

April 19th 2015

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Ms. Natalie Nicole Cannon, #363148

Graham, R & E
4450 Broad River Rd.
Columbia, SC 29210

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APR 22 2015

RE: State of South Carolina vs. Natalie N. Cannon
Appellate Case No. 2015-000707

SC Court of Appeals

To: SC Court of Appeals,

On March, 25th 2015 I signed a guilty plea for unlawful Child Neglect and Grand Larceny. However, I was only aware of the unlawful Child Neglect Plea. I feel like I was wrongly informed and unprepared because I was told by my Representation that it'd be better to sign both pleas that day; that this Judge was merciful - and we'd have a better chance at time served. I instantly realized I was not properly prepared to make such a quick decision. I could've gotten more time to think about my options. I was already uneasy and stressed because I did not think I should've signed the guilty plea to unlawful Child Neglect. My Representation made me feel like I had no other option when in fact I did. She later took it upon herself to apologize to me and offered that I could file a grievance on her. She knew that I was improperly prepared. I tried to argue not guilty from the beginning but I was pushed to plead guilty vs. taking it to trial.

As with the Grand Larceny; that was a statement written on me by my brothers girlfriend. She had gotten herself into a lot of trouble and I agreed to help her out by giving her a place to live. Later I learned of her drug problem and told her I couldn't risk her being in my home and had her removed. Then, she had gotten arrested and wanted me to bail her out. When I proceeded to tell her no, I learned four days later that she had spoken to a detective and wrote statements stating that I had done this crime. Detectives called me and I turned myself in. This was my first time ever facing trouble and wasn't aware how the court system worked. I had hoped I could've proved my innocence with time. Also I was under the impression that less than two statements is not considered credible evidence. Entering the courtroom I was not aware of this plea. Again I feel I was improperly prepared and slightly coerced into accepting the guilty plea.

As for the unlawful Child Neglect is concerned, while incarcerated for the criminal charges presented against me I allowed mine and my husbands three children to reside in the care of him and his girlfriend, Laura Rabon Grainger. While in their custody, Laura had proceeded in taking my children to the Crisis Center in Myrtle Beach, S.C. I do not understand why she would do this, seeing as how she trusted the care of her two children to me on countless occasions. Days and weeks at a time. I feel my son Brady Cannon, which was five years old at the time was coerced into saying the things he stated by Laura. My husband and I had just started a road to a rocky divorce, which I believe could have been ammunition for this seeing how she's no stranger to incarceration herself. Last month was her last encounter for selling drugs and my husband is in county awaiting to be sent off for federal prison for the same. I have always been the only care taker for my children and I've never deprived them from anything they needed. I can prove that there doctor and dental was up to date at my time of care. Dr. Lindsay at Coastal Pediatrics, Conway S.C., and Dr. Williams of Conway S.C. Brady had recently before going to stay with his father had just lost two caps off his teeth that had previously already been taken care of.

Therefore would give someone the impression that them two were bad. He also had an appointment made at Small Smiles Dental Clinic in M.B., S.C. that was not kept due to the separation between me and my children. Therefore to my knowledge I do not understand how I neglected him in anyway.

As of having drugs in my home, that is not correct. The prosecutor stated I had needles in the home. Up til that time, I had never touched any kind of IV drug in my life. His father on the other hand had, but I can't speak for his home. But remorsefully I did indeed have a old Paraphenelia Marijuana bowl hidden inside the bottom of my nightstand drawer that he did find one day while hunting for chocolate I had hidden from him. My children have never seen me or anyone in my household use drugs or any alcohol at anytime.

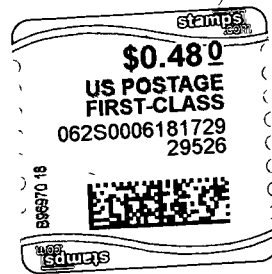
Then comes the most unberable discussion of all. Laura had also taken my daughter, Makayla N. Cannon to the Crisis Center as well. It was said that my ex-boyfriend Willie Jordan had touched her. I had a mentor appointed to me MS. Terry Adkins from CPS stationed in Georgetown S.C. At the time I went beserk from hearing this information and totally shocked as of why the year and half prior to this being stated now with my absence, I had never heard a word of this accusation. MS. Adkins had informed me that nothing happened in a vulgar way; that he had touched her leg above her knee tickling her is all my daughter had stated. Well needless to say after the mentor was out of the situation months later, around six months after is when I heard about a warrant being issued for the unlawful Child Neglect and also supposedly new accusations been made. I find this very bothersome and still til this very day my daughter has still yet to tell me that any kind of Ludact was approached upon her. I'm terribly sorry but I myself must know the truth so I can have knowledge for myself and have closure.

Overall I feel that with the Court of Appeals Consideration and God's Mercy that Justice can be brought to light. Thank you very much for taking the time to read my letter and considering my appeal.

Sincerely,
Natalie N. Cannon
4-19-15

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