Mothers of Chicago Police Torture Victims Speak

Secondary Victims

Authors

Bertha Escamilla, Jeanette Plummer, Armanda Shackelford, Shirley Burgess, Anabel Perez

Special letter - Joyce Evison Brown – son killed by Harvey police

Mothers Against Torture

22Sept14

Convention Against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment

COMMITTEE AGAINST TORTURE

Thirty-sixth session

19 May 2006

25. The Committee is concerned at allegations of impunity of some of the State party’s law-enforcement personnel in respect of acts of torture or cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment. The Committee notes the limited investigation and lack of prosecution in respect of the allegations of torture perpetrated in areas 2 and 3 of the Chicago Police Department (art. 12). The State party should promptly, thoroughly and impartially investigate all allegations of acts of torture or cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment by law-enforcement personnel and bring perpetrators to justice, in order to fulfil its obligations under article 12 of the Convention. The State party should also provide the Committee with information on the ongoing investigations and prosecution relating to the above-mentioned case.

Convention Against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment

COMMITTEE AGAINST TORTURE Forty-third session 20 November 2009
25. As requested by the Committee in its previous concluding observations, please provide updated information on the investigations and prosecution relating to the allegations of torture perpetrated in areas 2 and 3 of the Chicago Police Department (para. 25). In this respect, please provide detailed information on the charges filed against Jon Burge and, if applicable, on the outcome of this case. Furthermore, please indicate if any other police officers have been brought to justice in this case.

Mothers

1) Bertha Escamilla, mother of Nick Escamilla a 20 yr old son arrested February 10, 1993 for murder. forced into making a statement, or they would lock up his pregnant wife they were married for six months with a two yr old daughter and one on the way. Nick was tortured and threaten by Jon Burge detectives Kenneth Boudreau, John Halloran, and James O’ Brien. Nick was charge with murder sentence to 29yrs and did half his time. Nick served time for a crime he did not commit nor knew anything about Nick was release in May, 2008.

2) Jeanette Plummer, mother of Johnny Plummer was 15 yrs old when arrested on August 19, 1991 area 3. torture by Jon Burge detective John Halloran, Michael Kill, Det. Clancy & Foley. sentence Life without parole. ID K65650 force in to statement Torture Commission agreed that Johnny was torture and will have a hearing Johnny is wrongfully convicted.

3) Armanda Shackelford, mother of Gerald Reed, Gerald was 27 years old, arrested for two counts murder torture by Det. Michael Kill, & Breska. Life sentence. ID # Torture committee agree that Gerald was torture and will have a new trial. Gerald is Wrongfully Convicted.

4) Shirley Burgess mother of Wilbur Driver 41 yrs old was arrest May 7, 2013 waiting to go to trial on attempt murder. There were picture taken of Wilbur injuires police claim photos were not clear. ID R01566 officer detective Martian Chatys.

5) Anabel Perez, mother of Jaime Hauad 17 yrs old area-5. Date of arrest May 26, 1997 beat up by arresting officers Joseph Miedvizianowski who is serving life sentence. Jamie Hauad ID K81327 who was charge of two murders and one attempt murder serving two natural life sentences. Jaime is Wrongfully Convicted.

Mother of young man shot and killed by police in 2014

6) Joyce Evison Brown, mother of Charles Brown, 20 years old, shot by police in Harvey, IL on April 13, 2014.
August 26, 2014

Greetings

I am a mother who has lived a night mare for fourteen years. I never though I can feel such pain & heartache, until my son Nick Escamilla was arrested and accused of a crime he did not commit. At first you feel we have a trusting justice who will see that there is a mistake & my son's name will be cleared in court of law.

Second you feel since you hire an attorney he will protect you son & clear this Charges against him. This is so not the case, my son & his family were torn apart! And for fourteen years, he watched his children grow up without him and my son was charged with murder and told by his attorney to say things that were not true because they would never believe my son's words over a police officer. Later find out these police officers (Kenneth Boudreau, John Halloran, James O'Brien) were dirty cops who has a pattern of Wrongfully Conviction. Nick is one of them they beat him threaten him
to put his wife in prison and take away his two year old daughter. I became depressed and helpless. I was seeing a psychologist. I needed help. I had too much to deal with. I wrote to elected official, spoke at events. I had to be strong. My family counted on me.

I could not sleep knowing my son was in jail... many nights I cried myself to sleep. I lived to hear from him daily but there were times they would be on lock down and days that I would not hear from him. It also became costly so there were times the phone would be disconnected. I began to work over time to pay for costs that I never dreamed of having. I also had to help his family. They had to move in with my husband and I in our 2 bedroom townhouse. So many sacrifices that were made because of this ordeal. I remember one incident he had to have chains on his wrists and ankles. I could not understand why. I began to cry when I seen him. He told my husband to have me sit down and try not to cry because he, my son, had to be strong, and if he seen me break down so would he.
And he could not do that in jail...
Another incident was when we took his daughter on a visit and when the visit was over his oldest who was five at the time ran after him and cried not to leave her. She wants to go with him. As the prisoners were getting in the elevator to take them to their cell. Bianca, his oldest was running to him. He yelled "Go back, go back, go back." She managed to get that close where the steel gate almost crushed her. The guards yelled at us. Just thinking of what could have happened makes me sick. I am sitting here crying now God was watching over her.
We even lost friends and relatives because of this nightmare. When my husband passed away he could not get permission to come to his wake. He was able to call me at the hospital. Broke my heart to tell him over the phone that his dad was no longer with us. We had just visited him the weekend before it was so unexpected.
To much happened that will never go away, they exist in our memories forever. Because of all this I lost
my confidence and faith in our justice system. I feel it's a war against these young men and women. Our law enforcements
have a pattern of preying on innocent victims. Nick served his time was release in May, 2008 Case # 93 CR 5971.
We have men + women who are fighting in other countries protecting non-citizens of the United States, but we have no one protecting victims like my son and others.

My son and my family can never get those years back!

Sincerely yours,

Belita Escamilla
August 26, 2014

Greetings

I am a mother who has lived a nightmare for fourteen years. I never thought I could feel such pain & heartache. Until my son Nick Escamilla was arrested and accused of a crime he did not commit.
At first you feel we have a trusting justice system who will see that there is a mistake. My son's name would be cleared in the court of law.
Second you feel since you hire an attorney he will protect your son and clear these charges against him. This was so not the case. My son and his family were torn apart! For fourteen years he watched his children grow up without him. My son was charged with murder! He was told by his attorney to say things that were not true because they would never believe my son’s words over a police officer. Later we find out these police officers, (Kenneth Boudreau, John Halloran, James O'Brien) were dirty cops who had a pattern of wrongful convictions. Nick is one of them. They beat him, threatened him to put his wife in prison and to take away his two year old daughter.
I became depressed and helpless I was seeing a psychologist. I needed help I had to much to deal with. I wrote to elected officials, and spoke at events. I had to be strong my family was counting on me. I could not sleep knowing my son was in jail. Many nights I cried myself to sleep. I lived to hear from him daily, but there were times they would be on lock down. Sometimes it would be days that I would not hear from him. It also became costly, so there were times the phone would be disconnected. I began to work over time to pay for costs that I never dreamed of having. I also had to help his family. They had to move in with my husband and I in our 2 bedroom townhouse. So many sacrifices that were made because of this ordeal.
I remember one incident he had to have chains on his wrists and ankles I could not understand why. I began to cry when I seen him. He told my husband to have me sit down and try not to cry because he, my son had to be strong. If he seen me break down so would he and he could not do that in jail. Another incident was when we took his daughters on a visit. When the visit was over his oldest, who was five, at the time ran after him and cried not to leave her she wants to go with him.
As the prisoners were getting in the elevator to take them to their cell, Bianca his oldest was running to him. He yelled, "Go back, go back, go back." She managed to get that close where the steel gate almost crushed her. The guards yelled at us, just thinking of what could have happened makes me sick, I am sitting here crying now...God was watching over her.

We even lost friends & relatives because of this nightmare. When my husband passed away he could not get permission to come to his wake. He was able to call me at the hospital. Broke my heart to tell him over the phone that his dad was no longer with us. We had just visited him the weekend before...it was so unexpected!

To much happened that will never go away, they exist in are memories forever. Because of all this I lost my confidence and faith in our justice system. I feel it's a war against these young men and women. Our law enforcements have a pattern of preying on innocent victims. Nick served his time was release in May, 2008 case # 93cr5971

We have men & women who are fighting in other countries protecting non citizens of the United States, but we have no one protecting victims like my son and others.

My son and my family can never get those years back!

Sincerely yours,

Bertha Escamilla
Greetings

United Nations.

My name is Bertha Escamilla and I am the mother of a son that was subjected to torture and wrongfully convicted. My son's name is Nick Escamilla and he spent 15 and one-half years imprisoned for the crime of murder, which he did not commit did not participate in and had no knowledge thereof. On February 10, 1993, my son was arrested in his home by detectives Kenneth Boudreau, John Halloran, James O'Brien. These named detectives were subordinates of the notorious torturing police commander Jon Burge. My son was beaten, punch in the head and threaten. These detectives told my son, "that if he did not cooperate his pregnant bitch (wife) would have her kid in prison and that the two year old would be sent to the Department of Children Family Service." My son could no longer endure the physical abuse and gave a false confession. Other than the false confession there was no physical evidence or forensic evidence linking my son to the crime.
my son had just married six months earlier, had an apartment and a job before he was ripped from his family and thrown into nightmarish situation. It has been reported in Chicago's two major newspapers (i.e., Chicago Sun-Times and Chicago Tribune) that detectives Boudreau and O'Brien are the focus of an investigation. Moreover, detective Boudreau was the focus of a lengthy newspaper story (Chicago Sun-Times) disclosing the number of cases where evidence was manufactured and confessions extracted only to come unraveled and the arrestees exonerated. The above-named detectives had a documented history of framing individuals for crimes they did not commit. These detectives made a career premised upon their corrupt practice with impunity from prosecution or accountability. In 2014 several journalists have publish articles of the (Chicago Tribune) and (Chicago Sun-Times) and expose the unconstitutional practices of the Chicago Police Department intentionally and deliberately suppressing practice, withholding and/or destroying exculpatory/impeaching evidence from arrestees and their lawyers in
Criminal Cases, in which, such diabolical practices has been on going for decades. United Nations you need to act on this now families should not have to go thru what I and others went thru. Its hard visiting your love one and harder to know he cant come home with you. There is so much to say how this effect everyone mentally & physically. And costly paying phone send money visit to buy him food transportation cost, one may have to work longer hours or have two jobs sometime. Grandparent have to take grand children and raise them. As so many ask where is justice my son is home, but I continue to look for justice how can this happen why is this happens. Children getting killed and young youth by police or other this has to stop we all suffer by losing our love one who are kidnap taken to prison or killed. These officers have been investigated for a long time there is nothing now they just wait the time until statute of limitation expire. My husband tried fight for my son to get him help to come home. My son Rich was not able to see him. I almost had a nervous break down.
It was hard for him not to see his kid go to school go to trips with children from school the holiday graduation and everything else after my son release serving his time it was hard when he tried giving his kids crew few one of his daughter cried and said don't tell me anything where were you when I needed you they both hug and cried. There is so much to say. I will stop with that we need changes.

1. We should not pay for elected official corruption when they need lawyer they are no different then we are please change this.

2. There are change for elected official every two years.

3. If there are a certain amount of cases find corruption these officer and prosecutor should be held accountable and go to jail in the charge.

4. All officer who commit a crime should pay for their attorney and pay toward the settlement if they are retiried same thing we as citizen have paid for all of this now it time they pay.

5. How can official mayor and others turn a blind eye and say they didn't know.
We pay them salary and they disrespect us, people of color. I have a lot of information on these officers, however, it does not stop there. This is throughout all. Prison must change if anyone is sick, they should see how serious it is to care for them. My son Nick complained about his side hurting him. Later that day, he was rushed to hospital his appendix all most ruptured. So you see honestly there is so much to say this has to stop and punish the corrupt and elected officials for not correcting these issues they have broken the law. People have died, sick from this right here they are they are tired hurting in many ways. Please bring the innocent home and lock up the one's put here commit crime because of badge and gun that they carry. Please don't turn your head and be blind by the truth. We need changes.

Genuely
Berta Escamilla
NICHOLAS ESCAMILLA  
I.D. # B-58973  
EAST MOLINE CORR. CTR.  
100 HILLCREST ROAD  
EAST MOLINE, IL. 61244

AFFIDAVIT

I, NICHOLAS ESCAMILLA, having been first duly sworn upon oath do hereby state as follows:

That I am presently incarcerated in the Illinois Department of Corrections assigned to the East Moline Correctional Center, 100 Hillcrest road, East Moline, Il. 61244, under I.D. No. B-58973. That I was unjustly convicted for the charges contained in People v. Escamilla, Indictment No. 93-CR-5971 for first degree murder by Accountability after a jury trial before Judge Thomas Dwyer on August 31, 1994.

This is a true and accurate account of the misconduct of the Chicago Police Detectives as they illegally entered, searched, and seized me from my residence. This is also an account of the physical and mental abuse sustained while in the custody of police detectives.

After working a ten hour shift on Feb. 10, 1993, I punched out of work at 9:32 a.m. I returned home, 4049 S. Alabany, at around 10:00 a.m. Whereby, I fell asleep a short time later. I am not sure of the exact time of being awaken, but I know it was early for several reasons: (1) I just barely went to sleep, (2) it was daytime and it was not getting dark outside, (3) as I drove by a school in custody of the detectives the kids were still in school, (4) detectives stopped in a Dunkin Donuts, on Archer & Pershing, when I noticed a crossing gaurd arriving in a car at the same parking lot we were parked in, (5) my wife at the time indicates in a statement she was watching Family Feud on tv when police knocked on the door.

To my knowledge, police arrived at my residence around 11:00 a.m. when I was suddenly awaken by an officer whose name I learned to be Det. Halloran. I was shock to see (3) detectives searching
my bedroom. I learned the detectives who were searching my residence
were Det.'s Halloran, Boudreau, O'Brien, and Ryan. These names
became known to me when I was illegally placed in an interrogation
room; where these detectives and more began to aggressively
question me.

As I was awaken, Det. Halloran ordered me to get up and get
dressed because I was in my shorts. As I was getting dress I
heard my wife at the time, Irma Perez, yelling as to why they
entered my apartment. That she never gave them permission. She was
also yelling as to why they were searching her bedroom.

Det. Halloran, told my wife to shut-up and let them do their job.
I asked them what this was about, but received no response. When
I finished getting dressed, Det. Boudreau placed handcuffs on me
with my hands in back of me. The detectives were in my residence
for about 20-30 minutes, when they took me away handcuffed. I
could hear my wife yelling, "where are you taking him?" She
received no response. I was escorted down my stairs and into
their car. There was a total of 5 to 6 detectives in my home.
They never showed my wife or myself an arrest or search warrant.

Upon arriving at the police station, 51st & Wentworth, I was
taken up to the second floor and placed in a room with a long
bench, a desk, and a chair. They informed me to sit on the bench
and took one cuff off my wrist and placed it in a ring. Det.
Halloran then left the room. I was handcuffed to the wall for
about (15) hours, not able to use the washroom, sleep, or make a
phone call. The only time I was uncuffed was for when I was
forced into a line-up and when I gave the statement to court reporter.

Times in this arrest and seizer is of great significance due
to the fact detectives claim they arrived at my residence at
4:30 p.m. They state after speaking to my landlady, Elissa Guzman,
they were directed to a door in which my wife came down a flight
of stairs, while on the phone speaking to someone, to open and
escort them to our bedroom where I was sleeping. They also claim
I agreed to accompany them to station.

The significance of this is that my wife testified at a motion to
squash arrest that while watching "Family Feud" she heard a knock
on the door between 11:00-11:30 a.m. The layout to my residence
is important. My wife and I have no key to the front door nor is
there a door bell. Our primary entrance is from the back door. This is a three flat apartment. a long stairway which leads to the second floor and third floor. There is a screen door followed by a wooden door. Once open there is ONE door which leads to the second floor to the right, and once you turn left there is a stairway which leads one to the third floor. There is no door on the bottom of the stairway, as detectives state. NOTE: MY FAMILY LIVES ON THE THIRD FLOOR.

At this motion my landlady testified she opened the door that leads to the street. Ms. Guzman, does not speak English, she states detectives never asked her permission to enter they just entered and went up stairs. She also testified that there is no door at the bottom of the stairway. Irma testified she opened the door at the top of floor and instructed the detectives that she would call me, but detectives pushed the door open and entered without a warrant and without permission. She states when I left I was handcuffed and never informed of where I was being taken to.

Detectives state Irma was on the phone when they arrived at 4:30 p.m., but phone records indicate that after 12:00 p.m. she began to page me and at 4:30 p.m. she pages me again. But according to detectives I was suppose to be in my residence. Detectives also state that they informed my wife of my whereabouts, but according to phone records my wife called several police stations including 51st & Wentworth on 2 occasion. Detectives concealed my whereabouts and violated my constitutional rights.

At the station Det. Halloran placed me in a room and handcuffed me to the wall. He began to ask me of my whereabouts and never gave me my Miranda Rights. The only time I heard my Miranda Rights is when I spoke to A.S.A. Bieder in front of a court repoter. I told him I was not sure, but if it was a weekday I do what I normally do. That being I come home from work, eat breakfast, relax for awhile, and then I go to sleep. I informed him I work the grave yard shift and that I am on a constant basis of working overtime. He asked me who would be present at my home. I informed him that wife and child would normally be there, but during the past couple of weeks Miguel Moralas (co-defendant) and Juanita Oquendo were staying with us because they had no place to stay. I told him I allowed this because my wife was having a difficult pregnancy and would be home by herself. So it would be good for them to be there just in case she became ill.
Det. Halloran was alone for this interview and began to ridicule me by saying I was lying because I gave Morales an alibi. I told him I was not lying nor do I have any knowledge of the case he is investigating. He then crumbled the paper and said that he has been working on this case for a long time and that one way or another the case would be solved with me. He then got up and threw the crumbled paper at me and left the room.

I was questioned several more times by as many as six detectives. They began to scream, threaten, and physically abuse me. The main detectives asking questions were Det. Halloran, Boudreau, O'Brien, and Ryan.

They began to tell me of the case over and over again. I would respond by saying you have the wrong person. It was not me. Det. Halloran and Boudreau were the first one to touch me. They would punch and slap me in my head, chest, stomach, and back. The first time I pleaded with them to let me make a phone call or if I can have a lawyer present. I was rewarded by Det. O'Brien kicking me in the legs and slapping me in my face.

At one point in time Det. Ryan started to speak to me about how he was a states attorney and how he used to work for the F.B.I. or something like that. He began speaking to me calmly and said just say you were there and that I would be a witness. I told him to help me make a phone call or have an attorney present. He got mad and started to scream at me. I told him I would not admit to something I did not do. He then jumped out of his chair and struck me on my left side of my head.

Halloran and Boudreau reentered the room with more questions, but I informed them I wanted a lawyer. They began to spit on me and I received more physically abuse. They placed me in a line-up against my will and then informed me I was picked out of the line-up. I told them that it was impossible, but they continued to scream at me and threaten my life as well as my wife, child, and even my unborn child. Det. Halloran stated that he would make sure I received the maximum sentence unless I cooperated. Det. Boudreau stated they were going to arrest my wife for harboring a fugitive, obstruction of justice, and that I'll never know what will be found in my home. They told me they would put my daughter in D.C.F.S. I told them how could they do this I've done nothing wrong. They told me to cooperate and this will not happen. That
they really did not want me and they just wanted me to answer their questions their way and make a statement. Then I would be released.

That after (18) hours of grueling questioning and being tired from working a long shift with only a few hours of rest before taken into custody; I was hit about the head and body, even spit on until I broke down and told the detectives that "Keno" and "Goofy"(Reyna and Moralas) were at my home earlier the day of the shooting. That I was never given my full Miranda rights, and over my numerous request to see an attorney or at least speak to my family, the detectives told me, I would be charged with murder and spend my life in prison, and that my wife would be charged too, with my daughter being taken away and the baby born in jail. That the following day (2/11/93) after lengthy questioning without being allowed to sleep, eat, or use the washroom, my strengh gone, I began to agree to the detectives wishes; being frightened and worried about my child and pregnant wife, my mind cloudly I gave in and agreed to sign a statement.

That I knew the statement was false and the detectives coached me on what they wanted me to say, I later repeated the statement they helped me make-up, which I did not want to sign but just wanted the abusive treatment to end. That all subsequent statements I made and signed was false and signed under threats and coercion, not by my own will to the detectives and assistant state's attorney. That once I was able to speak to my family members, nearly 24 hrs. after being in custody, I did inform them about the abuse from the detectives who questioned me.

Wherefore, the Affiant submits "Under penalties as provided by law pursuant to section 1-109 of the Code of Civil Procedure, the undersigned certifies that the statements set forth in this instrument are true and correct, except as to matters therein stated to be on information and beliefs and as to such matters the undersigned certifies as aforesaid that he verily believes the same to be true.

[Seal]

Patricia J. Hendrickson
Notary Public, State of Illinois
My Commission Exp. 12/10/2005

NICHOLAS ESCAMILLA

March 17, 2002
Patricia Hendrickson
The Third Metric

The Boiler Room

Posted: 05/01/2013 4:20 pm

By now many people know of the shameful legacy of police torture here in Chicago. Thus far only one of the perpetrators, Jon Burge, has been held to account. Recently, a Court of Inquiry in Texas found probable cause to arrest former prosecutor for deliberately hiding exculpatory evidence from Michael Morton who spent decades in prison for a crime he did not commit, but this is unusual. Most of the time nothing happens to police or prosecutors who hide exculpatory evidence.

We also have a sordid and storied history of shenanigans with evidence here in Chicago. Emblematic of this was the "street files" scandal in the 1980s -- when it was discovered that there were reports being written by police officers that weren't being turned over to the defense. Since the time of the revelation of these secret reports, the city of Chicago police department has been making available hand-written notes (called general progress notes) and supposedly this problem of secret files is gone.

Not so much. In the mid-1980s, a man named Nathson Fields was convicted of a double homicide and sentenced to death. Although he has now been cleared, he spent eighteen years in prison and seven on bond after the grant of a new trial before he was acquitted. According to his pending civil rights complaint, he was imprisoned as a direct result of police and prosecutorial misconduct including the hiding of exculpatory evidence. Here is the kicker, the hidden file, the one with evidence that showed not only Mr. Field's innocence, but the police attempt to put another murder case on him -- an attempt they had to abandon when they discovered he was in custody at the time of the offense -- it appeared 28 years later. Here is how they get away with it.

If you or I get a subpoena for documents, we are supposed to do our best to find them and produce them. A subpoena, after all is a court order. But the Chicago police see it differently: the Police Department has a policy under which investigative files deemed "open" (as opposed to cleared and closed, for example) are not considered subject to subpoenas; C.P.D. has never provided notice that it was withholding information pursuant to that policy. When Chicago police department subpoenas processors encounter a subpoena for documents relating to an "open" investigation (which they pretended Fields was as there was still someone they wished to question), their practice is to contact legal affairs for further instruction pursuant to the C.P.D. policy that open files are not subject to a subpoena -- and that it is the attorneys in the legal affairs department who determine whether any components of an "open" file will be produced.

So where have the files been all these years? In files in the file cabinets in the boiler room at the police station at 51st and Wentworth. That's right, there are cabinets full of files from cases that their lawyers never saw, there are likely many people whose cases should be overturned because of this trick -- pretending these cases are still open and thus ignoring a court ordered subpoena. Lawyers for Mr. Fields have asked the federal court to issue and order not only to inspect and produce in their case, but to preserve and protect all of these files.

If these files are in the basement at this police station, I would imagine it's highly likely that there are other boiler rooms in other police stations hiding similar files.

According to Buddha "Three things cannot be long hidden: the sun, the moon, and the truth." For decades now, much of the truth has laid hidden behind obfuscation and literally in the basement. It is time for that to stop.

K65650 - PLUMMER, JOHNNY
Parent Institution: MENARD CORRECTIONAL CENTER
Offender Status: IN CUSTODY
Location: MENARD

Click here to register for notification on any changes to this offender's custody status

PHYSICAL PROFILE
Date of Birth: 05/27/1978
Weight: 265 lbs.
Hair: Black
Sex: Male
Height: 6 ft. 01 in.
Race: Black
Eyes: Brown

MARKS, SCARS, & TATTOOS
NONE RECORDED

ADMISSION / RELEASE / DISCHARGE INFO
Admission Date: 06/12/1998
Last Paroled Date: INELIGIBLE
Projected Discharge Date: INELIGIBLE

SENTENCING INFORMATION

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OFFENSE: MURDER INTENT TO KILL/INJURE
CUSTODY DATE: 05/27/1993
SENTENCE: LIFE
COUNTY: COOK

OFFENSE: ATTEMPT ARMED ROBBERY
CUSTODY DATE: 05/27/1993
SENTENCE: 5 Years 0 Months 0 Days
COUNTY: COOK

OFFENSE: ATTEMPT MURDER INTENT TO KILL/INJURE
CUSTODY DATE: 08/02/1991
SENTENCE: 25 Years 0 Months 0 Days
COUNTY: COOK

OFFENSE: AGGRAVATED BATTERY WITH FIREARM
CUSTODY DATE: 08/02/1991
SENTENCE: 25 Years 0 Months 0 Days
COUNTY: COOK

OFFENSE: MURDER INTENT TO KILL/INJURE
CUSTODY DATE: 09/09/1991

http://www.idoc.state.il.us/subsections/search/ISinms2.asp
8/26/2014
Hello, my name is Jeanette Plummer and I am going to tell you my story. I was born in Tutwiler, Mississippi. I moved to Chicago in 1967 after the big snow storm and stayed with my aunt. I attended many different schools. I graduated from Walter Reed Elementary School and went to Parker High School. But soon after transferred to DuSable High School. It wasn’t long until I was pregnant and ended up dropping out of school. I couldn’t believe that I was fifteen years old and was pregnant. This was my first son born January 24, 1970, Dennis Earl Plummer. My second son born November 6, 1971, Edward Plummer. Dennis and Edward both had the same father. My third son was born May 27, 1976, Johnny Plummer. I remember Johnny being a happy and handsome baby. He had curly hair and was a little fat around the face. I was happy at this point in my life and I soon later gave birth to two more boys. Robert Plummer, born on August 20, 1978 and Coston Plummer, born on November 30, 1979.

I took good care of my boys, we lived in a five room apartment and they went to Beale School. We soon moved to the Ida B. Well projects on 38th and Cottage Grove. We attended church every Sunday. I always kept a clean house and clean clothes on their backs. They always had a roof over their heads. It’s hard trying to raise five children on your own let alone five boys. I tried my best to teach them right from wrong. But to my surprise trouble was soon to follow. My son, Johnny, got himself into trouble and was thrown in jail. That’s when everything started spiraling down. I started getting depressed and things just getting really bad. I had to go to court by myself with no family support. There was no one there for me. I had no one to talk to or rely on. It was hard to have your son taking away from you and not being able to hire a lawyer to defend my son. After that I lost my older two boys to the jail system. I felt like I was losing my family.

I often wonder was I ever a good mother or was I just a bad mother for losing three of my children to jail. I tried my best to do right by my son and seem like I just failed as a mother. It was so much heartache and pain to find out that my son, Johnny would have to serve life in prison and that he would not be able to come home again. As a mother, it is hard to see your children suffer. Sometimes I would wonder when would this nightmare be over and I would be able to wake up. I could
no longer lie to myself and say that everything will be okay and I would be okay. All I could do was have faith in God and pray that he would bring me through it. I loved my boys and I never would want them to ever give up on life. As a mother it hard having to go see your sons in prisons. The agonizing ordeal that you have to go through just to see your sons and so stressful. But you just have to get yourself together and stay strong for your child. I sit there patiently waiting for my son to come out but at the same time I want to cry. I want to cry out of joy of seeing my son but sad at the same time because I know that when I leave that they can’t go with me. I purchase them food and we sit down and catch up on what’s going on with the family.

As a mother it hurts me to leave and tears just roll down my face. What mother would want to see her son in jail especially when he has to serve natural life without the possibility of parole? I really wish that they will change some of these laws and court systems. It is taking all the strength to write this letter because all I can do is think about is my son Johnny. I am thinking about all the things he is going through and how he trusted the system and how they just let him down. How they would lie to him and take his statement and use it to convict him.

Now after 20 plus years I have a son I can rely on. My youngest son, Coston, he helps me so much and I can depend on him always. I am grateful for him but I know that I must let him go and let him concentrate on his own family. His wife and he has been very nice and patient with me. Even though it is hard I know it is time for me to let them go and let them raise their children and live their life. It is time I let them live their dreams. They are all I have because I have two sons who are handicap and one who is mentally ill because of the prison system. It is hard to struggle with two mentally ill sons and two that are in jail. On top of that I have bad health issues myself. I just want my sons to come home so they can help me with their brothers. I’m so stressed out and very depressed. If it wasn’t for some of these support groups that I go to I don’t know how I would survive.
Hello my name is Jeanette Plummer and I am here to tell my story about my son Johnnie Plummer. On August 19, 1991, Johnnie was arrested and taken to an audy home on 1100 South Hamilton. From there two police officers picked him up from the audy home and took him to Area 3 Police station on 39th & California. There were five officers that beat him with no clothes on across his back, face and legs with a flash light and mini bat. My son was still a juvenile when he was tortured, he was just 15 years old when he was arrested. After beating him into a confession and making him sign it they took him back to the audy home on Hamilton Street. Once he return to the Audy home he was separated from the other juveniles because of his injuries. When I question them later about his injuries I was told that he was assaulted by other juveniles. The five officers that were involved were under the direct command of Jon Burge. The five officers were Kenneth Boudreau, Michael Kill, John Holloran, Officer Clancey, and Officer Foley.

My son has been in prison for 23 years and has been fighting the court system still till this day for his freedom. He has been punished with natural life without the possibility of parole. Now that’s just not fair that he is sitting in jail and has gotten his life taken away when the officers who tortured him have not been punished. Why do they get to have their freedom when they took my son’s away 23 years ago? Why is it that they found evidence in these officers’ desks but yet nothing has happened? My son deserves justice and a second chance at life. If someone should be punished for a crime it should be those five officers and Jon Burge. The police motto is to protect and to serve. Who are they protecting and serving when they are beating and framing innocent young black teenage kids.
I hadn’t seen my son for ten years. When I started to go to these meetings I met different peoples who help me see my son by donating money and proving bus service. It was a blessing for me because its an eight hour bus ride to Menard Correctional Center. My son cant get back the time he has miss out on with love ones. A lot of family has pass away while he has been incarnated. We need big changes in the court system and within city hall. The council needs to be replace with civilian police accountability board. I pray that justice will be serve.
Gerald Reed
Armanda Shackelford - mother
Siovhan Lee - niece

Tortured by Chicago Police
On October 3, 1990, day of arrest.
To Whom it will Concern:

I am Arnolda Shackelford mother of Herald Reed V32930 - Prisoner of Stateville Prison, Joliet, Illinois.

Herald was arrested Oct 3, 90 on 2 counts of murder, he was taken to the 61-2nd Police Station.

The first night of arrest 10-3-90 detectives put Herald in a car, and took him to an alley, told him to get out of the car, took his handcuffs off, told him to run, instead Herald got back into the car and detective Ptar put a gun to his head and told him to sign the statement. Once at the station he refused to sign.

On October 4, 90 Detective Brezka started kicking the chair he was sitting on and the chair fell, Herald head hit the floor and detective foot, so the detective got very angry started kicking Herald in the back, leg, neck, during this time the lights was off, but Herald
heard the voice and knew the detective.
Gerald was the detective during the torture.

The door opened, a detective came in and asked what was going on. He told Gerald that he was going to send me to an early grove, so after all the torture and the threat, he signed the statement. Gerald had gotten shot years before in the right leg so to put the leg back together the doctor had a rod down the leg, that night the rod was broken.

Gerald was not allowed to call her, the night of arrest, his youngest brother had got arrested and he let me know what station Gerald was at. The following I went to dist.1 station 61 and Racine, the desk officer told me Gerald was taken to the 31 first and California station. The following day I went to that station and he was transferred again, but would not tell me where he was taken to. These acts of torture (crimes) always happen at night late.

These actions should not have been allowed to happen to anyone, because it was wrong.
I Armanda Shackelford have been tortured also with keeping money on his books, setting up phone calls, transportation to visit and the vending machines for food.

All of these officers should be prosecuted and not allowed to receive a check or any funds while in prison, because if I go to jail I cannot get my benefits funds.

Thanks in advance
Sincerely, Yours
Armanda Shackelford
DEAR READERS.

MY NAME IS SHIRLEY BURGESS, AND I'M THE MOTHER OF TORTURE SURVIVOR, WILBUR DRINE. ON A SUMMER MORNING, BACK ON APRIL 9, 2013. MY SON WAS DRIVING HIS NEW MOTORCYCLE, AND POLICE PULL HIM OVER FOR A ROUTINE TRAFFIC STOP. ANDO ONCE MY SON PULLED OVER, OFFICER GOT OUT OF THEIR SQUAD CAR, AND HANDCUFFED MY SON. ANDO Began TO SHAKE DOWN THE BIKE, TRAFFIC WAS COMING AND GOING SO MY SON STOPPED OUT OF THE STREET, TO PREVENT THAN GETTING HIT. WHILE ALL THIS WAS GOING ON, MY SON WAS BEING TAKEN TO HIS SON, IN A VAN. ANDO HE SPOKE WITH HIS SON, AND HAD THE DOOR OPEN WHILE TALKING TO HIS DAD. MY GRANDSON'S NAME IS RONALD DRVNER. AND HE NEVER PUT THE VAN ON PARK NOR TURNED THE ENGINE OFF, BUT HAD HIS FEET ON THE BRAKES. BECAUSE HE KNEW THAT HIS DAD, WHO HAD COMMITTED A VIOLENT CRIME, AND WOULD BE ON THE RAMP WAY, BUT THE OFFICER ASSUMED THAT MY SON AND GRANDSON WERE UP TO NO GOOD. AND RUN AND TACKLE MY SON WITHIN INTO THE DRIVER'S SIDE DOOR, AND BORE Wielding AND THE POLICE PULLED ON MY GRANDSON LAP, PUSING MY GRANDSON LEG AND FOOT OFF THE BRAKES. THE VAN MOTIONED SLOWLY INTO A TENSE, WITNESSES ON HAND ACCOUNT THE INCIDENT, THE POLICE REPORT STATES THAT THE VAN WAS DRIVING 30 TO 40 MILES PER HOUR, AND STANMINO
into the fence, Pictures was taken of the fence and
the actual beating, the police grab my son on the ground.
while other officers helps with assisting my son and
get his son. What really hurt about this injustice
is not only did they beat my son up, but the fabric of
a report to say attempt murder on this police.
Because he hurt his finger in the course of
all this, which he brought on himself. And to cover
up the abuse, they lied on my family. I'm asking
that these officers be fired. Because abuse is so
commonly in Chicago. And back in 2003, Governor
Randy Ammori laws that every interrogation be
video taped. But what about these torture are not
video taped. As a citizen, I would like this
investigation, I don't know nothing about the laws
but it's not right when Chicago Police Department
don't discipline their own. When it's a proven fact
that they beat people.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Ms. Sheila Burgess

Shirley Burgess
2611 E 92nd St 2F
Chicago IL 60617
312-961-8218
I thank you for the time to assist in justice. My name is Gerardo Arza. And I've been locked up every since Oct 3 1990, for a crime I didn't commit. I'm sorry that these two peoples life has been taken. But I did not do it. And I wish the right people are charged and convicted because it's not right to take another's life.

I was tortured on Oct 4, 1990, by Detectives Victor Breska. While other OSI allowed this to go as if it was Breska that was to torture. But before Oct 4, on Oct 3, I was arrested and taken to Raging Police Station, and Office 1 Dec. And no back noise put me in a squad car and took me to 20th California Police Station, but before we got there they pull up to a house. Where a lady and a boy came to the door, and they talked to the police, drove to the alley in back of that same house and the lady came to help that little boy. And OSI stuck noise on my ear and took me to get out of the car. I was free to leave, it was dark outside and I knew that didn't look right. And I seen OSI siting on the back of the trunk. Playing with a gun. I was handcuffed and taken to the New Closed down 34th Cafe Police Station, which evidence was found they beat defendants and no citizens in that station. I was then taken to
the third floor, and interrogated, I asked for a
marker, but to a phone call. But was too sick to go. I refused
to talk to them. And then Interrogation, back to 9th
and Interrogation again by Det. Michael Hill and
Victor Broska. Along with other Det's that took turns
trying to get me to talk. I refuse to answer any
question, then at sometime the date of Oct 4, 1990, Det's
turned out the lights in the Interrogation room. But
left the door open. And I heard several voices talking
then someone said, I'll take care of this one,
then Det. Broska came in yelling, coming close to
my face, while knocking the leg of the chair I was
sitting in. He was knocking it forcefully, that the
leg gave and I went face down to the floor, my head
hit his leg. And he yelled, you MF, son of a b. And
the next then I also, I was being kicked and my
down my back, my leg, I started walking into several
ways. Until Det. Hill and other were in, who took him out
of the room, the only person that was left in the room
was Det. yelling at me, he's going to do something about
his partner. And he, when he came back in, with paper
Asking me questions about the murder of Craig and W.0.
when I told him, I didn't know anything about it. He
said he knew Daniel and St. And I will help them, or
he will let Broska come back in hope and boys are up
some range. I was in so much pain, and scared, along
with being in the police and no one came to see about me. I signed the paper at 7:00 of my life, however, due to the very serious thing I was going through, nobody came to see about me. I signed the paper at 7:00 of my life, however, due to the very serious thing I was going through, nobody came to see about me.

I explained on the stand that I didn't sign the confession, because at the time, I was a part of the organization called Q.D.'s, and it was a no-no, to talk to the police, because if you confessed to a crime, or you complained, you got hurt or killed one of the other. If they found out, and I might lose my testimony. I stated that was my signature, but I didn't sign that, because while testifying everyone in the courtroom and hope what's happen in the court room. They might destroy my trial, I was being so bad by Q.D.'s, to prevent me from testifying against my own defendant, which I was being so bad, my mouth was zipper shut, and sent to the Cook County Hospital. These are the facts of my case. And I know I'm innocent, and I pray the truth come out of my house, and my innocence, and released from this place.

Thank you very much.

Mr. Giovanni Rosso

P.s. I'm rushing to write this, because I just got this information at 4:00 p.m. and you all need it for memory.

God Bless!
To whom it may concern, My name is Shirley Burgess, I am Wiltail Burgess’ mother. Wiltail was born on Aug 22, 1972. He was a very loving & caring child. My husband and myself, loved Wiltail, my son, more so than anything else. He meant so much to me, I lost my oldest son on Aug 18, 2007 from heart problems. I only have one son left, my husband passed away 6 years later, after my son, Delbert, I am trying to live life of life terms, but it’s hard on me now. I experience seeing my son Wiltail arrested on May 8, 2013 at 10 pm and to come to the scene were the incident occurred, I was shock to see my son was beaten. That really hurt me so bad.

I witness my grandson, he was arrested the same day and I saw the police pull his gun outland shove it in my grandson side. I feel that the Chicago Police are taking our children life and the parents life. I’m speaking as a mother without her children. There is a empty hole in my heart, that will never heal until justice is done. I am bleeding to death from the inside out. I need my son to have justice and a fair trial. I’m praying that someone can help and take away my pain.

Shirley Burgess
2611 E. 912nd St. 2F
Chicago, IL 60617
312-961-8218
Wilbur Children
Gaby, Romell, Faith & Mircale

Family
Daughter Wilbur  Gibby Burgess
Son Romell Burgess

Friends & family ↑
Wilbur
Wilbur Driver Left
Mother Shirley
Brother Delbert

Son & Mother
Romel Shirley
Wilbur
Willour Driver with Grandfather Wilbour & Cousins
To United Nation

My Name is ANABEL Perez. I'm a Hispanic single mother. Born in Puerto Rico, we came to Chicago when I was 9 or 10 years old. I have 3 great sons. We are a small family but humble loving caring supportive close family.

I'm also a mother of a child now a man that have been wrongfully convicted for the past 17 yrs and 4 months. He has been sentenced to natural life editorial 15 yrs. For a crime he did not do. Tortured by Chicago Police. I want to tell me about me but when my son went to prison, I went to prison with him. All I now is about injustice. All to fight for his innocence in the progress thru the years I watched how our system is broken. The Police. The Judges. The Lawyers and our legislators work together. We the people are being betrayed by these people. They help one another. If you think different you are blind-sided. They have lost sight of what their job is to serve and protect. They gamble with peoples' lives to climb the ladder to success.
My life is of pain, suffering, torture, injustice.
We have gone thru so much. See just this week. I went to visit my son at Pontiac Drive 1 hr 45 minutes To see my loved one and was told I can't visit cause I had his daughter and to nieces and I had to sit on lap. The little one could sit on my lap but they felt she could not sit on my lap. They said you can leave them in the car, but would you leave your child in a strange town. They don't now were they are, my answer is no I don't want to leave them in the car can you please let me go in with the kid she said no so I asked them if they can call and tell us we couldn't visit. They said no but I called around and they did let him. Now I couldn't visit.

To watch how we give these officers so much power over citizens. I have suffered for the past 17 yrs 4 months I think about it. How is my son doing being apart so long not being able to spend birthdays, Christmas, Halloweens, easter every holiday for the past 17yr 4mths. Just getting cards that show him I here, your not alone. Trying to make his holidays better, not having pictures just the mug shots in my living room. This is a small part of my life. Pain, suffering injustice which totals out to a stressful slow torture.
For me and family members, when we go visit it it like they go out of the way to degrade or try They make you feel ashamed! But we know who we are, so we don't let that change us we did nothing wrong. I ask my self why so much hate... Our people are rebels as you can only take so much you see they abuse on TV all the time and they think it's okay people don't want to see it. The problem cause it's on the news it's on shows we are aware we just don't take a stand. People don't care if you innocent or guilty they are quick to judge you did something so you are here and we get sentence to go to prison. But why the extra abuse, no one knows our pain till they experience what we go thru. Then they understand it's sad but true I hope you can begin to see that it's not one life taken to prison or killed it's the whole family. That is impacted. They send people to prison to be rehabilitated but who besides if they are rehabilitated. Do we prepare them for the real world with counseling. I like I said this is who I am I go to bed thinking and thanking God and wake up thinking. Thank God for my son and others in prison. Prison is all I now when my son comes home I will be born again just like my son. I just go thru life
To make it to the next day. This is what is in me.

This is all I now, and a big part of me believes in God and the Truth will come to the light. There's no stone left unturned. I trust in our Father Jesus Christ. The same one that everyone believes in we all need to believe in something.

I choose God so I trust and believe in God that my son is blessed and being a blessing to others. And we have favor from God. That is how we as a family over come everything we go thru. It's not easy. But I now justice will come. The Truth will come to the light. My son's are my blessing. They give me strength to go on and deal with all that I have in these 17 yrs. We have always kept good communication with the correctional system. This is my son and I need to speak for him. I'm his voice. He sees the world thru my eye. He lives his life thru me. Jaime told me he asked me to live life to the fullest, enjoying every moment. I do it for him. I take lot of pictures so he can live, see, hear life. My son is Jaime Hauad. He has a daughter we do our best to keep Jaime and Joselyn in communication.
Joselyn is 16 yrs old now, she said to her Dad I need you here with me there's so much to deal with out her Dad. That breaks my heart imagen Jaime's heart what it did to his heart but he keeps it real with Joselyn and things are coming around for Jaime and Joselyn. They are working on there relationship they have a good line of communication. This is so hurtful it is not healthy. My granddaughter wrote a poem in her poem she said my Dad is not an abusive dad his loving caring genuine I love my Dad but his not here for me I'm out in the world without a Dad. My thought is why take families apart for so long is it for the money, my son was tortured wrongfully convicted and so was I and his daughter the rest of my family. I pray that you can look into all these cases and fix these laws. These legislators, judges, lawyers, Police. This is the real picture of our lives we need to see what is happening to our children it can't continue. To go on if people don't say anything you are condoning what they do that makes you guilty as they are. I thank you for reading my letter opening your hearts minds to see the injustice this is my life as a prisoners mother.

God Bless
Thank you
8th Day Center for Peace and Justice's 40th Birthday

On September 20th, 8th Day will gather friends and partners to its annual celebration, "Revel in the Revolution." This gathering is a yearly reminder that, in the struggle for peace and justice, we must make time to stop and celebrate. This year's celebration is extra special because it is 8th Day's 40th birthday!

The theme for this year's event is We Who Believe in Freedom Cannot Rest. In its 40-year journey for peace and justice, 8th Day recognizes the wisdom and Ella Baker's famous words to the Civil Rights movement. For the 8th Day Center, experience teaches that the belief in real freedom for all opens the door to radical love and dynamic change.

To honor the vision and passion embedded in Ella Baker's wisdom, 8th Day will hear from two lifelong activists and educators whose lives embody Ella's vision. José López, Executive Director of the Puerto Rican Cultural Center, will be the guest speaker and Rasmea Odeh from the Arab American Action Network will receive the 3rd Annual Mary Elbernd OSF Award.

For more information please see the attachment or send an email to 8thdayprogrambook@gmail.com.

#FreeJaimeHauad

by Lizandra Hauad
Survival can be summed up in three words - never give up. That's the heart of it really. Just keep trying -Bear Grylls.

Righteous. Brave, Inspiring, Relentless were just some of the words that were used to describe Jaime Hauad, a son, a husband, a father, a brother and a friend. Born and raised here in Chicago the looks and sounds of its' streets are all just a memory now. Jaime is 34 years old and has spent the last 17 years of his life incarcerated for a crime he didn't commit. Although Jaime has always maintained his innocence, he was sentenced to life without parole for the 1997 double murder on Chicago's northwest side. The battle has been rough as Jaime has sought out all avenues he can to prove his innocence, but to this date Jaime has been denied a new day in court. Jaime's story has been gaining even more support after the Illinois Torture Commission stated "There's strong evidence that police tortured Hauad while he was in custody and some evidence that he may be entirely innocent." His case was then referred to Anita Alvarez's office to the "Conviction Integrity Unit" and has been accepted for review. Jaime is grateful to this Anita Alvarez and her team for taking this case on and we have faith that the evidence will speak for itself.

The Campaign #FreeJaimeHauad has begun, Jaime's story needs to be heard worldwide and we need your help. A detailed video of his case has been posted on YouTube. We are asking you to help save his life by viewing this video. Support Jaime by signing onto Change.org/petition/Anita-Alvarez-free-Jaime-Hauad to sign the petition to #FreeJaimeHauad. Please share with friends & family. Follow Jaime's story on Twitter and Facebook, We fight for #Justice4Jaime.
Exigen investigación de tiroteos de la policía de Chicago

Familias de presuntas víctimas afectadas por supuestos abusos de autoridad y delitos policiales demandan una investigación federal. Ellos luchan porque se haga justicia en sus casos.

Anabel Pérez sostiene la foto de su hijo Jaime Hauad, condenado a cadena perpetua.

Foto: Belhú Sanabria/La Raza
Por:

BELHÚ SANABRIA / La Raza
PUBLICADO: Aug, 29, 2014 11:47 am EST

Chicago.- Han pasado 20 días de la muerte de Michael Brown, un joven afroamericano que falleció tras haber sido baleado seis veces por un agente policial en Ferguson, Missouri.

Brown estaba desarmado cuando recibió seis disparos. Manifestaciones se han dado a nivel nacional en apoyo al joven afroamericano, de 18 años.
En este contexto, durante una manifestación realizada el miércoles pasado en Plaza Federal, en el centro de Chicago, se evocó la memoria de Brown y se dijo que acciones como esa no deben repetirse en este país.
Familias de presuntas víctimas afectadas por supuestos abusos de autoridad y delitos policiales contaron sus historias, mientras que el organizador de la protesta, Frank Chapman, director educacional de Chicago Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression, presentó una carta firmada por 65 miembros de familias víctimas de presunto crimen policiaco ante la oficina del fiscal Fedra Zachary Fardon, y en la que se pedía que el fiscal general de Estados Unidos Eric Holder realice una investigación sobre los casos.
Chapman dijo que no se está perdiendo el tiempo al pedir al gobierno que haga algo. “Esta es una de nuestras responsabilidades cívicas”.

TRANSPARENCIA EN INVESTIGACIONES

Alma Iris Montes, integrante de Primera Defensa Legal, una organización que provee servicio legal gratuito a la hora de que alguien es arrestado, dijo que esa manifestación hay familias con hijos o parientes que han sobrevivido a tortura, encarcelamiento y también agresión policiaca.

“Estamos aquí demandando una investigación inmediata y una reforma donde hay una voz comunitaria donde haya transparencia cuando se están investigando crímenes de parte de la policía”, dijo Montes.

Chapman dijo: “90 personas fueron asesinadas en los últimos cuatro años, esto tiene que acabar. Nosotros queremos justicia y la queremos ahora”.
Anabel Pérez sostiene la foto de su hijo Jaime Hauad, de 34 años, quien se encuentra recluido en Pontiac Correctional Center purgando una pena de cadena perpetua por el asesinato de dos personas en un caso en el que un tercero resultó herido, todos con afiliación pandilleril. “Mí hijo hizo sus errores, pero nunca mató a nadie, él es inocente”.

“Mi hijo fue torturado por la policía cuando tenía 17 años, querían que diga que él hizo el crimen. Lleva 18 años en la cárcel por algo que no hizo”, insistió la mujer.
Una nueva evidencia serán unas zapatillas que tienen cortadas las puntas con un cortador de papel, según la madre se le amenazaba con cortarle los dedos de sus pies para tratar de que confesara.

Sin embargo, según reportes, la Policía de Chicago ha negado cualquier tipo de abuso contra Hauad.

The Illinois Torture Inquiry and Relief Commission recientemente presentó una petición ante el juez de primera instancia solicitando que, entre otras cosas, revisara el caso y que la condena se anule basándose en nuevas pruebas y por una violación a sus derechos constitucionales.
Con una pancarta en mano también estaba presente Joyce Evison-Brown, madre de Charles Brown, de 20 años. Ella hasta ahora se hace la pregunta: ¿por qué agentes de la Policía de Harvey dispararon y mataron a su hijo? Esto sucedió en abril pasado.

Joyce, residente de Harvey, dijo a La Raza: “ellos [la policía] le dispararon a mi hijo, no entiendo por qué lo hicieron, él estuvo en el lugar y la hora equivocada”.

“Quiero justicia, él fue un buen estudiante, buen hijo, una persona productiva para la sociedad”, mencionó la madre.Pero la versión de la policía es que el hecho ocurrió a raíz de que las autoridades recibieron una llamada de un posible robo a mano armada en un hotel ubicado en el 16900 S. Halsted Street, se indicó en un comunicado de la Policía de Harvey. Según reportes, policías dispararon a Charles Brown porque tenían por sus vidas, y es que el joven intentó atropellarlos con un vehículo del estacionamiento mientras los policías caminaban hacia el edificio. Brown fue llevado al Hospital South Suburban en Hazel Crest, donde fue declarado muerto, según la oficina del Medical Examiner del Condado de Cook.

belhu.sanabria@laraza.com
Jaime Hauad was 17 and in the middle of two days of questioning — and alleged torture — by Chicago police investigating a double murder when he saw his chance, his attorneys say.

There, in a hallway as he was led to his second lineup, were his white Filas, gym shoes that he alleges police took from him after they lowered the blade of an office-grade paper cutter over his shoes, while he wore them, slicing at the tips and threatening to cut his toes to try and coerce a confession.

Hauad said he quickly grabbed the shoes — the tips had by then been completely removed — and quietly asked another arrestee, whom he knew from his Northwest Side neighborhood, to switch shoes with him. Take the Filas to my mom, Hauad urged as he took his pal’s Nike Scottie Pippen-edition shoes, and tell her they are trying to get me to confess to a murder.

The shoe switch 17 years ago didn’t prevent Hauad’s conviction and life sentence, as he had hoped, but it was documented in two Chicago Police Department lineup photo arrays, providing "before and after" views that persuaded the Illinois Torture Inquiry and Relief Commission to conclude that Hauad’s torture story was credible and his case worthy of review.

“The photographic evidence of damage to Hauad’s shoes ... is compelling,” the commission wrote. "It is very unlikely that Hauad had access to a knife or any other tool that could have cut the tips of his shoes.”

The torture commission’s finding last month has become central to an effort to free Hauad, who has always maintained he didn’t shoot anyone. Last week he filed a petition with his trial judge seeking a review of the case and that the conviction be vacated based on new evidence and a violation of his constitutional rights.

Separately, the torture commission referred the case to Cook County State’s Attorney Anita Alvarez, citing the damaged shoes, concerns about the evidence and the fact that the investigation involved one of Chicago’s most notorious rogue cops: Joseph Miedzianowski, who is serving a life sentence in federal prison for racketeering and drug conspiracy, and who, according to testimony, abused suspects, fixed cases and collaborated with gangs against fellow officers.
In addition, Hauad's attorneys are armed with what they say is compelling information pointing to a different suspect. The U.S. attorney's office in Chicago last year confirmed to Hauad's lawyers that an FBI witness more than a decade ago gave law enforcement the name of a man he saw commit the murders. Even more convincing for the attorneys is that the person identified by the witness has written to Hauad over the years offering what appear to be vague regrets that Hauad got caught up in "nation" business.

"I could apologize for everything but I guess it wouldn't help, any," the man wrote in 1999. "I could imagine what you think of me and I can't change that."

**Hauad, 34, has been incarcerated** since the night of his questioning and is serving a life sentence. He never confessed to the gang-related slayings, which happened in May 1997 in the 3100 block of West George Street after three victims left Whoops, a nearby bar. Alleged gang members Jason Goral and Jose Morales were killed, and Miguel Salgado was injured.

At the time, Chicago police said the shootings were a result of an intragang conflict among the Maniac Latin Disciples, which Hauad and the victims were affiliated with.

Cook County prosecutors, at trial, did not have any physical evidence linking Hauad to the killings, his attorneys said. The charges were based on eyewitnesses' identification of him — though neither said they saw him pull the trigger — and relied on police assertions that Hauad gave them a false alibi, which led prosecutors to argue to the jury that Hauad lied about where he was to cover up his involvement.

In the 43-page petition, Hauad's attorneys spend considerable time arguing that the eyewitness identifications were flawed and include sworn statements from one who has recanted. The other eyewitness was using false identification at the time, information that, if known then, could have been used at trial to challenge her credibility.

But it was the torture commission's finding last month that provided new corroboration for Hauad's attorneys to challenge the statements he made while being interrogated — and, importantly, argue that they should not have been used against him because they were coerced, said his attorney, Alison R. Flaum, legal director of the Children & Family Justice Center at the Bluhm Legal Clinic at Northwestern University School of Law.

The commission suggested the entire case against Hauad was weak, which may be why officers turned to torture.

Chicago police have denied any abuse of Hauad.

Hauad says that when he arrived at the detective area for questioning, five days after the shooting, he was handcuffed to a wall and beaten by officers — including Miedzianowski, according to the petition. He also alleges that officers forced him to put his feet under an office paper cutter and then lowered the blade onto his shoes. The tips of the shoes were damaged, one of them nearly severed, he said. Officers then took his shoes.

While police alleged that Hauad gave them a bogus alibi during his time in custody, Hauad — who said he never saw his mother or an attorney during the 17-hour interrogation — does not concede he ever made the statement to police. And his attorneys argue that anything said was a result of the physical coercion, which the torture commission confirmed.

One of Hauad's Filas had one black lace and one white lace, reducing the chance there was a second pair of Filas, the commission concluded. And because Hauad had been in two lineups, the commission was able to
rly on the Chicago Police Department’s own photos, which show Hauad wearing his undamaged Fila's in the first and his friend wearing them in the second, but with the tips gone.

The shoes today are in a cardboard evidence box in Flaum’s office. After his mother, Anabel Perez, got the shoes from Hauad’s friend she turned them over to her son’s trial attorney, who kept them. He returned them to Perez several years ago, and she gave them to Hauad’s legal team at Northwestern.

Curiously, the shoes were never mentioned at trial, though Hauad’s attorney raised allegations of other physical abuse. Hauad — who in 2003 filed a motion in federal court detailing the shoe switch in an affidavit from his friend — told the torture commission he shared the story with his attorney: the attorney does not remember that.

It is also notable that Hauad didn’t confess — atypical in a torture case. When asked about that, Perez said she was surprised her son didn’t yield. “He was a child. A child,” she said. “He got slapped around.”

In the petition, Hauad’s attorneys said the alleged alibi statement “infected” the whole trial and violated Hauad’s constitutional rights. “This incriminating statement was made under duress, during extreme acts of physical torture and therefore is wholly unreliable,” the petition reads.

Another wrinkle is the confirmation from federal authorities of information suggesting an alternate suspect. Though Hauad found out as early as 2002 that information about another shooter had surfaced among law enforcement, he was never able to confirm specifics, said Flaum, who wrote to the U.S. attorney’s office in Chicago seeking any confirmation. The government responded in January 2013.

“When I opened that email at my desk and read that letter my jaw dropped,” she said. “I didn’t know if they would confirm that this conversation even took place.”

The letter stated that in 2001 an FBI witness, a high-ranking Maniac Latin Disciple who was cooperating with authorities, named a different member of the gang in the shootings. The witness said he was inside Whoops and watched the man — who is identified in the letter — first threaten Goral, Morales and Salgado. “I'm going to take care of business,” he allegedly said as he displayed a handgun.

Shortly after, everyone left the bar, and the witness watched from inside a car at Kedzie Avenue and George as the man shot all three, he said.

The petition includes an affidavit from a second high-ranking Maniac Latin Disciple who claimed to know who ordered the shooting and provided the name of the shooter — the same person named in the U.S. attorney’s letter.

Flaum has confirmed through state records that the man identified by the FBI witness owned a car in 1997 that matched the description of the getaway vehicle. Further, the alleged shooter wrote cryptic letters to Hauad and his mother in 1999 and 2000.

“It was a shocking letter,” Perez recalls. “He didn’t like admit to anything. He just went around it. He hints, little things here and there. ... When I received the letters I was like, ‘Wow, this is it. This is what we need.’ That’s why I kept on trying.”

The decision by the torture commission would seem to be what Perez and her son were waiting for: A credible finding typically is sent to a Cook County judge for review. But the commission decided not to send the case to
a judge because it is not linked to former Chicago police Cmdr. Jon Burge, whose years of torture led to the creation of the commission. Judges have refused to take non-Burge cases — though the commission has — saying they are outside the commission’s scope as defined by the General Assembly.

So the commission instead called for a review from Alvarez’s office — which agreed to send Hauad’s case to its Conviction Integrity Unit, a spokeswoman said last week. Since the unit was formed in 2012, about 300 cases have been reviewed, with just nine sentences vacated as a result.

Flaum, who partnered on Hauad’s case with attorneys from the DLA Piper law firm in Chicago, said she is aware of the hurdles, in Alvarez’s office and in court.

"It’s just a really rocky road and a steep road," Flaum said. "It’s littered with all kinds of legal gates that are locked. ..."

**On a recent morning**, sitting in her airy, bright Northwest Side living room, Perez seemed wearily by the long battle but prepared for the next bout.

"I know the case is gonna move forward," Perez said. "The evidence is going to speak for itself."

She has been fighting on her son’s behalf since his friend brought her the shoes. She didn’t realize then how important they could be.

"Jaime has always been very patient. He is very patient, and he thinks things (through),” his mother said. "I was really amazed that at 17 he thought about switching gym shoes with this kid."

Perez does not sugarcoat her son’s teenage years. He sold drugs, she said. And though she believes he was at times targeted for harassment by police, she also understands that by breaking the law, he made himself a target.

But he did not commit the murders, she said. After the conviction, Perez connected with a network of families — mostly mothers — who believed their sons were falsely convicted.

She has been joined in the effort by Lizandra Hauad, now her son’s wife. Jaime and Lizandra met 11 years ago in the visiting room at Menard Correctional Center, when she was visiting a cousin. Lizandra and Perez, strangers at the time, had shared a rental car and hotel room to reduce costs.

After meeting and sharing a brief goodbye with Lizandra, Jaime Hauad asked her cousin for permission to write her letters. They soon became a couple, and in December 2013 they were married at Pontiac Correctional Center — as improbable as the situation seemed.

"Now we’re ready to bring him home,” Lizandra said recently. "There is just no way they are going to turn a blind eye to the facts, to the true facts. (The judge) is going to be able to see the whole story, the full story, and how can you turn a blind eye to that?"

*asweeney@tribune.com*

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The easiest thing to do with the Jaime Hauad case would be to quietly sweep it under the rug.

After all, Hauad was convicted 15 years ago of killing two Maniac Latin Disciples outside an Avondale bar and sentenced to life without parole. A witness and a surviving victim picked out Hauad in a photo lineup as someone they saw at the murder scene. The reliability of his memory has been questioned because in 2012 he forgot he had testified at 1998 hearing on a motion to suppress.

And yet, last week the Illinois Torture Inquiry and Relief Commission came to a disturbing conclusion: There's strong evidence that police tortured Hauad while he was in custody and some evidence that he may be entirely innocent.

But there's an unfortunate catch. No matter how much the commission's members worry Hauad's case might be a miscarriage of justice, they can't do anything about it. As interpreted by judicial rulings, the commission is charged with investigating only claims of torture by former Chicago Police Cmdr. Jon Burge and detectives who worked under him. In this case, one of the cops who Hauad said beat him was Joseph Miedzianowski, who went on to be labeled the most corrupt cop in Chicago history and who is serving a life sentence. The commission has no authority to investigate claims of torture by Miedzianowski.

That can't be the last word here. Someone in authority should step up. The Legislature could vote to expand the commission's authority to all police torture cases, not just those related to Burge. Gov. Pat Quinn's office could dig into this case to see if it merits clemency. Or, as the commission suggested, Cook County State's Attorney Anita Alvarez could turn it over to her Conviction Integrity Unit to do a thorough re-investigation. We'd like to see all three of these avenues pursued.

Hauad, now 34, said police during an interrogation cut off the fronts of his gym shoes with a paper cutter and threatened to cut off his toes next if he didn't confess. Police photos show Hauad's gym shoes at first were in normal condition but later had their toe sections severed, just as Hauad said. Hauad also said he was slapped and beaten while in custody.

In 2001, a witness told the FBI he saw a different man commit the double murder for which Hauad was convicted. And the surviving victim later filed an affidavit saying he falsely placed Hauad near the shooting and in fact had not seen him at all that day.

Chicago has long struggled with the aftermath of an era when some police officers felt free to beat and torture suspects to get a confession. A special report found Burge and his “Midnight Crew” tortured suspects for more than two decades, and Chicago taxpayers have paid more than $50 million to compensate torture victims.
But we have a long way to go. Many men who say statements extracted through torture put them behind bars remain in prison, hoping for a new day in court. Those whose cases were connected to Burge may get a hearing through work by the torture inquiry commission or a separate class action lawsuit.

But about 130 of the alleged torture cases, including Hauad’s, are not connected to Burge.

The complaints in many of those cases may turn out to be baseless. Others, though, deserve a thorough airing.
Jaime Haqad wrongfully convicted since he was 17 yrs old tortured by CHQO Police
Joyce Evison-Brown
Page 1

My name is Joyce Evison-Brown, mother of Charles A. Brown IV murdered by Harvey Police on April 13, 2014.

This whole ordeal is so unreal, it's like walking through a tunnel with no light at the end of the tunnel. Every day I miss my son because he was my helper and inspiration. I was so proud of him.

I feel very unfortunate that I had to be the mother to lose her son this way.

Charles did not deserve to die at the hands of these irresponsible savage cops. He was a good kid who happened to be in the wrong place at the wrong time.

My son had so much to live for and offer life. Reflecting back to the day he entered this world, I was elated to have a bouncing baby boy. Everything with Charles was always smooth and easy,
including my labor with him.

Charles was always the quiet perfect child, giving up more of himself than he got in return.

He wanted to take care of everybody. I recall picking him up from school one day, and he had a few words with one of his white classmates, because the boy had made a remark about me, his mother. Charles was always standing up for his family. He loved his family, and his family loved him. Charles was very meticulous and insisted on giving the very best of himself.

Charles was chunky coming up until he discovered the world of sports.

Charles took his sports very seriously. He changed his diet, his play habits and it was all work and no play.

Charles auditioned for the
Jesse White Tumbling Team when he was eight years old, training vigorously until he became a member of the team. At first tumbling and flipping through the air was a challenge for Charles, but being the disciplined, meticulous, persistent person that he was, Charles was always up for a challenge. He had a keen sense of humor, being able to laugh at himself and others as well. If he had any criticism to say it was constructive and positive. Charles would only say it once and leave it alone. And I highly respected him for this.

Charles was very responsible, I could on him to deliver, because he made it a point that his word was his bond.

I grew up in a family that if you gave your word it was a bond that you kept.

During my childhood I grew
up with two parents. A mother and a father, both parents being raised in the South. They both had that Southern hospitality. Good humble people so to speak. All this upbringing and rearing spilled over into my children, because I didn't know no other way. Sometimes my children would say, Mom why aren't you on our side and I would reply, I am on the side of right. I want you to do right. I would tell them.

People were drawn to Charles and my other children for the realness and compassion they had for others.

I was taught to be a helper and not be an hinderance to others, or if you didn't have anything good to say about a person then just don't say anything.

Charles always made me a proud
Mother, I never had those embarrassing moments sometimes with children because he listened to wisdom and seemed to far ahead in years for his time.

I realize that no child is perfect, but I can truly say Charles was an angel here on earth.

Amongst his peers he was sought out and respected as a positive role model and mentor.

I saw so much of myself in Charles. I always wanted the best, and strived to be the best. I was a leader, self starter, go-getter, quiet only to speak words of wisdom and uplift.

Charles was Team Captain of the Wrestling team for all four years of his high school.

Charles want so much to become a physical education teacher/coach. It's truly a lost to society that this great legend light
Joyce Evison-Brown
Page 6

Was so brutally put out by savage, carless police whose only concern is to profile our young gifted black men such as Charles.
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Every day I miss my son, because he was my helper, and inspiration. I was so proud of him.

I feel very unfortunate that I had to be the mother to lose her son this way.

Charles did not deserve to die at the hands of these irresponsible savage cops. He was a good kid who happened to be in the wrong place at the wrong time.

My son had so much to live for and offer life. Reflecting back to the day he entered this world, I was elated to have a bouncing baby boy. Everything with Charles was always smooth and easy, including my labor with him.

He wanted to take care of everybody. I recall picking him up from school one day, and he had a few words with one of his white classmates, because the boy had made a remark about me, his mother. Charles was always standing up for his family. He loved his family, and his family loved him. Charles was very meticulous and insisted on giving the very best of himself.

Charles was chunky coming up until he discovered the world of sports. Charles took his sports very serious. He changed his diet, his play habits and it was all work and no play.

Charles auditioned for the Jesse White Tumbling when he was eight years old, training vigorously until he became a member of the team. At first tumbling and flipping through the air was a challenge for Charles, but being the disciplined, meticulous, person that he was. He was always up for a challenge. And he had a keen sense of humor being able to laugh at himself as well as others. If he had any criticism to say it was constructive and positive. He was only say it once and leave it alone. And I highly respected him for this.

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I grew up in a family that if you gave your word that it was bond that you kept.
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Charles always made me so proud mother. I never had to tell him twice, because he listened to wisdom and seem too far ahead in years for his time.

I realize that no child is perfect, but I can testify that Charles was an Angel here on earth.

Amongst his peers he was sought out and respected as a positive role model and a mentor. I saw so many of my ways in Charles. I wanted the best and strived to be the best. I was a leader, self-starter, and go getter, quiet, a no nonsense individual.

Charles was Team Captain of the Wrestling Team beginning in his freshman year throughout his senior years. He had a passion to become a physical education teacher/coach. He had aspirations to become a sports medicine doctor.

It’s truly a lost to our family and to society that this great legend was so brutally put down by savage careless cops whose only concern is to profile our young gifted black men so as Charles. He will be greatly missed.
Charles A. Brown IV, was 20 yrs old when he was murdered by Harvey Police on April 13, 2014. The family as yet has been given no real information about the murder of their loved one.

JUSTICE FOR CHARLES BROWN

Rally at Harvey City Hall
1pm, Saturday Sept 13, 2014

15320 Broadway Ave, Harvey, IL 60426
Cross Streets: Between E 154th St & E 153rd St
1 block west of Halstead

Support the Brown family as they demand justice for Charles
MAYOR KELLOGG
FIRE AND CHARGE THE KILLER COP!

StopPoliceCrimes.com
FB Chicago Alliance Against Racist & Political Repression  312.939-2750  #naarpr
1325 S Wabash, Suite 105, Chicago, IL 60605