January 22, 2023

## FREE CARMEN RICE.SHE WAS WRONGFUL CONVICTED IN 2003...

## What makes Carmen Rice conviction wrongful?

<u>New evidence that she discover in **October 2022** that the South Carolina state prosecutors Lupton and Meador failed to disclosed to her defense attorney and the courts in **July 2003** indicates that she was factually innocent of the capital offense of murder and robbery for which she was convicted.</u>



## *In 2001 in Columbia, SC victim Bernard Brennan was murder and robbed by a <u>Iris</u> <u>Bryant and her cousin Tikka Bethel. Which neither was ever properly charged.</u>*

In July 2003 Nathaniel Hallman(aka peanut), Iris Bryant ex-boyfriend was being sentence on a charged. He negotiated with Richland county police department if they cut him a deal he would give them information on a cold murder case that happen in 2001.

He told the investigator that Iris Bryant and her cousin Tikka Bethel lead Bernard Brennan to a remote area and once there, her cousin Tikka Bethel shot him in the back and they both rob him.

## Note: Read the detail exculpatory statements that are attached. You will find Nathaniel Hallman statements(aka peanut) and Lamont Bostic statements.

What is very problematic about Carmen Rice case is that she have served already 20 years for something she never did. They wrongfully convicted her knowing that she was innocence. Having no moral conscious of taking her from her only son who was 5 years old and a loving parents who since have past.

What is problematic is that prosecutor Lupton and Meador didn't disclosed the exculpatory statements to Carmen Rice defense counsels nor the courts; nor to the Grand jury.

What is very problematic under the <u>US Constitution, Brady v. Maryland states that</u> government had a duty to disclosed material exculpatory evidence. <u>Failure to do so violated due process</u> where the evidence is material to either guilty or innocence of the accused punishment. Police officers and police agencies are, for purposes of Brady, considered to be part of the prosecution team. They must therefore make the prosecution aware of any evidence that may be favorable to the accused. <u>Unfortunately in Carmen Rice case there was misconduct by prosecutors and police</u> <u>department.</u>

What is problematic is that prosecutor Lupton and Meador use Iris Bryant as the Key witness for the state against Carmen Rice.

Why would you use a murder as a Key witness? Iris Bryant was one of many jailhouse informants. In addition, they used other jailhouse drug users informants to lie on Carmen Rice to seek a sentence.

What problematic is that when the investigator took statements from Nathaniel Hallman(aka peanut) in July 2003. They picked up Iris Bryant in August 2003 and took a sworn statement from her knowing that she was indeed lying in implicating Carmen Rice. Because no where in Nathaniel Hallman statement ever mention Carmen Rice. Prosecutor Lupton and Meador disregarded the details in the statement that Nathaniel Hallman(aka peanut) written.

**Giglio v. United States** states that the prosecution is obligated to disclose all information or material that may be used to impeach the credibility of prosecution witnesses such as inconsistent statements, contradictions, or evidence that the witness could not have observed the matters to which she/he testifies. Evidence of prior convictions is the easiest Giglio issue. Iris Bryant criminal records speaks for itself. She was a drug user and informant for the prosecutors for years in setting up drug dealers.

The prosecutors knew that Nathaniel Hallman(aka,peanut) implicated her in the murder of Bernard Brennan and they turned around and use her as their **KEY WITNESS** to lie on Carmen Rice; protecting her cousin Tikka Bethel. Who was never arrested. Neither of them was given DNA or forensic testing.

What is problematic is that Carmen Rice attorney have cancelled her PCR(Post Conviction Relief Hearing at least 4 times without any communication with her.

Carmen Rice case should be a matter of **RELEASING HER FROM DEPARTMENT OF SOUTH CAROLINA CORRECTIONS IMMEDIATELY due to her innocence.** 20 years for a crime that she didn't do. Wrongful conviction cases are horrific and cause an innocent person and their loved ones immense harm, psychologically, financially, and physically.

What is problematic is Iris Bryant and her cousin Tikka Bethel wasn't punish for murdering Bernard Brennan. They gave Iris Bryant less than 4 months in prison for the murder of Bernard Brennan and her cousin Tikka Bethel never arrested. [But they did DNA and forensic on Carmen Rice; **No Match!] Never any problem** <u>cause to arrest Carmen Rice. No eye witness, no matching forensic.</u> Carmen Rice was a victim of a malicious prosecution.

What is problematic is that Carmen Rice discover the factual exculpatory evidence in October 2022 and her attorney have not been forthcoming in exonerating her. The evidence speaks for its self. HOW MUST LONGER MUST THIS INNOCENT WOMAN WHO WAS WRONGFULLY SNATCHED AWAY FROM HER 5 YEARS OLD SON AND FAMILY HAVE TO SIT IN PRISON AFTER ALREADY DONE 20 YEARS FOR NO REASON.

<u>This is a horrible miscarriage of justice.</u> THIS IS A CALL TO ACTION TO EVERYONE WHO BELIEVE IN JUSTICE. DEMAND CARMEN RICE RELEASE IMMEDIATELY FROM SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS.

SOUTH CAROLINA ATTORNEY GENERAL OFFICE REPRESENT THE STATE IN PCR HEARING. REACH OUT TO SOUTH CAROLINA ATTORNEY GENERAL OFFICE AND DEMAND THAT THEY DO JUSTICE BY RELEASING CARMEN RICE IMMEDIATELY BACK TO HER FAMILY.

<u>NO, THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM CANNOT GIVE CARMEN RICE BACK THE</u> <u>TIME THAT WAS WRONGFULLY TAKEN FROM HER. BUT THEY CAN GIVE HER</u> <u>LIBERTY AND FREEDOM. NOW!</u>

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON FREE CARMEN RICE CONTACT@1-843-942-9551