

In 1996 my final conviction of life with no parole came after a trial that lasted 9 days. The Judicial system gave me a conflict of interest Attorney. The State Prosecutors were nothing but smoke and mirrors. Upon my arrest, the cops stripped me naked and tied me down with my arms spread, legs spread and shot me up with a medication. I begged them to let me go. The officers confined me and told me they'd only let me go if I spoke to [REDACTED]. I complied to be set free from my bondage. During the interview, [REDACTED] had to keep slapping me to keep me awake. She fed a story to me, kept telling me "no", this is what happened..... right? I don't even remember anymore. After that interview I was in solitary confinement on medications. The police continued to question me, feeding me stories, versions they wanted to hear of what happened. All of this was presented to the Judge and was denied suppression. The Judge never gave it a second look. It was all on camera. The truth..... what is the truth and what does it matter when the State of Florida wants a conviction? I was sitting in the car waiting for my co-defendant to use the bathroom while unbeknownst to me he was committing murder.

There was no preconceived notion or knowledge of what he was going to do. I had no idea. The victim was my friend. July 25, 2015 will start my 20th year of incarceration. My first 10 years were really hard. I continued to use drugs in prisioin and stayed in trouble. Around 2003-2006 I started to try working on myself. It has been a long hard road, but I am proud of the woman I've become. When I came to prision I had an 8th grade education and was completely broken. Thanks to God, I am now a Certified Help Desk Analyst by the Florida Department of Education. A certified Cosmetologist by the Florida Department of Education. I have a diploma with hands on experience in Gardening, Landscaping and a diploma with highest honors in Hotel/Restaurant Management. I have just recently completed a year long Faith/Character program and I am a Computer Technician in the program. At 42 years old, I have learned the value of life. I'm clean, sober and productive. I keep a clear record because I chose to live a better life, where even in here it is very easy to get in trouble. I have all the skills to be a productive citizen in society, yet 20 years ago, I was a "Principle" so Florida says there is no second chance. Where is the justice in that?