



**CARRIE BLUMERT, MPH  
COUNTY COMMISSIONER  
OKLAHOMA COUNTY DISTRICT ONE**

To the members of the Pardon and Parole Board,

I am writing to you today to humbly request that you commute the sentence of Julius Jones. Upon reviewing the facts of Julius' case, it is apparent that there is reasonable doubt regarding his guilt. This is particularly concerning given the severity of Julius' sentence. It is no secret that black men in America are more likely to receive the death penalty than white men. Black men who are accused of killing a white man in Oklahoma are nearly three times more likely to receive a death sentence than if the victim were a non-white male. When we consider this systemic bias and the inconsistencies in Julius' case, it creates cause for grave concern.

Julius' story is a prime example of the flaws within our justice system. As a young man, Julius had a bright future ahead of him. He was a star student and athlete. But, he has spent the last 19 years waiting for a death sentence. Julius has continued to maintain his innocence for the duration of those 19 years.

At the time of Julius' trial, the eyewitness description of the shooter did not fit Julius. Instead, it described his co-defendant who served 15 years and is now a free man. Julius' attorney was an overworked public defender who failed to cross-examine Christopher Jordan, (Julius' co-defendant) on the six inconsistent statements he gave to the police upon arrest. Christopher Jordan was later overheard bragging that he set-up Julius and was incentivized to testify for shorter prison time.

The evidence used to convict Julius was inconsistent and several eye-witnesses provided an alibi for Julius.

The jury that sentenced Julius to death only included one black man and at least one juror harbored racial prejudice that influenced his vote to convict and sentence Julius to death.

The death penalty is the only sentence that we can't undo. It is with these facts in mind that I request that you commute the sentence of Julius Jones.

Yours in service,

Commissioner Carrie Blumert