

AARON PHILLIPS

In 1986 an older friend talked Aaron, then 17, into helping him rob the home of an elderly man in Pottstown, Pa. Neither were armed. The man, 86-year old Anthony "Eddie" McEvoy, surprised Aaron and his accomplice during the robbery and was pushed to the ground as the two fled. Mr. McEvoy died 18 days later of medical complications following surgery for a hip injury he suffered during the fall. Aaron's co-defendant, Dennis Gibbs, took a plea deal to testify against Aaron, who was convicted of second-degree murder and a mandatory life sentence.

Currently, Aaron has been released after resentencing following the Supreme Court's Ruling of Life without Parole Sentences for Juveniles as, "Cruel and Unusual."

GEORGE TRUDEL

George Trudel is a G.E.D. recipient and college graduate, who in 2012 earned his Bachelor of Arts degree from Villanova University, Magna Cum Laude, while in prison serving time for a second-degree murder.

Currently, he is an inmate at the State Correctional Institute - Graterford, serving his 30th year of a life without parole sentence for his involvement in a murder that he did not actually commit.

TAKE ACTION.



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Send a letter to your senator and tell them to vote YES to PASS Senate Bill 942.

A letter template is available for use on our website:

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Change lives by changing how we handle **parole**.



PASS SB942

The facts about PA Senate Bill 942.

Introduced by PA Senator Sharif Street

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THE TRUTH ABOUT SENATE BILL 942

All life sentences in Pennsylvania are imposed without the possibility of parole. This means that individuals sentenced to life imprisonment may not be considered for parole, no matter how much they have reformed themselves and no matter how unlikely they are to re-offend.

Those sentenced to life without parole in Pennsylvania also have no chance at release when they grow so ill or elderly they pose little to no risk to the public.

Not only does this represent an injustice to an individual who is a model inmate despite having no chance at life outside of prison, but it also creates an avoidable expense for the corrections system – and the taxpayers who fund it – by incarcerating individuals longer than necessary.

SENATE BILL 942 CAN CHANGE THIS HARSH REALITY.

THAT'S A **FACT.**



Bill Sponsor

SENATOR SHARIF STREET

As senator, Sharif is committed to improving access to healthcare, reforming our criminal justice system, creating quality jobs, funding our public schools, investing in science and technology and fighting for the rights of all Pennsylvanians.

An attorney by profession, Sharif began his public career as a community activist organizing a Town Watch group while in law school. He graduated cum laude from Morehouse College with a B.A. in Business Administration with a concentration in Finance. While at the University of Pennsylvania Law School, he served as president of the Penn Law Democrats. Senator Sharif Street is on the PA Sentencing Commission and Advisory Council to the Board of Pardons.

SERVING LIFE IN PA

WHO SERVES LIFE?

Not all life without parole sentences are for murder or sex crimes. There are those serving life without parole for more than three instances of violence. There are also people serving life for repeated drug offenses, in some instances inconsistent with the national affirmation of the disease of addiction in the wake of the opioid crisis.

Lifers in PA also include battered women guilty of killing their attackers at a time (in the 70s and 80s) when courts did not recognize “Battered Women’s Syndrome” as a viable defense. This changed in the nineties, however any abused women convicted in the 70’s and 80’s of killing their attackers are still destined to die behind bars.

THE TRUTH YOU NEED TO KNOW

Approximately **635 lifers are responsible for no one’s death**. Senate Bill 942 **does not create a right to parole**. Public safety is key, and anyone deemed too great a risk to the public, as is customary, will be denied by the Board. In fact, thousands of prisoners in Pennsylvania, including those convicted of 3rd Degree murder (which does not carry a life sentence), approach the parole board to explore release and are routinely denied.

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