

**STATEMENT TO METRO COUNCIL MEETING, Nov. 5, 2015**  
by Thomas Reed, Citizen – **"Abuse of Gov't Resources & Tax Dollars"**

- Page 1 of 2 -

I am Thomas Reed. Attached please see November 5, 2015 letter to Attorney General Jack Conway, asking him to investigate abuse of the court system and more tax dollars to keep my grandson dependent on the state for the rest of his life. This is a typical story of the school-to-prison-pipeline.

My grandson, Keijuan Scott, was diagnosed with severe **ADHD** and **Emotional-Behavioral Disability** by JCPS in elementary school. Even today at 17, his attention span is only about 10 minutes.

Keijuan was not given programs from the JCPS Integrated Assessment for his condition. He was placed in "normal environments" with other children and expected to behave normally. But as can only happen, he was routinely disruptive, and instead of providing Keijuan these programs, the disruptions were always criminalized by the Dept of Juvenile Justice.

Now my grandson has a thick criminal record. So finally, in his last incident, I and he insisted to Juvenile Justice that he not return to the hostile home environment where trouble was constant. And, in fact, a **JCPS child specialist** agreed to become Keijuan's guardian until his 18th birthday. But "at the last minute" his mother insisted Keijuan remain at home, and Juvenile Justice **did not** intervene. And as we all knew would happen, Keijuan in an unstructured environment, got into trouble again.

And now Juvenile Justice wants to prosecute him for prison. Do you see the wanton neglect, here, by the state? . . . the pipeline to prison. As stated to Jack Conway, Keijuan will be dependent upon the state for the rest of his life. Yet with proper treatment, he could be a productive member of society, paying taxes and social security. You don't believe me? See attached Page 1 of Keijuan's letter to Governor Beshear. See his proper use of grammar and diction, quote, "Felony disenfranchisement can be traced back to ancient

Greek and Roman times.” Unquote.

So, I’m asking everyone. Don’t let this boy’s life be destroyed, and the tax dollars wasted. Demand **Judge Gina Calvert, County Attorney Mike O’Connell**, and the **Dept of Juvenile Justice** release Kiejuan and return him to his first structured program. – Let us choose life for our children, not death.

– *Thank you!*



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See: [www.prose-litigants.org](http://www.prose-litigants.org)

See: [www.the-louisville-underground.org](http://www.the-louisville-underground.org)

**Attachments:** - Nov. 5, 2015 *Letter to Jack Conway*,  
- Keijuan’s Letter to Gov. Steve Beshear

FROM: Thomas Reed - 2325 Magazine St. - Louisville, KY 40211 - 502 / 778-5495

TO: Jack Conway, Attorney General  
700 Capitol Center Dr., Suite 18, Frankfort, KY 40601

November 5, 2015  
- Page 1 of 1 -

RE: **Juvenile Case 09-J-701694 Keijuan Scott**, Petition 16

- **Court Officers Collaborating to Detain My Grandson;**  
Investigate Abuse of Gov't Resources & Tax Dollars

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Dear Attorney Gen. Conway,

Here is yet another example of abuse of gov't resources. I hereby request of you to investigate this matter to stop the improper use of tax dollars, of apparent retaliation by the parties. My grandson is unlawfully detained and should be released.

Enclosed, see my Nov. 2, 2015 *Notice of Amicus Curiae* filed in Jefferson County District Court, Case 09-J-701694-016, Judge Gina K. Calvert (Div. 9). I am one of the Affiants of the herein Affidavits. Dept of Juvenile Justice (**DJJ**) returned my grandson, Keijuan Scott, to his mother's hostile environment in Louisville's West End, while knowing his mental disability would lead to another incident. Keijuan is diagnosed with acute ADHD and *Emotional-Behavioral Disability* with a "10-minute attention span." He does not make good decisions without adequate support.

The amicus curiae show that throughout his youth, DJJ ignored Keijuan's diagnosis by always placing him in "normal" environments and then "criminalized" his behavior when disruptive incidents occurred. The record will show that DJJ has never sought treatment for Keijuan's disabilities, pursuant to JCPS screening.

In Aug. 2015, out of frustration, both I and Keijuan insisted that he not be returned to his mother's hostile environment, where the "lack of support" had always left Keijuan alone with his disability to "fend for himself." So, DJJ agreed Keijuan may live under interim guardianship with Dr. Trish Gallagher, a *Child Program Specialist*. - But when this "transaction" was about to ensue, DJJ allowed Keijuan's mother to terminate the agreement and required Keijuan to return to his mother. - And as warned, Keijuan was left to himself, and he got into trouble again.

Now, DJJ wants to prosecute Keijuan for the incident on Aug. 24, 2015, but where he was forced into the hostile environment by DJJ who knew Keijuan could not make good decisions on his own. - This is undue / unchecked costs of the court. And Keijuan's unchecked condition will leave him dependent on the state for the rest of his life, also at high costs to taxpayers.

Whereby, Mr. Conway, I ask that you intervene and investigate this matter. Impress upon Judge Calvert, DJJ, and the county attorney they cannot abuse tax dollars in this manner. For, release Keijuan Scott. - He needs and deserves treatment for his disability of which DJJ never provided him.

Thank you for your assistance!

Thomas Reed

Thomas Reed

11/05/2015  
Date

Attached: Amicus Curiae (15 sheets)

COPY

Dear, Governor Beshear

Good evening, I am here today to talk about a changing world that needs to change its laws on felons, in particular voting, getting jobs, and expungement of all felony records. In 2015 nearly 6 million people cannot vote in America due to being a felon or ex-felon. Millions of ex-cons still can't get jobs. An estimated 250,000 youth are tried, sentenced, or incarcerated as adults every year across the United States. That being said, most felons or ex-felons did their crime when they were not of age.

Felony disenfranchisement can be traced back to ancient Greek and Roman times. And this blasphemous tradition that was once called, "Civil Death" has been carried on into the 21<sup>st</sup> century. These laws were born out of the concept of a punitive criminal justice system, those convicted of a crime had violated social norms, and, therefore, had proven themselves unfit to participate in the political process (<http://www.civilrights.org/publications/reports/iccpr-shadow-report/b-history-and-rationale-of.html>). Kentucky Constitution is first among United States to establish criminal disenfranchisement on April 19, 1792. That is 223 years that this has been going on in the state of Kentucky. I, **Keijuan Scott**, a **youthful offender** and soon to be **Felon** myself have to worry about this kind of thing when I am an adult because of a very bad decision I made when I was not of age. That being said, recent research on the adolescent brain indicates the juvenile brain is still maturing in the teen years and reasoning and judgment are developing well into the early to mid-20s. It is often cited as state lawmakers consider scaling back punitive juvenile justice laws passed during the 1990s. Now I'm not putting all the blame on the brain but it seems that adolescents struggle a lot with decision making because the front part of the brain is not all the way developed. I learned this while being held in **DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE JUSTICE** custody in what they call a **YOUTH DEVELOPMENT CENTER**, where I spent 5 months trying to prepare myself with skills that would help me on the outside world. Now I'm not trying to make this speech all about me but I just had to get that out there. Approximately 250,000 youth are tried as adults and are sentenced as adults, then becoming felons every year across the United States. "We don't let children vote, for instance, or noncitizens, or the mentally incompetent. Why? Because we don't trust them and their judgment...So the question is, do criminals belong in that category? And I think the answer is clearly yes. People who commit serious crimes have shown that they are not trustworthy." Roger Clegg, JD. President and General Counsel of the Center for Equal Opportunity stated at the Debate held by the Legal Affairs Debate Club on Nov. 1, 2004. (<http://felonvoting.procon.org/view.resource.php?resourceID=000283>) How could he use the term I quote, "We don't let children vote," when most people who are felons or ex-felons did their crime violent or not when they were just children. **7.35%** or **243,842** people to be exact have been disenfranchised in the state of Kentucky due to being a felon. **1 of 13** African Americans cannot vote due to felony records and **75%** have already done their time and returned to their community. On Election Day, nearly **1.4** million voting-age black men, more than **1 in 8**, will be ineligible to cast ballots because of the state laws that strip felons of the right to vote in America. Disenfranchised Black males account for **35%** of all Americans now barred from voting because of felony convictions. **2%** of all Americans, or **3.9** million, have lost the right to vote compared with **13%** of adult black men. That shows that a lot of African American men have no say in the government like who goes into office. Isn't this the same thing Martin Luther King and other civil rights activist longed for decades ago? I believe it would be a great difference in this changing world if African American males had a say so in the government. But whether someone is black, white, blue or yellow, once you serve your sentence to society, they should have their voting rights restored.

For felons the job market is pretty thin. I watched one of my big brothers struggle with finding a