

Brett Malone

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Hon. Jeff Landry, Governor
State of Louisiana
P.O. Box 94004
Baton Rouge LA 70804

Dear Gov. Landry:

I was encouraged by your remarks on the Death Penalty as published in *The Shreveport Times* on February 2nd. To see you quoted saying “families deserve their day of justice,” referring to those who have lost loved ones to violence, was heartening.

Perhaps not for the reasons you might assume.

My mother, Mary Ann Shaver Malone, was killed in December of 2000 in our hometown of Plain Dealing. Her killer, Jeremiah Manning, also of Plain Dealing, has been on Death Row at Angola since his conviction for the crime at the age of 22.

After much discussion, my surviving aunts and siblings and I have reached agreement on our all being on the same page – common ground – as it pertains to clemency for Jeremiah. While we each may have differing opinions about the death penalty (in general), we are all OK with his sentence being commuted to “life in prison without the possibility of parole.” We would prefer to err on the side of mercy rather than death in this situation. It has taken us many years to get to this point – and we hope that you would honor our wishes. He was among the 56 Death Row inmates who petitioned the Board of Pardons for clemency in the last days of the Edwards Administration. We communicated our wishes to Governor Edwards and the board, to no avail.

Now that you have publicly supported honoring the wishes of family members of victims, **I request that you join us in urging that Jeremiah be removed from Death Row and his sentence be commuted to life without the possibility of parole.** We wish for our family’s legacy to be one of mercy rather than vengeance. I will be happy to meet with you in person to address any questions you may have. We anxiously await your reply.

Sincerely,


BRETT MALONE

C: My Family Members
Hon. Schuyler Marvin
Louisiana Conference of Catholic Bishops
Louisiana News Media