

Dear Jenny Kitchings

My name is Blaton Smith and I am writing concerning my appeal. This letter is on behalf of me and co defendant Sheheed Hayes. We went to trial in Marion County on Aug. 6<sup>th</sup> 2014 - Aug. 8<sup>th</sup> 2014 and was found guilty. Our charges was Murder, 4 counts of att. Murder, Poss. of weapon during a violent crime, and Discharging a firearm into a dwelling. I was not found guilty of discharging a firearm into a dwelling. We're currently waiting to receive our transcript of the trial. We requested it since we got found guilty our lawyers just haven't sent it. If possible can you please help us get our transcript of the trial and also the video of the trial please. We will be able to work our case better with those two things. To get to my reason for writing is we feel that our right to a fair trial has been violated and we believe this case should be overturned or at least a retrial immediately. We can get facts showing how our rights was violated. This case should be overturned on the ground of violation of right to a fair trial. Attorneys was shown this during the trial but they ignored it. Judge informed us if we interrupt the court we would get tried in our absences so we didn't say anything. Also judge was told attorney wasn't gone represent me correct and him ignoring these facts Proves that. Reason we feel our right was violated is because judge and jury was not paying attention to the trial. The judge was in there acting as if he was careless about what was going on or like he had something better to be doing. We believe he gave the jurors the impression that we were guilty. Its his job to make sure we get a fair trial and he didn't do that but he gave us the max on every charge. The jurors found us guilty and it was jurors sleep while the trial was going on how did they come up with a verdict of guilty if they was sleep during the trial. So our right to a fair trial was violated because judge was paying attention, jurors was sleep and lawyers wasn't speaking about alot of things. These things alone should be enough to overturn this case immediately. Atleast another trial in a different county cause of prestiges judges and jury. We have to get the video of our trial and transcript of trial to show these facts. Every trial is recorded so don't see why our trial wasn't. Law enforcement also had road blocked off making us look like menances in the jury eyes and guilty.

Every other trial don't have road blocks so thats anoter reason for case to be overturned or a retrial immediately. Another reason for this case to be overturned is on the ground Tampering with evidence. Law enforcement admitted they don't know wheter or not they got all the evidence from the crime scene, moved shell casings without marking place and taking pictures first, and not checking for prints before they sent shells to see what firearm they came from. We believe if they would've did their job correct by securing crime scene correct and moving shells it could've determined wheter witnesses was lying. The witnesses was lying in the statements and got on stand and lied. Their statements don't even match. Lawyer didn't impeach witnesses for lying under oath. So we have two reasons for case to be overturned: right to a fair trial (6th Amed.) was violated and Tampering with evidence which is against the law. Please help us as much as possible and also lead us in right direction please. Sorry for handwriting and paper only Paper I had at the moment and I can't really write straight on this paper.

Thanks  
Blair Smith

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DEC 16 2014

**SC Court of Appeals**

The Honorable Jenny  
Abbott Kitchings  
The South Carolina Court  
of Appeals  
P.O. Box 11629  
Columbia SC 29211

State vs Blaton Wakeem  
Smith  
Case Number: 2014-001769  
Our File No: 12258

Sorry for my handwriting and paper  
this the only paper I had at the moment.  
Inside is a letter to you about my appeal  
Can you please help me as much as possible  
well me and MY CO Defendant Sheheed  
Hayes. My Lawyer was Joshua Bailey  
Judge was D. Craig Brown.

Blaton Smith

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**SC Court of Appeals**

Blaton Smith #329045  
LEE Correctional Institution. Dormi Dar. 1260 south  
990 Wisacky Highway  
Bishopville, SC 29010

COLUMBIA, SC 290  
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Jenny Abbott Kitchings  
The South Carolina Court of Appeals  
Post Office Box 11629  
Columbia, SC 29211

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