

1-28-12 [3/17/12]

To: Governor Lynch,

I am a twelve year old student from Epsom, New Hampshire. My name is Braden Reed. I am asking for help. Not help for me. Help for a man who was wrongly convicted eleven years ago. Now, through that time and still now, he has been called names and has been bullied. How do I know all of this? About a year ago, my mom and I were watching the news - on a lazy Saturday morning. Then a story came on about this man who was convicted ten years ago. My mom was concerned. The story lured her to the website named www.chadevanswronglyconvicted.org. After on and off days on that website my mom grew more and more interested every day. I, however, as a kid went outside and played football while my mom was busy. As weeks went on of my mom's studying, I could hear her repeating words from the website. Weeks went by. Then my mom was invited to [join the] Chad Evans Wrongly Convicted Committee. She was invited for all of her outstanding work she was doing. Soon, my mom was sending letters to Chad. Chad and my mom would speak through letters weekly.

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She would be asking him questions about all of this, because she believed his stories. Then it grew even more. My mom got privileges from the prison to be able to talk on a cell phone with him. This was much easier on them. Questions were answered rather quickly. My mom noticed one thing about Chad. Every interview or every question he was asked, he stuck to his story. He is innocent! My mom was trying to get help for Chad. I wanted to help, too. I mean, it's not like I'm seven. I'm twelve and I'm old enough to know what's going on here. I grew questioning on this case, too. It was insane. During school I still paid attention, but outside of school or on weekends I am glued to my computer and the facts. I quickly knew that Chad did not do anything wrong. He loved his girlfriend and her daughter, Kassidy. You probably already know this, but Chad's girlfriend was Amanda Bortner. And her daughter Kassidy Bortner. Chad was sentenced to 43 to Life sentence. He was blamed for the murder of Kassidy. However, my mom doesn't have all the facts for this. The state doesn't know who does. Who knows? It may not have been a murder. It could have been

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something different. The facts show that the people who were looking at Kassidy's death did not choose the possible ways she could have died. I mean, come on! Police and investigators spent more time searching Chad Evans' car than the babysitter's house. A car over house, really? The babysitter is Amanda's sister's boyfriend (Jeff). Kassidy died on Jeff's porch. Most[Many?] of Kassidy's bruises happened in the presence of Jeff. Actually, almost all[many of?] the bruises happened while Jeff was watching her. Bad bruise[s] occur after Jeff's babysitting sessions. Such as when Kassidy fell out of Jeff's truck. Something bad could have occurred in her brain. But no. Jeff didn't bring her to the hospital. So many more incidents have happened in Jeff's presence. Too many. I can't list them all. I'm not saying Jeff did kill her by accident or on purpose, but I do know Chad didn't harm her in any way. Chad had a three year old boy when he went to prison. Do you know how old his son is now? Thirteen! Ten years! Chad can't teach his son anything! This is not O.K.! You are the governor and you have a responsibility.

I am

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begging on my knees and so aren't a thousand people probably more. To ask you to go to the website, get people from the state to reopen this case. Just give him one chance. One chance to be set free. Please.

Governor Lynch, please....

From,

Braden Reed

Just because I'm a kid doesn't mean I can't see that there's something wrong with our justice system and Chad Evans needs to set FREE!

Braden Reed.

[rekeyed by Morrison Bonpasse, 4/5/12. with some assistance with punctuation and spelling and brackets]