

Senator Carl Levin (Retired)

2290 First National Building ·
660 Woodward Avenue
Detroit, Michigan 48226

August 1, 2018

Governor Richard Snyder
State of Michigan - Office of the Governor
George W. Romney Building
111 South Capitol Avenue
P.O. Box 30013
Lansing, MI 48933

Re: Application for Clemency of Frederick Freeman (MDOC# 189355)

Dear Governor Snyder;

When I was in the U.S. Senate I worked with the University of Michigan Law School Innocence Clinic on a number of matters. I found them to be a very reliable judge of the merits of claims of innocence of persons convicted of crimes.

Although I am now retired, the Clinic (as well as a group called Proving Innocence) is seeking my support for the Clemency Application of Frederick Freeman which you are now considering. The application was filed by the Law Firm of Dickinson, Wright PLLC and the Clinic.

I have personally reviewed the documents from the various court cases. As a lawyer I believe the evidence of innocence is compelling. One of many disturbing elements of trial was testimony presented to the Jury to undermine credible alibi testimony that Freeman was in Escanaba where he was living. The testimony came from the prosecutor's own airplane pilot who was allowed to testify that it was possible that defendant could charter a plane to Port Huron, commit the murder and immediately return to Escanaba during the time in question although there was not a shred of evidence that he did so. The prosecutor claimed that defendant

had raised that possibility himself in a phone conversation with his ex-girlfriend who was engaged to the victim, in which conversation Mr. Freeman denied being the perpetrator and said he was in Escanaba at the time of the murder and would have had to charter a plane to have been able to commit the crime consistent with a tight time frame

Setting the many legal issues aside, there is a strong humanitarian argument for clemency.

Freeman has pursued his education in prison and has worked as a sign language translator for prisoners who are deaf. He writes letters for illiterate inmates, works with juvenile prisoners and I understand has received positive marks on his full time job where he has received special security clearance.

Freeman has disputed the adequacy of his medical care and apparently was awarded hundreds of thousands of dollars in damages when he sued the Department of Corrections. I hope that will not be held against him.

Mr. Freeman's health was fragile before a recent diagnosis that he has a brain tumor. He has daughters and grandchildren and friends who have supported his efforts seeking release from prison, who will continue to support him if he is released. I am enclosing a compelling letter from Michelle Woodworth, the mother of Mr. Freeman's son, on the chance her story is not already before you.

I hope you will exercise clemency. Thanks.

Sincerely,

Senator Carl Levin (retired)

July 22, 2018

Senator Carl Levin
1300 E. Lafayette, Apt. 1806
Detroit, MI 48207

Dear Senator Levin:

My name is Michelle Woodworth. I am a key alibi witness in the case of a man, Fredrick Freeman, who was wrongfully convicted of murder 31 years ago. He was my fiancé and father of my unborn child at the time (1986).

I was with Fred 8 hours away in Rock, MI at the exact time that this murder took place in Port Huron. I did not go to his trial because I was harassed and threatened by Port Huron Detective John Bowns that I would have my baby in prison and he would be taken away to be given to the state authorities. I was 18, pregnant and fearful of my son's future, so I ran home to my parents. I was not subpoenaed by law enforcement or by Fred's attorney, David Dean.

After the trial, I gave affidavits of his innocence to two different attorneys fighting for his freedom; I have taken two polygraph tests proving I was telling the truth. This case involves major corruption and politics and is an incredible travesty of justice. Over the years, Fred's case has gained much notoriety and support from national media, including television shows, news articles and radio shows. He has the backing of many current and retired state law enforcement, attorneys, private investigators, innocence advocacy groups, and the Michigan Innocence Clinic at University of Michigan.

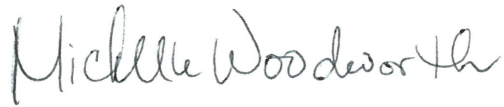
During his time served, he and hundreds of others have been tirelessly fighting for his freedom, including his wife, who passed away from cancer in recent years. I had gone on with my life, left the area and have since started a business, always maintaining his innocence.

3 1/2 years ago, I came to Christ. Growing in my faith and relationship with Jesus, I have become more and more convinced that I need to stand up and fight for this man. He is the father of my son, it is the right thing to do. There has been a gross miscarriage of justice dealt him, while a murderer walks free. I cannot claim to be a true follower of Christ and allow this to continue one more minute.

This man has LOST SO MUCH in these 31 years...A chance to raise his first and only son, a devoted wife who fought tenaciously for his freedom, and a lifetime of work, relationships, experiences, that you and I take for granted. I am reaching out to any and everyone who will listen. I am here to stand up and speak out for him. I join the many organizations, government officials, and law enforcement officials who believe in the innocence of Fredrick Freeman.

I live in Florida, but I am available by phone at any time to speak to you regarding my involvement in this case. I can make myself available for a face to face interview as well. I am hopeful that this will inspire you to investigate Fredrick's case and take action against injustice! Your assistance is very much appreciated! I look forward to hearing from you or your staff soon! God bless!

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michelle Woodworth". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the word "Respectfully,".

Michelle Woodworth
230 Grace St.
Titusville, FL 32780
321-368-1149