

TO THE South Carolina Court of Appeals

My name is MR. Gerald Lewis, As Jesus Christ is my lord and saviour, I assure the Appeals Court of South Carolina that the statements I am making in this brief is true and accurate. I have read the Anders Brief that my appeals lawyer has presented too this Court, and I totally agree with his findings. However, there are certain details that he is not able to provide because he is not as intimate with the details of the entire tragedy, as I am, that occurred on that dreadful afternoon of Feb. 21, 2015 that claimed the life of a man I know and grew up with as friends and members of the same Community, MR. Donald Sumpter.

Mr. Sumpter's family and My family has known each others for A very, very long time, and this horrible tragedy has changed both family lives in the worst ways imaginable, and that is losing a loved one to a senseless and totally ~~GA~~^{GL} avoidable crime. My point is this, I am innocent of the crimes that I am convicted of by the 15th Circuit Court of Georgetown County. With this being said, I would like to take just a little of the courts time to extend on the points that my lawyer has already presented to you, which are two⁽²⁾ of the main points my defense lawyer argued during my ~~trial~~^{GL} trial.

First, being from the area where this accident occurred, the video presented by the state has no realistic merit at all. There are no lights after dark at all in that area. There was no evidence of the body being tossed upon the hood of the truck, or hitting the windshield as depicted in the video. The end result is that this video served no other purpose other than to add drama and theatrics to help persuade the jury into a favorable decision for the state. Nor was there any way of knowing the speed of either vehicle, or whether the moped was moving or not.

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Second, I've known Mr. Sobie Aklin basically all my life and we grew up in the same community. There was not reason at all for him to not remember the name of the church that he testified as the point of him and his then ve in step-son, Mr. Rashad Muse departing the truck that was involved in the accident. Mr. Aklin grew up attending the very same church and his family members still does. Once he heard the testimonies of the defense witnesses when his entire story began to unravel. He said at one point that my son's wife was who picked him and Mr. Muse up. I do not have a son or a daughter-in-law, no, never have.

Mr. Aklin bore false witness against me for the sole purpose of affecting Mr. Rashad Muse, which at the time lived with him and Mr. Muse's mother. This was the only witness the state was able to produce but said I was the driver of the vehicle that struck and killed Mr. Donald Sumpter. The defense produced several witnesses that testified that Mr. Muse was the driver minutes before the accident occurred. They also testified that I was literally carried to the truck minutes before the accident. Mr. Muse was the driver of my truck at the time of the accident that claimed the life of Mr. Donald Sumpter.

Signed: Gerald Lewis

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M. ... KENNIS 201101
Lieber C.I.
P.O. Box 205 CB 28
Ridgeville, SC 29472

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MAIL ROOM
LIEBER C.I.

South Carolina Court of Appeals
Jenny Abbott Kitchings, Clerk
Post Office Box 11629
Columbia, SC 29211
Attn. Pro se Attachment

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