July 24, 2026

Christine Hickman

[redacted]

Valerie S. Gaydos

District 44

1005 Beaver Grade Road

Suite 106

Moon Township, PA 15108

Dear Ms. Gaydos,

I am writing in regard to the recent ruling by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court who recently ruled on the subject of the 2nd degree murder life sentence of Derek Lee's appeal in Commonwealth of Pennsylvania v Derek Lee.

My family would like to urge the PA House of Representatives to produce a fair and just bill to address this ruling. This ruling seems to have no compassion for the victims or the families of the victims.

These people sentenced to life either pled guilty or were convicted in a court of their peers to these heinous crimes. Life in prison for most of them was a very fair sentence. The victims did not get that option of life, they got death. These offenders should not be resentenced, paroled, pardoned or their sentence commuted without going through the whole appeal process. They should not be able to receive a reduction of their sentence because of one Supreme Court ruling.

My brother Todd Getgen was murdered on July 11, 2010 at a shooting range in Cumberland County PA. Todd was a resident of Enola, a father, brother, son, husband and friend to many. He was a practicing lawyer in the area. The man who murdered my brother pled No Contest to the charges of 2nd degree murder and theft. He received life in prison for the murder, and 10 years for the theft of Todd's gun. He shot my brother numerous times in the back at this shooting range just to steal his gun.

The man filed numerous motions and appeals over the last 16 years, and they have all been denied. He was 64 years old when he committed this heinous murder. *He has been incarcerated for 16 years. My brother has been gone* for the same 16 years, but he didn't get life, he got death.

Our family does not think this man deserves or should be eligible for resentencing, parole, pardon or commutation of the heinous crime he committed.

Our family will never see Todd again. His wife will never have Todd by her side again, have a conversation, a hug, or kiss again. His son will never know how wonderful his father was, he was only 6 when his father was murdered, he is now 21. Todd will be forever 42 and never know how his son has grown into a wonderful man.

The family is pleading with the Legislature to stop this Supreme Court ruling and produce a bill to address this 2nd degree murder resentencing ruling. Every case should be investigated on a case by case basis and be made to go through the courts appeals processes. These people sentenced to life got to live, the people they murdered got death.

Please come up with a bill to fairly address this 2nd degree murder ruling fiasco.

Our family worries everyday that the man who murdered our brother could get out of prison.

Sincerely,

Christine Hickman

Christine Hickman

Email: [redacted]

Phone: [redacted]