

May 4, 2020

The Honorable J. Kevin Stitt  
Office of the Governor, State of Oklahoma  
Oklahoma State Capitol  
2300 Lincoln Blvd.  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105

The Honorable C. Allen McCall, J.D.  
Mr. Larry Morris  
Ms. Kelly Doyle  
Mr. Adam Luck  
Mr. Robert Gilliland, J.D.  
Oklahoma Pardon and Parole Board  
2519 North Classen, Suite 405  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73106

Dear Governor Stitt and Oklahoma Pardon and Parole Board Members,

Growing up in Oklahoma I learned to love God, value the truth and care about people. I have taken these values with me during my amazing journey, which began in Norman and has taken me all the way to Atlanta and the National Basketball Association.. These values drive me to write this letter and ask you to correct a grave injustice by commuting the death sentence of Julius Jones.

I and so many other people have been called to raise concerns regarding Julius Jones' case because of the many obvious ways in which the legal system failed him. Julius' co-defendant, who testified against him, changed his story no fewer than six times when interviewed by the police. However, Julius's attorneys, who lacked death penalty experience and were woefully unprepared, failed to cross-examine the co-defendant regarding his inconsistencies. They did not mention that Julius' co-defendant had bragged to fellow inmates that he had committed the homicide, not Julius. Nor did they inform jurors that Julius did not meet the description of the shooter provided by the sole eye witness.. Julius' attorneys also failed to present evidence that Julius was home with his family the night of the murder. Finally, the prosecution used a scientifically discredited bullet analysis, presented by an analyst who pled guilty for giving false testimony only months after Julius's trial.

Right now, Julius Jones' life is in your hands. When I am not sure what to do, I seek guidance from God. I pray that you will find in your hearts the love and mercy for Julius that I have found, and recommend and grant his commutation.

Sincerely,

Trae Young  
Atlanta Hawks

