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NOV 06 2024

Court of Appeals

To: The South Carolina Court of Appeals
1220 Senate St. Columbia, SC 29201

From: Lisa Dubay (mother) c/o Joseph Zander-Lee Wooten
477 Brushwood Dr. York, SC 29745

My son, Joseph Zander-Lee Wooten, was arrested in May 2024 (on Memorial Day), due to defending himself against his younger sister's father whom he was staying with and trying to move out of his home due to John Ricks Jr. relapsing on drugs. John Ricks has admitted to people that he was trying to fight "Zander" due to him moving his stuff out to move into his own apartment, away from John's drug use and all around abuse and bullying. Both my daughter and I feel like it was self-defense.

I sent screenshots to my son's attorney - Public Defender of John's threatening text messages and photos of John with assault rifles - which was not brought up in court due to Judge Hall not letting my son's representation really speak at all.

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On top of that, the prosecutor spoke badly of John Ricks Jr due to his past and how he's quote on quote, "Quite a character with a past of being in and out of the system and he also remarked about the tattoo around John's neck of a rope and the statement, "Let's Hang" above it. The plea deal that was offered before the hearing was probation of 5 years and the attempted murder reduced to Assault 1st, instead the judge decided on a 40A sentence in which my son, "Zander" didn't want due to he can't transfer out of state to a safe place where he also has job offers, strict rules at the home, and can better himself with furthering his education.

John has made numerous threats to people about he's going to kill my son if he sees him. I reported a voicemail to York County with him threatening my son and myself, and York County did nothing to John Ricks Jr over it!

Both my daughter and I were at the residence that night and witnessed most of it. Both my son and John called me due to them not agreeing on my son moving out and John wanted the whole cost of the power bill when my son wasn't there but for a week and a half. I even offered to pay the bill three days later and John refused. I offered it when he kept trying to attack "Zander" in front of mine and his (John's) daughter. And we both tried to get John to stop trying to hurt my son.

John jumped on top of my son and was hitting him in the head and face - I, then, put John in a headlock to pull him away from my son and I kicked the gun that fell away from them, trying to make it go under the truck so that no one got it but my son got to it before John did and John tried to attack him again and in self defense "Zander" pulled the trigger to leave and

Get away from the situation.

My child had no choice to do so and defend himself plus he didn't know if John was going to try to hurt me or his sister. John has been very violent in his past towards me and the kids and when I finally got a chance to leave, I had to put not one, but two protective orders against him. I do not believe that my child deserves this sentencing of doing time with the VOA. I honestly think it should have been lowered more and less of a sentencing due to him not being the aggressor - John was that. All my child wanted to do was leave and get away from John. I beg and plea with the courts to understand what all happened, and that it was my son's last resort to hurt the only man (father figure) he had due to his biological father being absent. But my child should be given time served and offered regular probation so that he can

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Go to our family members house
and better himself without the
worry of looking over his
shoulder every step he takes
for John Ricks. Please take it into
consideration and also look into John's
past. My child was trying to get
his life together and make a future—
SOBER. Please reconsider the
judge's decision. I want him safe,
in a better place to achieve his
dreams and he could do that in
Florida at Melodie Hill's home.
My child, my son, my baby is not
a bad person, please reconsider, I beg
of the court. If needed I can
get character statements for him and
try to get people to come forward
on John Ricks Jr.

A concerned mother,
J.P. Aubrey

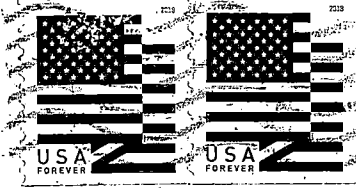
* "Zander" will agree to
any extra things like
counseling, mental health, etc.
and will complete it.

* Also he did not have the chance to write
due to being relocated to Kirkland

LISA Dubay
477 Brushwood Dr
York SC 29745

CHARLOTTE NC 280

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