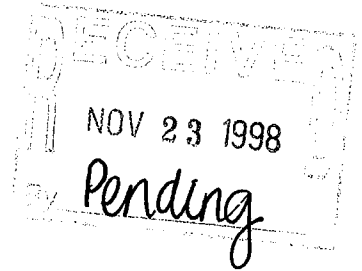


Betty Anne Waters
999 Hope Street
Bristol, RI 02809
Phone-401-253-3766
Fax-401253-3508



November 20, 1998

The Innocence Project
Barry C. Scheck
Peter J. Neufeld
Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law

Re: Kenneth Waters

Dear Mr. Scheck and Mr. Neufeld:

Enclosed is the completed application form requested by your office for my brother Kenny Waters. I realize the overwhelming number of requests the Innocence Project receives every day, and greatly appreciate any assistance you can provide in helping me free my brother Kenny from the life without parole sentence imposed upon him. In 1983, Kenny was convicted in Massachusetts of First Degree Murder and Armed Robbery. My brother is innocent of these crimes and will be vindicated through DNA evidence. My greatest fear is that the crime scene evidence containing DNA has not been preserved.

This crime took place in a very small town. Unfortunately, my family's name during that time was well known by the town's police. Products of a dysfunctional family, the "Waters" children were not unfamiliar with the town's police station. I believe it was that familiarity that made my brother the ideal scapegoat for this horrific crime. It also fuels my fear that unless protected by a court motion brought by a reputable association like The Innocence Project, key DNA evidence that could free my brother will be "lost."

The physical evidence found at the crime scene included two types of blood. One was believed to come from the victim, the other from the perpetrator. As DNA analysis was not available in 1980, the blood was only grouped. The results found that it matched 50% of the population – including Kenny. Hair was found in the victim's hand. It was determined by the FBI not to be Kenny's.

I sent Kenny a copy of your letter explaining that DNA can provide strong evidence of one's innocence and that it could also provide proof of one's guilt. Kenny has absolutely no reservations about this testing and is waiting patiently to have DNA testing done to prove his innocence.

The day that my brother was unjustly convicted of this crime has changed not only his life, but mine. A high school dropout at the time, I went on to receive my Associates, Bachelors, and Masters degrees. Last May I received my Juris Doctorate degree and this month I will be sworn in as a member of the Rhode Island Bar Association. I have done everything in my power for the last seventeen years to prepare myself to prove my brother's innocence. By helping to insure the preservation of the crime scene evidence you will not only be helping to save my brother's life, but validating mine as well.

If I can assist your staff in my brother's case, please let me know. My family and I anxiously wait your response, as this has been the most important concern in our family for nearly seventeen years.

Sincerely,

Betty Anne Waters

Betty Anne Waters