



PAUL HOUSE

**AN INNOCENT MAN ON TENNESSEE'S DEATH ROW...WRONGFULLY CONVICTED
FOR THE 1985 MURDER OF CAROLYN MUNCEY IN UNION COUNTY.**

Paul Gregory House got the death penalty for the 1985 rape and murder of Carolyn Muncey of Union County. However, the 6th Circuit in late 2002 issued these startling findings:

- *Undisputed DNA evidence showing that House did not rape the victim seriously affected the first and second aggravating factors needed to give House the death penalty in Tennessee.*
- *Two new witnesses say that Hubert Muncey confessed to killing his wife. A third witness said Muncey threatened to do so. Those statements were not presented at trial.*
- *Defense evidence showed that blood splattered on House's pants did not happen at the time of the assault but came from vials filled during the autopsy.*
- *That means the jeans may have been tampered with by officers, AP reported.*

Karin Miller of the Associated Press reported, "The Tennessee Supreme Court has refused to determine whether state law requires a new trial for a death row inmate whose appeals presented DNA and other evidence that appears to prove his innocence in the murder of a woman"

In late 2002 the 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Cincinnati asked Tennessee justices to answer three questions, including whether House should get a new trial or other relief after presenting "newly discovered evidence of actual innocence."

Those findings stagger the mind. The refusal of Tennessee's highest court to answer the 6th Circuit's questions about House is a shameful moment in state history.

Then, on October 7th, 2004 the 15-judge 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals panel voted 8-7 strictly along partisan lines that House should neither be freed nor granted a new trial, upholding a shaky federal ruling five years earlier. Eight Republican appointees voted to keep House on death row, six Democratic appointees voted to free him and a seventh called for a new trial.

House's attorney claims the state is hoping his client dies of multiple sclerosis before any official exoneration can occur. That makes Tennessee's action on our behalf even more heinous. The state attorney general's office is now deciding how to proceed. Start in lobbying for justice.

**Call Attorney General Paul Summers at (615) 741-3491.
Gov. Bredesen's office would be another. Contact the governor's office at
phil.bredesen@state.tn.us or (615) 741-2001.**

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