

The Honorable Judge Holmes
Re: Sentencing of Elliott Binney

CF-2024-0557
VICTIM IMPACT STATEMENT

Your Honor,

My name is Brittany Binney, I am the wife of Elliott & the mother of our daughter Shelby who tragically lost her life in the automobile accident.

There are no words that can describe the pain of losing a child. Our daughter was loved beyond measure and brought so much joy, laughter, and light into our lives each day. Her absence is felt in every family gathering, every holiday, every birthday, and every ordinary day that now feels incomplete without her.

As her mother, I live with this grief every moment of every day. But I also witness the grief my husband carries. He did not simply lose a daughter that day, he lost a part of himself. He must live every day knowing that he was behind the wheel when the accident occurred. The emotional burden that he carries is one that no sentence could exceed. I see the pain, guilt, heartbreak, and sorrow he experiences daily. He loved our daughter deeply and would have given his own life to save hers.

What happened was a terrible tragedy but was not intentional. The cause of the accident was due to bad weather conditions and not ideal driving. My husband is not a violent or reckless person by any means. He was not intoxicated or under the influence of alcohol or any substance. He was not drinking and driving. We thought Shelby had her seatbelt on just as the rest of us in the car did. He is a loving and devoted father and the loss of our daughter has devastated him and that punishment will remain with him for the rest of his life.

I am also deeply concerned for our other children. They have already suffered the unimaginable loss of their sister. They continue to grieve and struggle with the changes this tragedy has brought to our family. If their father is removed from their lives through a lengthy incarceration they will experience another profound loss. I do not think it is necessary AT ALL to lock him away in prison! They need his love, guidance, support, and presence now more than ever.

I respectfully ask the court to consider the unique circumstances of this case and the lasting consequences that already exist. The children and I do not want Elliott to go to prison! Our family has been permanently changed by this accident. No sentence can restore our daughter to us and no one feels that loss more than her father.

I simply ask that you consider the tremendous emotional punishment my husband already carries and the impact of further separation from our surviving children and our family as a whole.

Thank you for your time, consideration, and compassion.

Respectfully,
Brittany Binney (Mother of Shelby Binney)