

1 gentleman that wanted to speak?

2 MR. SMITH: It appears that his father would like
3 to speak also.

4 THE DEFENDANT: No, I'd like to say something, Your
5 Honor.

6 THE COURT: Just consult with your attorney.

7 MR. SMITH: Yes, sir. It's --

8 THE COURT: I'll be glad to hear from you. Okay?
9 Yes, sir.

10 THE DEFENDANT: Your Honor, I said I didn't do
11 this. Any time they came to me with a plea for a lesser
12 sentence, I turned it down.

13 My father's 84 years old. My mother's 73.

14 Prior to me coming back home I was working in North
15 Dakota in the oil fields. I came back because of my
16 father's age to help him with his property and my mother.

17 To the victims of the crime, I'm sorry that it
18 happened to them but I had no part in this.

19 Again, the State came to me just now again asking
20 if there was anything that I could do to lessen my
21 sentence to give information I would have, but I didn't
22 because I know no information about this robbery. I did
23 not participate in this robbery.

24 To my daddy, my brother, friends. To my father,
25 don't never think anything negative. Best childhood I

1 ever had. Unfortunately what most know, most black kids
2 never get. I had done some things more or less paper
3 hanging and I was wrong for that.

4 As far as the strong-arm robbery going to the cash
5 register and dealing with the counterfeit money, but I
6 ain't never robbed nobody. I never put a gun on nobody.
7 I'm not a violent individual.

8 And, again, I apologize to the victims for what
9 they went through but to my father and my family, I ask
10 they forgive for whatever's going on now with this here
11 because they don't -- my father provided the best for me.
12 He provided the best for me. I didn't want for nothing.

13 Robbing somebody is something that I did not do.
14 Saying I'm a six feet tall individual. I ain't six feet.

15 What is done is done. The evidence and then of
16 course the jury's made their decision, Your Honor.

17 I'm just asking that you have mercy on me. I may
18 never get to see my family. I may not be able to see ever
19 my father on the other side of the gate again, attend his
20 funeral or my mother's, for that matter. God forbid that
21 it comes to it. I would rather see my demise before
22 theirs.

23 But, again, I throw myself at the mercy of the
24 Court and thank you for listening to me, Your Honor.

25 THE COURT: Thank you, sir.