

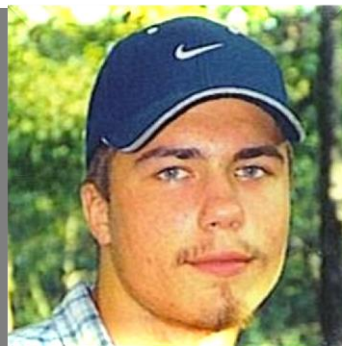
CLINTON LEE YOUNG



WRONGFULLY CONVICTED AND ON DEATH ROW

How poor police investigation, misrepresented facts, errors made by lawyers, suppression of favorable evidence, false testimonies and back room deals, resulted in a man being wrongfully convicted and sentenced to death.

Introduction



'The case that resulted in my getting sent to death row occurred in late November 2001. I was 18 years and 4 months old at the time. Of the four people involved, I alone was sent to death row.

It was only through a series of half-truths, boldly told lies and myths fabricated by the state prosecutors and politicians, who depend on a fearful populous to gain votes, this was able to happen. My own ignorance, low socio-economic status and refusal to cooperate with police didn't help matters any. I had faith in the justice system to a degree. I had no idea how far the prosecutors would really go to get a death sentence against me.

The state of Texas has a long running history for use of the death penalty. Texas is well known for being 'tough on crime'. Sadly, this outdated policy of convict at any cost, has resulted in many innocent people spending countless years in prison.

The information in this booklet is not about the death penalty though; it's about the injustice that was done in my case and how I was convicted for a crime I did not commit.

I am very grateful for any and all help. It truly is a life saver. Thank you!

Clinton Lee Young

*'I never professed to be an angel, but I didn't kill anybody...'
- Clinton Young, 2013*

Nothing in this booklet may be altered from its original form, without the written consent of Clinton Young.

Authors: Clinton Young & Marjolijn Tieleman, May 2014

Texas, late November 2001

Late November 2001, five men drove from Ore City to Longview, Texas. Two of those men were best friends. The youngest man of the group, Clinton Young – 18 at the time – barely knew the others.

Once in Longview, one man was shot. After that, two of the men parted company and the remaining two, amongst whom Clinton, drove out to Midland, where along the way another man joined. Later, south of Midland, this man was shot as well.

Arrested and charged with capital murder

Clinton Young was arrested while fleeing from police. He was later indicted by a grand jury for capital murder. Two co-defendants were held on murder charges and later pled guilty to lesser charges. The fourth involved man, who had by his own volition directed the police to one of the bodies, was never charged.

The prosecution's case

The State's case against Clinton Young relied primarily on the testimony of the three other involved men. The State maintained that Clinton was the driving force in the murders and kidnapping, and that the other's involvement was the result of duress caused by Clinton Young. Clinton's sole purpose over the course of the two murders, according to the State, was to travel to Midland to see his girlfriend.

The defense case

The defense case focused mainly on three problems with the State's case:

- conflicting testimony of the three eyewitnesses;
- inconsistent ballistic evidence;
- signs of complicity among the three eyewitnesses who claimed to be threatened or held hostage by Clinton Young.

There are no fingerprints and there is no guilt relevant DNA linking Clinton to the murders.

One of the three involved initially told police Clinton fired all three shots at the first victim and then recanted when he learned the other witness had told police the third shot was fired by one of the other men involved.

Another of the three, re-enacted one of the murders on videotape, then reversed his staging of the scene when he learned the coroner's report rendered his prior version implausible.

Also, there were numerous occasions on which one of the three, who claimed to be a hostage of Clinton, could have easily parted company. This co-defendant admitted to a detective that he had possession of the gun and keys to the vehicle while Clinton was inside a store. He also admitted to the police that Clinton was at times asleep.

Poor police investigation and lost evidence

The police failed to investigate important crime-scenes in this case. For example, the car that belonged to the first victim was never properly tested. Also the home, close to where the first shooting took place, and the area surrounding it, have not been investigated. No clerks or shoppers at the grocery store, where the second victim was allegedly kidnapped from, were interviewed by the police.

The gloves the co-defendant wore during the murders were never tested for gunshot residue. Clinton, in maintaining he didn't kill anyone, requested the police to test his DNA and test the gloves of the co-defendant for gunshot residue. The gloves were eventually tested for DNA, but only on the outside.

On top of this, the State lost or destroyed evidence that was exculpatory in nature.

Plea deals, false testimonies and a biased judge

Clinton Young's conviction for capital murder and his punishment of death were based upon suppressed evidence, that two of the involved were given secret plea deals and upon knowingly presented perjured testimony. Furthermore, the judge who presided over Clinton's trial, motion for new trial and State post-conviction proceeding, was not impartial.

Ballistic results

The ballistic research that was done on the first shooting, when matched with the autopsy report, shows that Clinton was not and could not have been the shooter. However, these ballistic reports were not admitted into evidence in Clinton's case.

Ineffective assistance of counsel

The defense investigator, who worked on Clinton's case until 2005 and was hired by Clinton's habeas counsel, was emotionally unstable, abusing drugs and obtained false declarations. By appointing incompetent counsel and not adopting proper standards to evaluate counsel's competency, the court denied Clinton his opportunity to properly challenge his conviction and sentence.

Statements by fellow inmates of co-defendants

There are statements by several people that were held in custody with the co-defendant and who came forward concerning the co-defendant talking (bragging) about being the actual killer in this case and getting away with murder, even admitting that Clinton was asleep during one of the murders.

Failed polygraph by co-defendant

The co-defendant and prosecution's star witness, who was the actual killer, was asked to take a polygraph examination by the prosecution in Clinton's case. He failed this polygraph.

The examiner that took the polygraph was allowed to testify in court in Clinton's case, but only outside of the jury's presence.

The prosecutors never offered Clinton an opportunity to take a polygraph examination.

Conclusion

It is clear that the prosecution in Clinton's case intentionally prevented Clinton from putting forth a proper defense. Also, others that were supposed to work for or represent Clinton, have repeatedly failed him. Clinton did not receive any kind of fair trial or even a fair appeal.

More information and the actual legal material, is available on the website: www.saveaninnocentlife.com. All those who are able to contribute and/or support Clinton; please visit the website.

Support Clinton

There is an international effort to raise awareness to the injustice that was done in the case of Clinton Young. We seek all those that wish to help in this effort.

What can you do?

Help raise awareness

You can help raise awareness by posting a link to the website www.saveaninnocentlife.com, the available videos or the Clinton Young Facebook page, on your personal social media page(s). We have also put together campaign packs that are available at the SAIL website. These are to help raise funds and provide those that want to actively raise awareness for Clinton's case, the tools to do so.

Donate

Donate to help raise funds for Clinton's defense. Please have a look at the SAIL website to find out how you can contribute.

Shop at the SAIL website

Check out our store at the SAIL website and buy an item to help support Clinton. The available items are sold to help raise funds for Clinton's defense.

Write Clinton

Please do not hesitate to share any ideas you have and feel free to contact Clinton at the address that is mentioned on the back page of this booklet.

Clinton Young and those that support him thank you for your time and attention given to our efforts. It truly does make a difference!



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www.saveaninnocentlife.com

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