

January 16, 2023

The Honorable Luke H. Clippinger, Chairman
House Judicial Proceedings Committee
Taylor House Office Building, Room 101
6 Bladen Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: HB195 – Criminal Procedure – Incompetency to Stand Trial Dismissal

Dear Chairman Clippinger and Members of the House Judiciary Committee,,

Dillian Hughes is charged with repeatedly raping my granddaughter who was 6 years old at the time. He is incompetent to stand trial and in the community. We met him through moving into a new neighborhood and purchasing a home. Mr. Hughes and his family lived in this neighborhood the woman we met represented herself as Dillian Hughes guardian/grandmother and introduced Dillian Hughes her grandson to my adult son his wife and three children and myself. Our nightmare begins! Dillian Hughes came to the outside of the home often when my son Thomas would be outside doing yard work, or automotive work he went on to be very friendly always asking Thomas to teach him automotive work Mr. Dillian Hughes said "he really wanted to learn and ask Thomas to mentor him". Dillian grandmother spoke with Thomas and said how much Dillian and her appreciated him being a friend to Dillian in hopes to motivate Dillian.

What we now know is Dillian Hughes used our family to gain our trust and to gain access to my only granddaughter who was six at this time. As things unfolded and sometime passed my family became concerned about Dillian Hughes' interest in Hailey (my granddaughter) he seemed to try to seek chances to try to be alone with Hailey only. My son and I confronted Dillian and his grandmother regarding our concerns. To which we were both told "there was nothing to worry about Dillian was a bit of a slow learner but he was harmless". However, concern still grew when Dillian tried to get Hailey to sit in his lap and give him hugs. This happened within a week of speaking with Dillian and his grandmother. My son Thomas addressed this again to Dillian who stated, "I am not stupid I just play stupid well dude I like being around Hailey we play games you aren't taking that from me" My son Thomas argued with Dillian Hughes told him "To leave the house and stay away since he could not respect boundaries regarding Hailey". Dillian Hughes left the home angry.

The next day while Thomas was at work Dillian came to the home of my daughter in law who was home with the children while COVID was happening, and the children were doing virtual learning. Dillian said "I was coming to see Tom and apologize for my actions of not respecting his rules". My daughter in law tells Dillian "You will have to come talk to Tom when he is home" She then says "can you give me just a few minutes " I have to grab the laundry out of the dryer then I will have to see you out and you can come back this evening and speak to Tom".

Lisa steps away and within 15 minutes she is back in the dining area and doesn't see Dillian or Hailey. She only sees her son's she asks her oldest son Noah who was 8 years old "where is your sister Hailey?" Noah states Dillian told her to come upstairs with him and Hailey followed. Lisa immediately called up the stairs as she was hearing some noises from Haileys bedroom. Lisa goes up the stairs she has to push hard to get the bedroom door open and finds Dillian Hughes performing an oral sex act on her child and trying to close his zipper also. Lisa was screaming at Dillian Hughes as he pushed past her running down the stairs and out the door.

Police were immediately called, and Hailey was taken to the hospital and Dillian Hughes was found close by and arrested. It was discovered and disclosed by Hailey that "Dillian played special games with her, but they hurt often times". Hailey kept Dillian's secret at his request. He told Hailey I can't play special games and be your friend if you tell on me" Dillian Hughes raped and molested Hailey several times we discovered. Dillian even used "butter he would have her get for him he told her "It wouldn't hurt as much when he put his penis in her"

I am graphic because I want people to know what he was and still is capable of Dillian Hughes will without a doubt offend and harm again if given the chance. Is Dillian Hughes mentally, right? Of course not! But my granddaughter will never be mentally right now either thanks to him. An innocent child, her life and relationships with people that she trusted will never be right again. Her future has been forever changed. Doesn't she matter? Doesn't her mental health matter? We must do all that we can to protect our children and vulnerable people from predators and while Mr. Dillian Hughes may have some issue's he needs help with don't dismiss the fact he is a skillful predator! Maybe his clinicians see potential I see plenty of potential too Mr. Hughes has the potential to harm more innocent victims he has the potential to wreck other lives and families maybe even your children, your grandchildren, your nieces or nephews don't ever think it couldn't happen to your family it can happen to any of us!

The laws need to change let's protect the victim's and the families who deserve it let's give Justice to those who need it who deserve it the most I beg you! I could go on forever advocating for the victims, for my granddaughter and my family, but I will just leave you with this for now and pray we change these laws and change this bill for all of us who deserve protection and who deserve justice! My god we need to protect the victims I beg you!

Sincerely,

Stephanie Williams