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John Hinton
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Mr. Hinton,

I am innocent and will always maintain my innocence in Brent's death. I do not know who murdered Brent. The Myrtle Beach police took advantage of me being a young mother who had no knowledge or experience with criminal law because I'd never been in trouble with the law before. Myrtle Beach police focused their attention on me as a suspect that night based on no evidence. At all times I tried to cooperate in their investigation in the days after Brent's death. From day one the Myrtle Beach police fed me lies. Their goal was to manipulate and coerce me in an imaginary plot invented by them that I was involved with what had happened. I was up front, open and honest in telling them about my previous affair. After hours and hours of brutal interrogation tactics and threats of losing my daughter, Katie, all the while being fed more lies, in my isolation, shock, depression, grief and confusion, I gave them false information. I only wanted the psychological torture from them to stop.

My trial attorney, William I. Diggs, was absolutely incompetent. His interactions with me were limited. I had to trust he would do his job. That he would go through the Discovery and do his own independent investigation. His key experts were inadequate in their field of study specifically for my defense. I was left in the dark about all aspects concerning my defense. I had zero input in those matters. Since receiving my case file in 2016, I've come to realize that William Diggs was completely unprepared and negligent in handling my defense.

I can't imagine the pain and loss of Brent to his family. I was his family, too, and the pain and loss was devastating to me. But holding me responsible for something I did not do nor had anything to do with isn't justice for Brent.

I am very proud of Katie and I love her with all of my heart. I know she loves me, too. I will always support her and the choices she makes in life. She knows this because I've told her face to face. Most importantly, I know that Brent would have been proud of the extraordinary young woman she has become.

A copy of my reply has also been sent to my advocacy committee.

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