

Letter Sent by Scott's daughter on May 19, 2006

To Whom it may Concern:

I am writing on behalf of my deceased father Scott L. Rehn and his friend James Sorenson both of these men were murdered by Richard Hinger nearly 12 years ago.

Richard Hinger was tried and convicted by a jury on two counts of first degree murder with use of a deadly weapon. The weapons involved in the Richard Hinger case were guns, in addition, my father's wounds weren't life threatening, he died a slow agonizing death. Hinger wrapped my dad's entire head in duct tape, wrapped his wrists together and his ankles together with duct tape, then beat him with a stick and the butt of a gun, until he stopped trying to get up. The decedents were my father, Scott Rehn and his friend James Sorenson.

Richard Hinger was sentenced by a judge, and received four life sentences with the possibility of parole. Each one of the four life sentences were to run consecutively for a minimum of forty years.

The above sentence assured myself and other loved ones of the deceased, that Richard Hinger would not be eligible for parole until he had served a minimum of 40 years in the Nevada State Prison. I was told a life sentence was a minimum of 10 years, hardly a life.

In January of 2004 I attended, along with many family members, the parole hearing of Richard Hinger for one of his four life sentences. His parole was denied. I was told by the parole board that Mr. Hinger would serve his sentences and was further told by members of the parole board that he was "Diabolical, evil and would never see the light of day." The parole board's findings were consistent with my beliefs and the 40 year mandatory minimum sentence which I was assured the convicted Hinger would serve.

Despite these representations and my best efforts, I learned on March 7, 2006 that Mr. Hinger's conviction had been overturned, and brought back to court in late January 2006. He pled guilty to a reduced charge of second degree murder, offered by Eric Jorgenson, he was sentenced to time served and was released, without parole or probation by the same judge Sally Loehrer, despite the fact that he had been convicted of first degree murder with the use of a deadly weapon, times tow in the first trial. I found the reduction in his sentence to be unbelievable and can't help to wonder what happened.

It is my understanding that the District Attorney's office has a policy which has been in effect since Governor Miller was the District Attorney wherein the prosecutors are to consult and get input from the victims. Does the State not recognize that I am a victim of Mr. Hinger's crimes under the law by the loss of my father? I realize that I cannot control a case as the victim but I certainly would think that my input and advising me would be appropriate.

The District Attorney's office spends hundreds of thousands of dollars employing victim advocates and has a victim witness program. The advocates for the District Attorney's Victim Witness Program are supposed to have contact with the victims of crimes and keep them informed of any changes in a given case.

I can't believe that a representative from the District Attorney Victim Witness program did not get in touch with me. I have lived in the Las Vegas Valley since 1994 and my phone number has not changed. The Department of Corrections and the Parole Board had no problem contacting me. Certainly someone from the District Attorney's office could have contacted me and advised me accordingly.

Even assuming for arguments sake that my address and/or phone number had changed, doesn't the District Attorney's office employ qualified and competent investigators who locate witnesses every day. Certainly I could have been located and advised.

In the end it seems to me that an office that is thoroughly funded with tax dollars by the citizens to do justice failed this citizen and denied me justice on my father's case. I can't help but ask myself if my dad would have been a bigger shot would he had been entitled to more justice or if I were a bigger shot in the community would things had been different. Was my father's case given the same attention and effort as the Binion case or other high media cases? DO the victims of media cases get contacted or are they failed by the District Attorney's office like I was? I tried to speak with David Roger concerning this matter, he declined to see me. This truly has been like reliving my father's murder all over again. I hope this kind of injustice can be stopped so others don't have to relive horrific tragedies.

Sincerely,

Heather Rehn-Bonwell
(address)

Cc Glen Puit
John L Smith
Jan Morrison
Chris Lalli
David Roger
Eric Jorgenson
Kenny Guinn
Fox 5 The Rant
Steve Owens
Bill O'Reilly
John Ensign
Shelly Berkley
Jim Gibbons
Oscar Goodman

George Knapp
Jim Gibson
Matt Pordum
State of NV Board of Parole Commissioners
State of NV Dept. of Corrections
Traci R. Dory
Bill Young
Patrick Ferguson
Frank Cremen
Families of Murder Victims
Harry Reid
Jon Porter
Denise Rosch