthy time, he was eligible for parole after serving only 7 ½ years and was released after serving 10 years. He was convicted of second-degree murder, and illegal use of a handgun, 30-years, and 20-year terms respectively. We were devastated when he had a parole hearing after serving only 7 1/2 years. Luckily, he was denied parole, but had to be released after serving just 10 years. Once upon a time, Solicitation for Murder meant the death penalty, yet Abraham was released after serving only 10 years.

McDonald Abraham III refused to accept responsibility for Stacey’s murder saying he *only paid for her death*. However, when the actual shooter tried to back out of killing Stacey, Abraham testified that he threatened to kill him too, since the shooter had already been paid for Stacey’s murder. Abraham testified that he withheld giving the shooter any drugs, “until after it was done”, as he knew the shooter was desperate for drugs. Abraham testified that he was ordering fast food, when he called the shooter, and told him to “pop her.” (Yes, really)

Abraham’s first parole hearing was held after serving only 7 ½ years. How was Abraham allowed to acquire as many diminution credits as he “earned”, and be eligible for release after serving 7 ½ years? Instead of working one full-time job, in the infirmary, or kitchen, he worked half-days in each the infirmary and kitchen, but earned diminution credits as though he worked two (fulltime) jobs. He took repeated counseling sessions, receiving the same credits each time.

Abraham is a true psychopath. He has no remorse, and rules don’t apply to him. Since Abraham’s release in 2019, he was ticketed for going 70 mph in the middle of Ocean City, MD, in a 35-mph zone. That’s beyond reckless! Recently, he had a Parole Revocation hearing, but his parole was not revoked. We were not allowed to attend the parole hearing, so we don’t know what he did to cause the hearing to be held. We received notice that his parole was not revoked. But obviously, he didn’t learn that he needs to obey societal rules. He was also recently ticketed, for driving 70-mph, in a 35-mph zone, in the middle of Ocean City, MD. Who does that?! He has no fear he will be re-incarcerated.

Please remove the ability for convicted murderers to receive diminution credits, and allow their sentences to be meaningful, and to send a message. While I’m sure some murderers have gone on to be productive citizens, upon release, that isn’t the case with Abraham, and that isn’t the point. The point is both the heinousness and callousness of murders, demands it. Abraham was recorded on the DOC phone bragging about the “really sweet deal” he got. ***No murderer should be able to brag about their sentence.*** Surviving families don’t receive dim credits, convicted murderers shouldn’t get them, either.

Sincerely,

Gale and Mike Seaton, Stacey’s Mom and Dad

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