

Greater Houston Coalition for Justice

Committed to the Protection of the Oppressed and Marginalized

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FREEDOM FOR DARIUS ELAM RESOLUTION RESOLUTION REGARDING MR. DARIUS ELAM, IMPRISONED SINCE 1984 DESPITE STRONG EVIDENCE OF INNOCENCE

WHEREAS, Mr. Darius Elam, a former Texas Southern University student, was convicted of aggravated robbery and sentenced to life in 1984;

WHEREAS, Mr. Darius Elam, a former Texas Southern University student, has been imprisoned for 38 years, for the crime of aggravated robbery;

WHEREAS, Evidence suggests that Darius Elam is innocent of the crime for which he was convicted, as well as the charge of murder which was later dropped by the district attorney;

WHEREAS, The conviction was based on a reported yellow sheet of paper with alleged blood spatters and paid testimony from jailhouse informant.

WHEREAS, There was a deeply flawed investigation and a gross lack of evidence linking Mr. Elam to the crime;

WHEREAS, A questionable yellow sheet of paper with blood splatter was left off the original evidence log and supposedly appeared 90 days later.

WHEREAS, The Harris County District Attorney's Office destroyed the original yellow sheet of paper with blood splatter in 1995, but maintained all the other items documented at the crime scene.

WHEREAS, DNA evidence excluded Mr. Elam from the crime in 2014;

WHEREAS, Tammie Lang Campbell of the Honey Brown Hope Foundation requested Houston Police Department (HPD) to conduct a post-conviction investigation that led to an HPD jailhouse informant recanting his original testimony to both HPD and Mrs. Campbell in 2021.

WHEREAS, Mr. Elam's case has lingered in the courts for years and now the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals has ordered the lower court, 232nd Judicial District Court of Harris County, to hold a hearing on the supplemental writ regarding the HPD informant recanting his original testimony.

THEREFORE, The GHCFJ believes that the evidence strongly indicates that Mr. Elam is innocent and he should be immediately released from prison. The GHCFJ asks the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals to expeditiously rule on Mr. Elam's case.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT: GHCFJ request that national organizations associated with GHCFJ, adopt this or similar resolution.

Approved: May , 2022
Johnny N. Mata
Presiding Officer
Greater Houston Coalition for Justice