

Brownstein | Hyatt
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November 4, 2010

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RE: Funds Needed to Support Death Penalty Appeals for Darlie Lynn Routier

To the Friends and Supporters of Darlie Lynn Routier:

Darlie and her mother, Darlie Kee, have asked me to make a request to you for much-needed funds in support of Darlie's state and federal death penalty appeals.

Darlie Lynn is on Texas death row for a crime she did not commit. On the morning of June 6, 1996, an intruder broke into Darlie's house, where she slept on the living room couch. Darlie's two oldest boys—Devon, 6, and Damon, 5—slept near her on the living room floor. Darlie's husband, Darin, and their baby Drake slept upstairs in the master bedroom. The intruder attacked Darlie, Devon, and Damon, brutally stabbing the two boys and slicing Darlie's throat in a near-fatal attack. Both Devon and Damon died as a result of their injuries. Darlie survived, but the State of Texas charged her with her sons' deaths. A jury convicted Darlie of Damon's murder after the prosecution urged jurors to conclude from circumstantial evidence that she murdered her own sons, inflicted her own wounds, and constructed an elaborately-staged crime scene to make it appear as if a third party had broken in.

Darlie is represented by a team of attorneys who are appealing her wrongful conviction. Darlie's legal defense team donates their time for free and have collectively donated over 1500 hours to her defense. But while her attorneys' time is free, the appeal of a death penalty case is still extremely costly. To date, Darlie's defense has cost over \$150,000 in non-attorney time, and these costs continue to accrue. Among other things, the defense team consistently needs funds to pay for private investigators, forensic evidence experts, DNA experts, and the costs of DNA testing.

If you would like to contribute to Darlie's defense costs, please send a check to my attention made out to "Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck – Trust Account" with "Darlie Routier" in the tag line. We sincerely appreciate your generosity and your support for Darlie's cause.

Please do not hesitate to call me at 303.223.1207 with any questions about Darlie's case and the status of her appeals.

Very truly yours,



Lauren E. Schmidt