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Your Letters (6/12)

Monday, June 12, 2006 11:22 AM CDT

Tyler Edmonds' mother responds

After reading Mr. Allgood's so called "outlining of the facts" of my son, Tyler Edmonds' case ("The Tyler Edmonds' case," Voice of the People, June 11), I was appalled, but not surprised. Mr. Allgood did provide some factual information, but he also misinformed the public. I suppose this is just another case of the "Allgood system of justice."

I am Tyler Edmonds' mother. In response to Mr. Allgood's statement that we were offered a plea bargain, No, sir, we were not. I was never approached by anyone in Mr. Allgood's office about a plea bargain. Due to the fact that Tyler is a minor, I truly believe that I should have been consulted about any decision regarding his case.

The word plea bargain or manslaughter was never used by Ms. Favor (Assistant DA Patricia Favor). I can only recall one instance in which Patricia Favor approached Jim Waide, our attorney. She told us that if Tyler would help the State, they would help him. He would have had to say that his false confession was true.

Well, Mr. Allgood, if we had been offered a plea bargain, we would have "rolled the dice." The confession made by Tyler was a lie and that is what got us into the present situation. Tyler wasn't and isn't going to lie to help your office do your job. What would you do?

As Tyler's mother, I would like the people of Mississippi to know the whole truth about Tyler's case. If you and your office are going to inform the public, please give them all of the facts, not just the ones that make your office look good.

For instance, what about the fact that five of Tyler's civil rights were violated in order to attain his arrest, indictment, and conviction. Tyler was a minor at the time of his arrest. He should not have been separated from me or put in the same room with his half-sister, the alleged accomplice. By the way, she still has not been tried for her part in the crime.

As Tyler's mother, I would like you, Mr. Allgood, and the people of Mississippi to know several facts:

- 1) Tyler is innocent.
- 2) Tyler's trial was flawed, according to the new Supreme Court ruling.
- 3) No one said Jim Kitchens was too harsh in sentencing, just biased about the whole case.

Mr. Allgood, I understand that you have a job to do, but no justice has been served to my son, his family or Joey Fulgham's family. If Oktibbeha County and your office were doing your jobs properly, we would never have been put in the situation to "roll the dice."

To the people of Mississippi: Protect your children from the growing tyranny of our elected officials such as Forrest Allgood and Jim Kitchens.

Sharon Clay

West Point

Golden Triangle
Weather

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