

Governor Pat McCrory
Governor's Clemency Office
4294 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-4294

RE: Pardon of Innocence for Glen Edward Chapman

Dear Governor McCrory:

Glen Edward Chapman was released from Death Row on April 2, 2008 after being incarcerated for over 14 years for crimes he did not commit. This case is about a man who was very nearly sent to his death because police detectives lied at his trial, covered up the existence of a confession by the real killer, buried the results of a photo lineup in which someone else was positively identified, hid witness statements that pointed to the innocence of Mr. Chapman and the guilt of another man, and altered other witness statements to make them better fit with the law enforcement's theory of guilt. Those fabricated statements were knowingly disclosed to the defense lawyers to prevent an adequate defense of Mr. Chapman at the time of his trial.

Glen Edward Chapman's case is a case of official corruption that exposes striking frailties in our system of justice. The police misconduct was compounded by the complete ineptitude of the lawyers assigned to defend Mr. Chapman at his trial, both of whom conducted virtually no independent investigation of the evidence and failed to even utilize the investigators they had appointed to his case. Forensic medical evidence demonstrated that one of Mr. Chapman's victims was probably not a victim of homicide at all, a finding that went largely unchallenged by the state during the post-conviction hearings.

The Court overturned the convictions on three separate grounds: police officers lied and concealed evidence, Mr. Chapman's attorneys provided ineffective assistance of counsel, and one of the alleged victims was probably not murdered at all. Consequently the Court vacated the convictions and ordered a new trial. Both convictions were then dismissed by the District Attorney of Catawba County, and Mr. Chapman was finally released after 14 years on Death Row.

I urge you to grant Mr. Chapman a Pardon of Innocence on the grounds that Mr. Chapman did not commit the crimes for which he was convicted, so that he may receive compensation from the State of North Carolina for his unjust and unlawful incarceration per N.C.G.S.A. 148-82-84. Since his release Mr. Chapman has been a productive citizen in North Carolina, consistently employed, paying his taxes, and giving back to his community. Please make right the wrong that was done to this man by the state. In the words of Martin Luther King, Jr.: "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere." Thank you kindly for your attention to this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

Signature

Name Printed

Address, City, State