

Dear Chairman Wilborn and Members of the Kansas Senate Judiciary Committee:

As the President of the Emmett Till Justice Campaign and Resident of this great state of Kansas I call on the Kansas Legislature and the Governor to establish the Kansas Closed Case Task Force, with all deliberate speed, to ensure that DNA "hits" are fully reported' to all the appropriate parties in close cases as well as open cases!

As Kansas City Kansas Chief of Police Terry Zeigler stated. "We believe the composition of the Task Force as outlined in the bill is a good mixture of stakeholders from various disciplines and will produce reliable practices/procedures for how the CODIS information will be handled".

We believe, as does prominent Defense Attorney Cheryl Pilate, that" failing to address the issue of closed cases in the context of DNA "hits" works an injustice against men and women who were convicted for crimes they did not commit and also leaves actual perpetrators, in some instances, free to continue committing crimes"

Furthermore we believe, as does Wyandotte County District Attorney Mark Dupree, that enactment of SB 102' is the " next practical step in making Kansas the frontrunner in ensuring our convictions hold integrity's.

Finally, and the most important proof that underscores the urgency of now is the data and statistics provided by the Innocence Project: DNA testing, since 1989,364 exonerations have occurred in 37 states that also produced identification of approximately 150 actual perpetrators of these crimes who also committed approximately 140 new crimes while the falsely convicted languished in prison!

Therefore the Emmett Till Justice Campaign, as long distance runners for truth and justice, join forces with the Innocence Project and all other justice seeking supporters in seeking immediate enactment of SB 102 in Kansas and similar legislation as this justice seeking initiative rolls throughout the nation!

Sincerely,  
in the pursuit of justice,  
I am,

Alvin Sykes  
President  
Emmett Till Justice Campaign  
1131 Central Avenue #701  
Kansas City, Kansas 66102  
(c) 913-954-2360  
[sykesalvin5@gmail.com](mailto:sykesalvin5@gmail.com)