Wrongful Convictions: Life after Death

Glen Edward Chapman &

Dr. Pam Laughon



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"I just remember him as a good friend," Wesley, 16, said Monday in a low voice, hoarse with emotion. "He and I were in the same Travis closed the cylinder and said something about Russian rou-

Please see Shooting/next page

Authorities confirm body is missing Hickory teen

By SHIRLEY HUNTER MOORE Catawook Valley Bureau

HICKORY — A body found three weeks ago near a Catawba County dam has been identified as that of a 13-year old Hickory girl.

Authorities confirmed the identity Friday of Isis Denise Dawkins of 841 3rd St. Court S.W., who was reported missing July 5. The cause of her death remains a mystery, however.

"We're still treating it as a suspicious death," said R.L. Ennis, an agent with the State Bureau of Investigation.

Authorities say Isis' mother, Barbara Dawkins Dula, had last seen Isis July 3.

A worker on a lunch break from installing a sprinkler system found the body July 28 near the Brookford Dam on N.C. 127 just south of Hickory.

She was buried to her chest in logs and sticks and other debris built up from the Henry Fork River.

She was wearing a bra, a sneaker and pair of athletic socks. There were no other clothes and no identification.

Because of the decomposition, investigators could not immediately identify the body. The N.C. medical examiner's office in Chapel Hill made the identification

from X rays, Ennis said.

On Monday, friends and community leaders say they were stunned by news of Isis' death.

Randy Cowans, a second cousin of Isis' and coach of her recreation league softball, flag football and basketball teams, remembered her as a tomboy who always wore her 'hair in a ponytail and a baseball cap.

Everyone knew her by her nickname, "Didi," Cowans said, and her favorite hangout was Hickory's Brown-Penn Recreation Center.

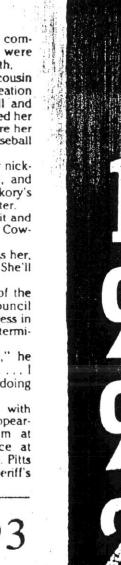
There, she could shoot, hit and pass better than most boys, Cowans said

"The team is going to miss her, and we love her," he said. "She'll always be in our hearts."

Tim Shuford, a member of the Ridgeview Recreation Council who had followed Isis' progress in sports, remembered her determination and spirit.

"She liked to go all out," he said: "She would give 100%.... I can never imagine anyone doing anything like that to her."

Ennis is asking anyone with information about Isis' disappearance or death to call him at 294-2226; Brookford police at 322-4903; or Investigator J.D. Pitts with the Catawba County Sheriff's Department at 464-5241.



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'Mom Hudson' dies at 93

Body Found In SE Hicko

The Hickory police have found another dead body.

Officers responded to an address Avenue, S.E., First approximately 4:40 p.m. Saturday after receiving a report of a body that was found inside a rental house.

Lt. Ronnie Lamberth said that the body was found in the basement of the house.

He also said that the body is that of a black female, apparently in her 20s or 30s.

Reports at the scene said that the woman had been dead no longer than eight to ten hours.

Lamberth said that foul play is suspected but added that no further information would be released until Monday.

The body was transported to Frye Regional Medical Center.

Third St., SW. Upon arrival, he observed five-persons leaving the residence.

Day's report said that he asked a black male at the seene if he had anything in his pockets.

· The man handed Day a yellow plastic bottle containing a white powdered residue, which is believed to be cocaine, the report said.

According to the report, the man also said that he had a razor blade in his pocket. The officer found one in each pocket

The subject was charged with possession of controlled substances.

VANDALISM REPORTED

Bobby Ford Isuzu on First Avenue. SE, is having another streak of bad luck.

An employee of the car dealership reported to the Hickory Police De-

The police report 's. person gained entry, but taken.

Damage to the vehic mated at \$90. This is t hicle which had tires st on Thursday.

WOMAN CHAR

On Friday, Officer B of the Hickory Police charged a woman with | drug paraphernalia.

He said that he was Roof Inn on Lenoir-Rhyr investigating a) case pretense.

His report said Weinrich was talking wi tered occupant of the roc if he could search it as consent.

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Body Is Found In Local House

A passing citizen found a body in the crawl space of a house Saturday afternoon.

According to Hickory Police Department reports, the body was found in a house at 407 Highland Avenue, SE, at approximately 1 p.m.

- Hickory Police Detective Dennis Rhoney said that the body was found when a passing citizen noticed something in the crawl space of the residence.
- He said they notified the police and upon arrival the body was found covered up with a blanket.
- Reports stated that the condition of the body was very poor.

Rhoney said that no one has any information leading to the identification of the body nor indicating how long it had been there.

The body was taken to Chapel Hill

a spokesman said.

The bureau t is investiga Wednesday's shooting of Cu Milford King, 57, of First Street, Police reports said King was caling a sawed-off shotgun on Fot Avenue. Officers tried to get King put down the gun but he did when King raised the gun, offi Doug Carter fired twice, wound King.

"The agent in charge is alreadoing his report," said SBI direc Joe Momier. "We're just wrappi up a few details."

The report will be submitted the district attorney's office where final determination about charg will be made.

King was discharged from Fry Regional Medical Center on Friday

Hickory Daily Record



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8-24-92

A—HICKORY DAILY RECORD—Mon., August 24, 1992

Police Say 4th Unidentified Body Is Woman

By LESLIE WEAVER Record Staff Writer

Police have released information that the body found Saturday afternoon in the crawl space of a nouse at 407 Highland Ave., 3W, is a woman.

This latest is the fourth unidentified body found in the Unifour in recent

According to reports, the woman was found at approximately 1 p.m. in an abandoned house by a man inspecting the location prior to demolition.

A spokesperson from the Hickory Fire Department said that June 12 this same unoccupied house caught fire and as a result quite a bit of structural

damage was done.

Hickory Police responded to the report of the body and while searching the premises, the body was found in the crawl space area underneath the house.

The report said that the body was completely covered with blankets, with the exception of the woman's left foot which was exposed.

Officer Mike Crisp of the police department made a closer examination of the foot that was exposed and reported that the woman appeared to have been at the location for a considerable amount of time.

Police have not released further information pertaining to the body, however investigators said that they are treating this as a suspicious death.

Anyone with information about the body is urged to call the Hickory Police Department at 324-2060.

The body has been taken to the Chief Medical Examiner's Office in Chapel Hill for autopsy, $\dot{}$

Other bodies found recently include Mary Belle Adams, who's body was found in a garbage container in Burke County: a body in Brookford Dam area later identified as Isis Denise Dawkins; and Tenene Conley, who was found in a rental property on First Avenue, SE,

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ment would be high on their list of prio

Hickory Man Charged With Woman's Murder

By DEBRA HADLEY Record Staff Writer

Hickory police made an arrest this morning in the investigation into the death of a woman whose body was found in the crawl space of a burned house at 407 Highland Ave. on Aug. 22.

Police arrested Glenn Edward Chapman, 25, of 218 Third St., SE, shortly before 6 this morning. He was charged with murder.

It was still dark when police found Chapman at the home of a relative near Lenoir-Rhyne Boulevard.

The early-morning quiet was disturbed by barking dogs and then the cries of two women protesting the arrest.

The women were clinging to Chapman and berating the police as they took him to a police car.

Hickory Police Detective Dennis Rhoney said Chapman had been a suspect in the case for some time.

"Chapman became a figure in the case early on," said Rhoney. "The investigation led us to the point where we felt safe at making an arrest."

The body was discovered by a man inspecting the partially burned house prior to demolition. It was identified on Aug. 27 as that of Betty Jean Ramseur, 31, of Newton.

The Medical Examiner's Office in Chapel Hill identified Ms. Ramseur through dental records.

Rhoney said reports from the Medical Examiner's Office indicated Ms. Ramseur died of trauma to the head. It is believed that she had been in the crawl space of the house between four and six weeks.

The arrest has brought relief to the family of Ms. Ramseur.

"That is wonderful," said Ms: Ramseur's older sister Barbara Thomas. "I'm just glad they made an arrest. It makes my day. I've been waiting and waiting and waiting."

Ms. Thomas said she did not know Chapman and had never heard his name mentioned by her sister.

Ms. Ramseur had previously worked as a nurse at a local medical facility. Before her death, she had struggled with drug addiction.

Her death has been weighing on the minds of her family.

"This Christmas was one of the worst I've ever had," said Ms. Thomas. "We were real close growing up. We shared a room. I taught her to swim and how to drive a car.

"I am really relieved. I already feel better."

Police say they anticipate Chapman will make a first appearance in District Court on Monday and will be scheduled for a probable-cause hearing within the next three weeks.

Charged in murder

Man has a record of viole

The man arrested and charged with the murder of former nurse Betty Jean Ramseur has a record of violence. Glenn Edward Chapman, 25, was arrested last week in an early morning raid on his Hickory apartment.

The man held in her death is known well by Hickory police officers. He was acquitted this past summer of first degree burglary and assault on his aunt. He was charged with pulling a plastic bag over her head and beating her with an iron pipe. He was found not guilty back in the summer, says Detective Dennis Rhoney, who directed the capture of the accused man.

Betty Jean is the story of a respected nurse who became hooked on drugs. She lost her job and took up shoplifting to support the habit. Her body was found in the crawl space of an abandoned home in the Highland section of Hickory. The skeletal remains were identified by the state medical examiner through dental records.

There was little left of the partially-clothed body, beneath the house for four to six weeks. The

The man arrested and charged ith the murder of former nurse etty Jean Ramseur has a record trauma, perhaps a blunt instrument to the head.

Will the arrest of Edward Chapman clear more than one unsolved murder?

"Not at this time," said Det. Rhoney. "I will say this for the record: we have had three female nude or partially-nude bodies this past summer. Sometimes I think that things that look like a duck, walk like a duck, quack like a duck, then it's probably a duck."

The detective says it remains to be seen whether other arrests will be made, but he added, "I wouldn't exclude that."

Does the partially-clothed body of another female, discovered a week earlier, have any connection with Miss Ramseur's death? "I wouldn't comment one way or the other," the detective answered.

"We have a great case here. Things are still coming from the (state) lab that we're excited about. Once I've confirmed my theories, it's going to open a lot of other doors."



Angry Glenn Edward Cha

8-19-93

Man Faces 2nd Murder Charge

By DEBRA HADLEY Becord Staff Writer

Hickory police have charged a man, already in jail on one murder charge, with another murder

The man now faces charges of murder in connection with the deaths of two women whose bodies were found in vacant houses last summer.

Glenn Edward Chapman, 25, of Third Street, SE, was served at the Catawba County Jail in Newton this morning with a grand jury indictment charging him with the second count of murder.

Chapman was charged today with the death of Tenene Yvette Conley. Ms. Conley's body was found Aug. 15, 1992 in the basement of a rental house on First Avenue, SE.

Chapman already faces a charge of murder with the death of Betty Jean Ramseur of Newton. Police charged Chapman with Ms Ramseur's death on Dec. 31, 1992

The bodies of Ms Conley and Ms Ramseur were found within a week of each other during the summer of 1992

Ms. Conley's was Hickory's only murder case from 1992 that remained unresolved.

CHAPMAN

. It was a case that tortured Hickory Police Department investigator Mark Sams.

"Something about the way she (Ms. Conley) died just got to me," he said. It is the first time in his four years as an investigator that a case has

See Local, Page BA

Grand Jury Delivers Murder Indictments

By DEBRA HADLEY Record Staff Writer

The Hickory Police Department received indictments in two murder cases after the Catawba County Grand Jury met Monday.

According to a department spokesman, grand jury murder indictments were handed down against Glenn Edward Chapman, 25, of 218 Third St., SE, Paul Duran Ikard, 19, and George William Hill Jr., 20.

Chapman was arrested Dec. 31, 1992, and charged in connection with the death of Betty Jean Ramseur, 31, of Newton.

Ms. Ramseur's body was found Aug. 22, 1992, in the crawl space of a partially burned house on Highland Avenue by a man inspecting the house prior to demolition.

Since the grand jury indictment has been handed down, Chapman will not have a probable cause hearing in District Court.

. His case will go to the district attorney's office and be scheduled for a trial date in 25th District Superior Court in Newton.

The indictments on Hill and Ikard were handed down in connection with the July 21, 1992, shooting death of Anthony Jerome Fleming of Morganton.

Fleming's body was found by police in a vehicle at a car wash at a convenience store on Fourth Street. SW.

Fleming was a 1991 graduate of Freedom High School in Morganton and was planning to attend Wofford College in Spartanburg, S.C.

Police later said the incident may



time, and he is still at large.

Police believe he may out-ofbe state.

A department spokesman said the Hickory office of the Federal Bureau of In-

Hill.

HILL vestigation is assisting in locating

His last known address was 809 Eighth Street Place, SE, Hickory.

Charges were first lodged against Hill in connection with this case on Dec. 18, when police issued warrants.

· The grand jury indictments eliminate the need for a probable cause hearing in District Court after Hill is found.

By DEBRA HADLEY Record Staff Writer

NEWTON - Testimony got under way Thursday afternoon in the firstdegree murder trial of a 26-year-old Hickory man accused of two murders from 1992.

Glenn Edward Chapman is charged in connection with the deaths of two women, whose bodies were found within a week in the summer of 1992.

The body of Tenene Yvette Conley, a 27-year-old Hickory woman, was found in the basement

SE, in Hickory on Aug. 15, 1992. The body of Betty Jean Ramseur, a 31-year-old Newton woman and former nurse, was found in the crawl space of a house on Highland Avenue in Hickory on Aug. 22, 1992.

The jury heard testimony Thursday afternoon in the Conley case.

Testimony was heard from a man who at one time had been the No. 1 suspect in the killing of Ms. Conley.

Bobby Gene Smith Jr. of Hickory took the stand and told jurors that he had problems with Ms. Conley because she had him arrested. He told of a rental property on First Avenue, jurors he had even threatened her.

had been found, his first telephone call was to the Hickory Police Department because he knew he would be a suspect.

Degree Murder Trial

And he appeared at the police department Monday morning and released the contents of a suspect kit officers had collected from him in the past, and agreed to give blood, saliva and hair samples for testing

Assistant District Attorney Jason . during cross examination. Parker asked Smith why he volunteered to give those samples and why he went to the department first thing Monday morning.

"I told them I'd give them the

But when he heard that her body samples because I wanted to prove my innocence," Smith said.

> In his opening arguments, Parker told jurors that DNA testing done onthe samples from Smith excluded him as the donor of semes found with Ms. Conley's body. Parker also told jurors that testing showed Chapman was the donor of that semen.

Defense attorney Bob Adams accused Smith of killing Ms. Conley

"Just because you didn't have sex

her." Adams said.

"I didn't kill her," was Smith's re-

The jury also heard testimous from the owner of the property on First Avenue, SE. Famile Pinkston of Hickory told police she sent a young couple to look at the rental property Aug. 15, 1992. It was that young couple from Maides who discovered the body.

Ms. Pinkston said Chapman had

terfor because he had work for her and the fermer

Ms. Pinkuton sold. Chapm painted the trim for her during summer of 1982, and he remo from the b well

Testimony in the case costin today. The state is seeking the death: penalty is both cases. They were joined for trial, but jurors will com-". sider verdicts in each case independently.

urder Trial Deliberations Begin In Newton

By DEBRA HADLEY

Record Staff Writer NEWTON - The jury in the Glenn Edward Chapman murder trial began deliberations this morning.

The deliberations followed a twoweek trial that saw 39 witnesses testify about events during the summer of 1992.

Chapman, a 26-year-old Hickory man, is facing two counts of firstdegree murder and a possible death penalty in connection with the deaths of two women.

The body of Tenene Yvette Conley, 27, of Hickory was found in the basement of a vacant rental house on First Avenue, SE, in Hickory on Aug. 15, 1992.

A week later, the body of Betty Jean Ramseur, 31, of Newton was found in the crawl space of an abandoned house on Highland Avenue.

In his closing argument, prosecutor Jason Parker told jurors that the facts that both victims were women and both were found in unoc-

cupied buildings were part of Chapman's signature on the killings.

"These are signature killings," Parker said. "(The victims) were both naked. They were both in the lower parts of a house. (Chapman) might as well have taken a brick with the initials GEC on it and bashed them on the head."

Parker also contended that Chapman had not been honest with the police about his association with Ms. Conley until he was forced to by DNA evidence in semen found in her body.

The DNA from the semen found in Ms. Conley's body matched DNA samples taken from Chapman, according to expert testimony.

Chapman took the stand in court Wednesday and admitted he had sex with Ms. Conley, but denied killing

·Chapman gave a statement to police before he was arrested in which he denied having sex with Ms. Conley and said he last saw her with

another man, Danny Blackburn, at the Sunny Valley Apartments.

Chapman reaffirmed part of that statement on the witness stand, telling jurors he left Ms. Conley with Blackburn in the parking lot of St. Paul's Church

Blackburn testified he left Ms. Conley with Chapman in the neighborhood where the body was found.

Defense attorneys argued vigorously that just because Chapman had sex with Ms. Conley doesn't mean be killed her.

"We admitted he had sex," Defense attorney Tom Portwood said. "We admitted he smoked rock. He's not charged with either one of

"Don't let vourself be stampeded. herded in there (the jury room) and make a decision that two or three weeks from now, you might think ... maybe the state didn't carry its burden of proof."

Defense attorneys also argued that the state had failed to carry the

burden of proof required to convict Chapman of the murders. Attorneys said the only facts the state had proved were that two women had been killed. They paid special attention to Ms. Ramseur's case.

"All they have proved is that she (Ms. Ramseur) was last seen in court on June 11, (1992), by her probation officer, and that there was a fire at the house on June 12," defense attorney Bob Adams said. " ... Nothing the state has offered connects Glenn Edward Chapman with the murder of Betty Jean Ramseur."

Defense attorneys also urged jurors not to assume the black man and white woman who were at the house on Highland Avenue when it burned were Chapman and Ms. Ramseur.

A vagrant who slept at the house the night before it burned told a fire investigator that he saw a black man and white woman at the house about daybreak

Defense attorneys made much of the fact that lab tests from apart-

ment on First Avenue, SE, checking for fingerprints and hair evidence, turned up nothing.

Parker addressed that issue by reminding jurors that the prospective renter who found the body had been at the house earlier in the week and said it looked cluttered. She also said when she returned on Saturday, the day the body was found, the bouse was cleaner.

"Of course it was cleaner," Parker said his voice rising with each new sentence.

'What's (Chapman) been doing? He's cleaning up. He's taking evidence. He's wiping the fingerprints off the doorknob and praying they don't find that body (Ms. Conley's) any faster than they found Betty Jean Ramseur."

Although Ms. Conley's body was

found a week before that of Ms. Ramseur, prosecutors contend that Ms. Ramseur was killed first, based on the state of the bodies. .

Ms. Ramseur's body was badly decomposed and some of the bones from her skeleton were never recovered. Ms. Conley's body was in the early stages of decomposition when it was found.

Prosecutors are seeking the death penalty in both cases. If jurors convict Chapman of even one of the counts of first-degree murder, a sentencing hearing will be held.

After the hearing, the jury will deliberate on a sentencing recommendation of the death penalty or life imprisonment.

Found Guilty Jury Ponders Killer's Fate

By DEBRA HADLEY Record Staff Writer

NEWTON - A sentencing hearing will begin Monday to determine the fate of Glenn Edward Chapman.

Chapman, a 26-year-old Hickory man, was convicted Friday on two counts of first-degree murder in connection with two cases from the summer of 1992.

Prosecutors for the trial will now try to convince the same jury that convicted Chapman that he deserves the death penalty for his crimes.

The sentencing hearing convenes Monday morning, and both prosecutors and defense attorneys are expected to present evidence.

After the hearing, jurors will deliberate on whether to recommend a sentence of life imprisonment or the death penalty. In North Carolina, a judge is bound by the recommendation of the jury.

Chapman was convicted in connection with the deaths of Tenene Conley, 27, of Hickory, and Betty Jean Ramseur, 31, of Newton. Ms. Conley's body was found in the basement of a vacant rental property on First Avenue, SE, on Aug. 15, 1992.

See Centencing Page 14A

11-12-94

Sentencing Hearing To Decide Killer's Fate dicts were read. His girlfriend, who Chapman was charged with Ms. when he smoked crack cocaine be-

Ms. Ramseur's body was found in the crawl space of a burned and abandoned house on Highland Avenue, SE, in Hickory on Aug. 22, 1992.

A jury of six men and six women convicted Chapman in both cases after more than four hours in the jury room. The jury began deliberations on Thursday and continued Friday morning.

The verdicts were read in open court just after 10:30 a.m.-

Chapman sat calmly as the ver-

has attended all the proceedings, left the courtroom after the guilty verdicts were announced.

Judge Forrest Ferrell polled the jury, and each member confirmed the verdicts.

The courtroom was packed with extra security. Fourteen law enforcement officers were on hand for the reading of the verdicts.

The extra security was a precautionary measure. It took more than four officers to serve Chapman with the second murder indictment and then return him to his cell.

Ramseur's death in December 1992. He was charged with Ms. Conley's death in August 1993.

Chapman did not present a problem in court Friday. After Ferrell ordered the defendant remanded to the custody of the sheriff, Chapman stood calmly and let deputies handcuff him and lead him out of the courtroom.

Prosecutors argued that Chapman was a vicious man who had problems with women. They cited a statement he made to police saying he didn't like to be around women cause they bothered him.

Prosecutors also called the murders "signature killings" because both women were found in the lower parts of vacant structures, and both were found naked. Both women also sustained injuries to the head, although Ms. Ramseur's were markedly more severe.

"If they hadn't found Tenene's body, he'd still be out there doing it (killing women)," Assistant District Attorney Jason Parker told jurors in his closing argument. "Think about that."



GLENN EDWARD CHAPMAN Convicted Of First-Degree Murder

Chapman Sentenced To Death

• From Page 1A

"It started to dawn on us that this was extremely important, that nothing could be missed; nothing could be skipped over; nothing taken for granted."She said the decision to recommend the death penalty was the result of much thought and soul searching, but the facts of the cases left them no other choice.

Chapman actually received two death penalty sentences.

The jury recommended the death penalty for Chapman as punishment in connection with the deaths of Tenene Yvette Conley, 27, of Hickory and Betty Jean Ramseur, 31, of Newton. Ms. Conley's body was found in the basement of a vacant rental property on First Avenue, SE, in Hickory on Aug. 15, 1992. Ms. Ramseur's badly decomposed body was found a week later in the crawlspace underneath a burned and

abandoned house on Highland Avenue, SE.

The bodies of both women were nude. Both suffered head injuries, and both were crack cocaine users.

Prosecutors argued that Chapman lured them to the houses with the promise of drugs and then killed them. They used the similarities in the killings as part of the case against Chapman contending that he carried out the killings as a course of conduct

"I wasn't surprised (about the death penalty recommendations) at all," Assistant District Attorney Jason Parker said. "After all, he killed two people and tried to kill a third individual. Like I said in my. closing argument, what other choice did the jurors have? What else did he need to do to deserve the death penalty?"

Parker said he wasn't sure if this death penalty conviction would send

a message to the streets. Catawba County has seen two homicides during this trial.

"It will make sure he doesn't kill anybody else," Parker said. "As far as sending a message, we've had (two) homicides this week while I was trying this case. You can tell how much it did to stop that:"

Chapman was taken from the Catawba County Jail to death row at Central Prison in Raleigh this morning.

Judge Forrest Ferrell allowed Chapman to visit with his family in , the courthouse after the punishment was handed down.

Ferrell also granted a request by Chapman that he be allowed to visit his mother's grave.

His mother died while he was in jail awaiting trial, and he was not allowed to attend the funeral.

High court won't hear death row appeal

By ROBIN URIS
Staff Writer

washington, D.C — Death row inmate Glenn Edward Chapman lost yet another appeal Monday when the U.S. Supreme Court refused to hear his case.

Chapman was sentenced to death after being convicted in 1994 of beating to death two Catawba County women and hiding their bodies in abandoned houses.

The 28-year-old former housepainter was tried and convicted by a Catawba County jury in 1994, but claimed he had received an unfair trial. The state Supreme Court last year upheld the verdict.

The nation's highest court delivered its decision Monday without comment.

"This isn't the end of the line for Mr. Chapman," said N.C. Assistant Attorney General Bud Crumpler. "He still has other avenues to follow, and I'm sure he will follow them."

Chapman admitted smoking crack cocaine with Tenene Yvette Conley and Betty Jean Ramseur but testified in court that he didn't kill them. Their bodies were discovered in August 1992 in dilapidated houses within two blocks of each other in Hickory.

In his appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court, Chapman said the state Supreme Court was mistaken in not finding errors in his original

Honoring and remembering:



Hickory

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HOMETOWN NEWS

SOCIAT

Beautiful life ends a dst vapor of drugs SYLVIA RAY

The family of Betty Jean Ramseur do not want her to be rememred as a Hickory crime statistic. Nor do they want her thought of as other example of a promising young adult whose life was shattered drug addiction.

Instead, those who loved the hauntingly beautiful 31-year-old rmer nurse from Newton would like people to know that she was victim of an illness — just as much so as though she died from ncer or some other disease instead of the circuitous path that drugs agged her along until her body was discovered beneath the ruins of urned-out, abandoned house in the Highland area of Hickory.

Hickory police are working on the mystery surrounding the death Miss Ramseur, and they are assuming she died of foul play. Her car s discovered two days after her body was found, across town near J and W Cafeteria parking lot alongside Highway 70.

awmen do not know for sure when the willowy blonde died. Her nily last had contact with her about 10 weeks ago after she and her ther, Bob, also a professional nurse, left for the beach in early

When she disappeared she already had her bags packed to go to a stance abuse treatment center, according to her mother, Mrs. lie Ramseur, and her sister, Mrs. Barbara Thomas of Hickory, consented to give an exclusive interview to The News in order ounter public opinion that their daughter and sister was a part of community's drug-and-crime underworld.

he fact that Miss Ramseur was the third young woman whose y has been discovered in the Hickory area in recent weeks, under

From the productive life of a nurse to the curse of drugs, a young woman's life is destroved.

THE EXOTE WAS A TIME OF



★ Exclusive family interview

mysterious circumstances, is not what motivated her loved ones to speak up. They are concerned with how she met her death and have high praise for the kind way they are being treated by local police, but last weekend they talked about her to show that she was a victim of her illness as much as of some potential murderer.

"From the time she took that first (drug), she was lost," declared her mother, a Newton resident who has been staying in Hickory for several years with her daughter, Mrs. Thomas, and her husband, Reggie, a commercial photographer, and their young son. Sec. 1 8

Mrs. Ramseur, still pale and devastated by the death of her daughter, explained with pride how Betty Jean - as the family called her - had attended Newton-Conover High School, earned her high school equivalency diploma from Catawba Valley Community College and then earned a Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) certification from the college.

Her daughter had worked at several regional hospitals, including the former Blackwelder Hospital in Lenoir, but had worked the longest at Catawba Memorial Hospital. Her patients there were the critically ill, mostly cancer patients.

: "When she was in school," her sister added with a smile, "it was the end of the world to her if she made a B."

Mrs. Ramseur thinks it was the stress of working daily with critical patients, and particularly Betty Jean's nursing a personal friend who died, that led her across that invisible line into her first use of a drug for emotional relief.

"It was street drugs, I suppose," her mother said of the substance that robbed her of her daughter. She does not think her daughter was using drugs intravenously, she added.

She thinks the moment Betty Jean Ramseur ingested drugs for the first time, she was lost, saying that she believes many persons cannot take even their first recreational drug or drink of an alcoholic beverage without falling victim to a chemical addiction.

When her life began to fall apart, Miss Ramseur quit her nursing job and entered a treatment center near Statesville. She was a patient

Please turn page >

Tennene

Funeral

8/20/92

8A-HICKORY DAILY RECORD-Thurs., August 20, 1992

5 A

Area Deaths, Funerals

TENENE YVETTE CONLEY
Tenene Yvette Conley, 28, of 912
Second St., SW, died Aug. 15, 1992, at
Frye Regional Medical Center.

Born Aug. 8, 1964, in Catawba...
County, she was a daughter of William Control Farrockaway, and Joanne Morrison Conley of Hickory.

She was a hosiery mill worker. Survivors, in addition to her parents, include a maternal grand-



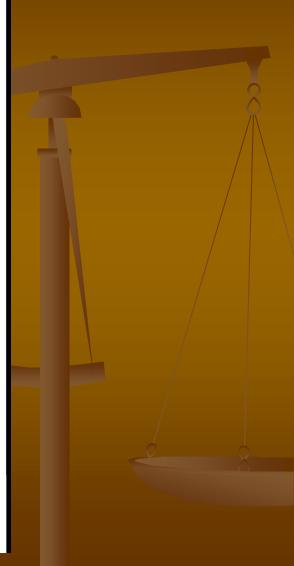
Tenene Yvette Conley

mother, Irene Morrison of Hickory; two uncles, Anthony Morrison of Hickory and Michael Ramseur of Farrockaway; and four aunts, Darlene Ramseur and Yvonne Ramseur of Farrockaway, Sabrina Whittington of Hickory, and Olivia Kinball of Newton.

The funeral will be conducted by the Rev. Webster E. Lytle at 4 p.m. Friday in the Allen Mitchell Funeral Home chapel.

Burial will be in Ridgeview Cem-

The family will be at the funeral home from 3:30 to 4 p.m. Friday.



Facts of the Cases

Betty Ramseur

- W/F
- Last seen on 6.11.92
- Found in crawlspace on 8.22.92
- Cause of death:BFI (decomposed)

Tenene Conley

- B/F
- Found in basement on 8.15.92
- Cause of death:Manual strangulation

Evidence against Edward

For Tenene:

Semen match

Witnesses: Tenene last seen with Edward

 Body found in rental house where Edward had been working that summer

Evidence against Edward

For Betty:

Witnesses: Edward said he killed a woman

Homeless man: W/F and B/M seen at house where Betty was later found

Chronology: Arrest to Death

 December, 1992 - Arrested for murder of Betty

 August, 1993 – Arrested for murder of Tenene

 August, 1993 – Sent to Safekeeping at Central Prison

Chronology: Arrest to Death

October 13, 1994 – Returned to Catawba

■ October 31, 1994 – Trial begins

■ November 10, 1994 — Guilty x 2

November 15, 1994 – Death x 2
 To Death Row

Arrested, found guilty, and sentenced to die????

First days/years on Death Row . . .

Supreme Court Review in 1995

In support of imposition of death:

"Defendant appears to have no remorse for his conduct"

"There is no discernible reason why defendant killed these two women; the murders appear to be 'the product of pure meanness".

Chronology: Death to Appeal

7.5.96

4.23.97

PC Counsel appointed

First Motion filed

6.02

7.02

7.02

Lead PC Counsel dies

Co-Counsel PC withdraws

New attorneys appointed

Chapman Appellate Defense Team

- Frank Goldsmith, Lead Counsel
- Jessica Leaven, Co-Counsel
- Pam Laughon, Investigator
- Lenora Topp, Investigator
- UNCA Students (2003-07)

CENTRAL PRISON WISITOR'S PASS
Chapman Glen 00 78845 Quaoz Person to be visited Number Location
Name: Mr./Mrs./Miss DR. Houm Laughon
Name: Mr./Mrs./Miss
REMARKS:
VISITING DATE: 10 31 03 TIME: a.m. 17056
This pass is good only for date, time, and persons indicated above. PROPER ID REQUIRED



efendant offered evidence that he provided for Gwyn Anderson and their child and that he was helpful toward his friends and neighbors. His father testified that he always counted on defendant to take care of the house and to help with the other children as defendant was growing up.

Dr. Mark Worthing, a psychologist, testified defendant was of low average intelligence. Defendant had been diagnosed with alcohol and cocaine dependency. Dr. Worthing opined defendant could appreciate the criminality of his conduct unless he was very severely impaired. Because defendant denied committing the murders, Dr. Worthing was unable to ask specific questions about what drugs he had used at the time of the offenses and thus was unable to determine the extent of defendant's impairment at that time. It like to the offenses are that time. It like to the offenses are the productions.

The jury found two aggravating circumstances for both murders: that defendant had been previously convicted of a felony involving the use or threat of violence to the person and that the murder for which defendant stood convicted was part of a course of conduct in which defendant engaged and which included the commission by the defendant of other crimes of violence against another person or persons.

Although three statutory and sixteen nonstatutory mitigating circumstances were submitted to the jury, no juror found any mitigating circumstance.

Baselon 1293 (24) 22 2000 Conduction of the person and that the murder for which defendant engaged and which included the commission by the defendant of other crimes of violence against another person or persons.

Although three statutory and sixteen nonstatutory mitigating circumstances were submitted to the jury, no juror found any mitigating circumstance.

Defendant first assigns as error his absence from the pretrial conference required in capital cases by Rule 24 of the General Rules of Practice for the Superior and District Courts. He contends that his absence from the Rule 24 conference violated his right to be present at every stage of his trial.

The Confrontation Clause in Article I, Section 23 of the North Carolina Constitution "guarantees an accused the right to be present in person at every stage of his trial." State v. Daniels, 337 N.C. 243, 256, 446 S.E.2d 298, 307 (1994) (quoting State v. Payne, 320 N.C. 138, 139, 357 S.E.2d 612, 612 (1987)), cert. denied, __ U.S. __, 130 L. Ed. 2d 895 (1995). This right to be present extends to all times during the trial when anything is said or done which materially affects defendant as to the charge against him. State v. Brogden, 329 N.C. 534, 541, 407 S.E.2d 158, 163 (1991). A capital defendant may not waive his right to presence. Daniels, 337 N.C. at 257, 446 S.E.2d at 307. However, a defendant's right to be present at all stages of his trial does not arise prior to the commencement of trial. State v. Rannels, 333 N.C. 644, 653, 430 S.E.2d 254, 259 (1993) (citing State v. Cole, 331 N.C. 272, 415 S.E.2d 716 (1992)).

my.



Public Access Information System



Instructions: Here is the information you have requested for this offender.

(Note: Click here to view an Explanation of Terms and Data Elements used in the summary boxes.)

Data current as of 2:00 AM EST on: 09/24/2004

General Summary Information

DOC Number: 0072845 **Inmate Status: ACTIVE**

INACTIVE

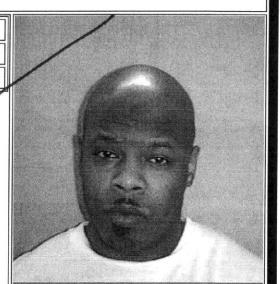
P&P Status:

CHAPMAN, GLENN E. Name(s):

Demographics

Gender: MALE Race: BLACK

36 Birth Date: 11/27/1967 Age:



Most Recent Incarceration Summary

Conviction Date: 11/15/1994 Total Term: DEATH

Projected Release Date: DEATH

Brother, Help Thyself

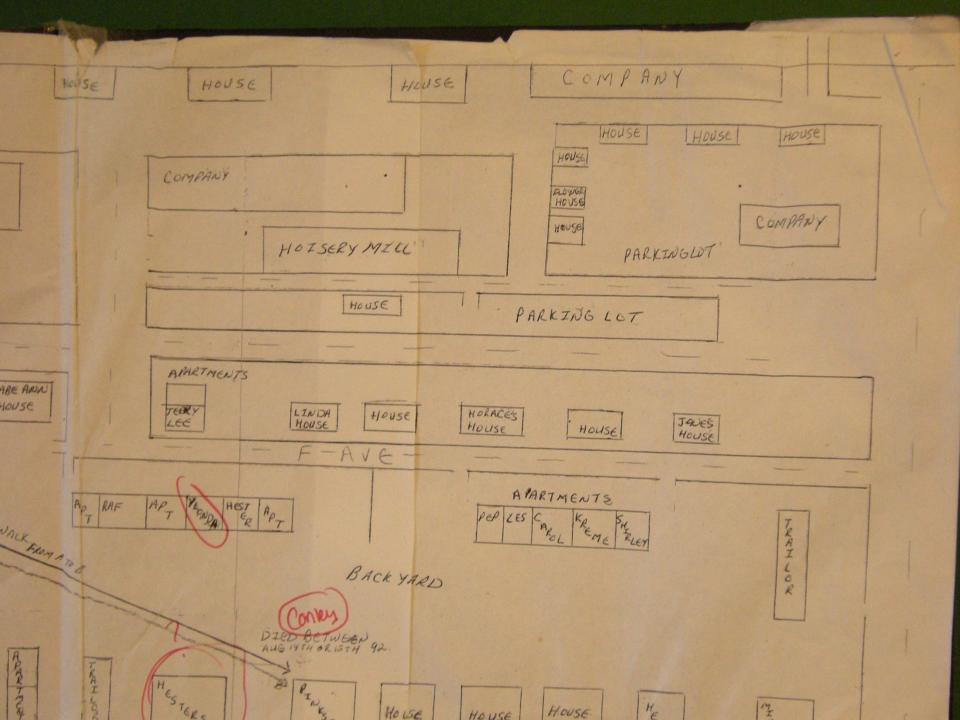
Letters and contact logs

Homemade rolodex

Map of Hickory area

Living through executions

WAKE COUNTY MAME: DR. MURRAY MARKS. OCCUPATION: BODY DECOMPOSITION EXPERT. UNIV. OF TENN 37996





DEATH ROW BASKETBALL SEASON RUNNER UPS SPRING 2006

Awarded to

Glenn Chapman

Presented by

Central Prison's Recreation Department Robe t Stephenson, Recreation Director

Adet Stephennon

Mr. Bell

Ms. Brooks

Mr Ellis

Mr. Ellis

Mr. Harrison

Mr. Harrison

Phases of Re-Investigation in a Capital Case

- Jury selection issues LOST
- Guilt phase issues WON
- Sentencing N/A
- Ineffective Assistance of Counsel WON

Jury Investigation

■ 11 Caucasians, 1 African-American

Jury foreperson's surprise at Ed's request

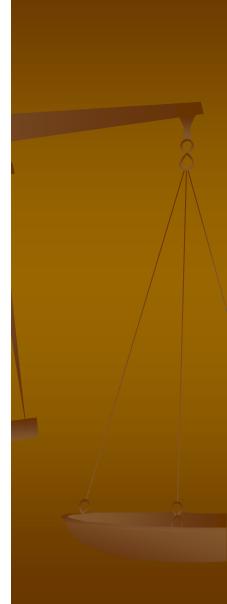
In Loving Memory of Mrs. Mary Frances Chapman

Sunrise December 10, 1945

Sunset July 9, 1994



Thursday, July 14, 1994 1:30 P.M. Clinton Tabernacle AME Zion Church Hickory, North Carolina Rev. Herbert R. Warren, Pastor



Jury Investigation

■ B/F juror: Ed is a "born serial killer"

Other recent murders discussed by jury

Other Murdered Women in Hickory in 1992

Nellie Long (March of 1992, unsolved)

Maybelle Adams (March, 1992, solved)

Isis Dawkins (July, 1992, unsolved)

Dearns, runerals in in

ISIS DENISE DAWKINS

Isis Denise "Dee Dee" Dawkins, 13, of 841 Third Street Court, SW, died July 3, 1992.

Born Sept. 29, 1978, in Cleveland County, she was a daughter of Sherwood Dawkins of Shelby and Barbara Dawkins Dula of Hickory.

A member of Morning Star First Baptist Church, she was an eighthgrade student at Shelby Middle School and attended Grandview



Isis "Dee Dee" Dawkins

Middle School.

Survivors, in addition to her parents, include a sister, Myra Dawkins of the home; two brothers. Jason Dula of the home and Anthony Hopper of Shelby; maternal grandparents, J.C. and Bessie Hildebran of Hickory; a paternal grandfather, Ernest Dawkins of Shelby; a maternal step-grandmother, Willie Belle Wright of Lawndale; a maternal step-great-grandmother, Rosa Belle Dillingham of Lawndale; and a stepfather, Joe Dula Jr. of Hickory.

What went wrong?

Withheld exculpatory evidence

False evidence presented at trial

Ineffective assistance of counsel

Sloppy/stereotype-based police work

Withholding Exculpatory Evidence

For Betty:

 Lineup and ID of suspect not turned over to DA or defense

Ignored confession by a likely suspect

Alvin Creasman Photographic Lineup

On the above date, I was shown bhotographs to determine if I could identify the photograph of the person who I Saw Prior to a
Fine on 6-12-92
After looking at the photographs,
() I was able to identify the person as photograph number
() I was unable to identify this person.
Positive Identification 001434
As Photograph shown to Me.
Mitness Signature Officer Signature

Judge Ervin's Findings

"It is unlikely that Rhoney could recall giving Creasman a cup of coffee, but forget about the lineup."

Rhoney's testimony at trial that he had never talked to Creasman except for one time to give him a cup of coffee on the day of the fire investigation was false."

TO SA		
P FROM P' 1	PATE 2 TIME 58 AM	
H Kickard allen	AREA CODE	
O. OF K (3 B 0 X 66)	NO. 396-4129	
N & F.	EXT. 3/6-1/2/	
E M	FAX#	
s orenteard a conversation of		
M S Delle Ramson in Catalon Gril		
O E all desteriores.		
SIGNED TO SUL		
BACK CALL WAS IN WILL CALL WAS IN AGAIN		
M S Delle Ramson in He educate la O PHONED D CALL D RETURNED D WANTS TO D	SIGNED TEASURE	

Withholding Exculpatory Evidence

For Tenene:

 Seen alive by multiple people after alleged time of death – statements not turned over to defense

Other suspects with a clear motive were ignored

Inconsistencies in detectives' notes

Officer Sams' Report of Interview with

Mike Coshy CONTINUATION PAGE Hickory Folice Lept Redacted critical portions NO CIRCACO NVESTIGATION Interview: Michael Jerome Cosby, B/M, DOB: 12/14/58 Hickory, NC Seif-employed Auto of interview notes OCA #: 92-23578 Hickory Police Department Case Investigator: Inv. M. R. Sams Thurs night; Belly Hall never would Hickory Police Departme Date of Interview: 08/27/92 seah to me lout here lately after Jerome Cosby at 464 South Center St. tomicide. I asked Mr. Cosby er been dead - her been trying to named Mike, Tenene was supposed to have been Thursday. His sister or somebody would drop and he would come down here. This guy work think in Maiden. I think he's alright but lot, but I never did talk to him a whole lo given Tenene and Edwar night. Where Tenene wa 4-Dyrs Ago .. She always either hung Jenene had stole a ring & pawned to one I asked Cosby if he knew stated: I've seen Dann drive. I've seen somebo Nellie who it is now. She used LONG don't know who she hu of whose little guys that selldope; Thurs it was around the time h NAS STRANGERD night Alfain Robinson saw Der getting +RAPED IN Wewton; in a car with Billy & doeman; he Billy was the. last one seen that was 9:30 - 10:00 Thurs might with hen; Sene, later that might, ashed Belly HE DISAPPEARED FOR AWRILE where serene was + Billy said AFTERTHAT HAPPENED <u>M.II. Sams</u> E14

6D-8D 11D 1B-6B 11D . 4A . 12B . 12D . 8A . 1C-8C . . 2A

Police Veteran Could Avoid Prosecution

By DEBRA HADLEY Record Staff Writer

NEWTON — A Hickory police officer who was charged with possession of prescription drugs and misdemeanor larceny has been given deferred prosecution.

The deferred prosecution agreement was

signed in Newton Superior Court on Friday. Mark R. Sams, 40, will not be prosecuted on two counts of possession of narcotics and two counts of misdemeanor larceny if he meets the conditions of the agreement made with the 25th District Attorney's Office.

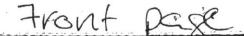
"It was the right thing to do," said Sams' attorney, Gregory Hayes. "Mark was a dis-

tinguished police officer with a completely unhlemished record. He was respected by everyone who knew him."

The prosecution has been deferred for sixmonths — provided Sams pays \$250 restitution to the pharmacy where he worked offduty, completes 48 hours of community service within 60 days, submits to drug tests at the request of his probation officer, and attends three Alcoholics Anonymous or Narcotics Anonymous meetings each week.

Should Sams comply with all conditions, the charges would be dismissed.

See Deferred, Page 8A



Deferred Prosecution Received

· From Page 1A

Sams completed a treatment program after his arrest in February and already has been attending NA meetings.

"The main thing that figured into (the decision to take a deferred prosecution) was that he was using drugs and not selling drugs," District Attorney Bob Thomas said. "I hope he is recovering... It wouldn't help anyone to send this man to jail. I feel strongly that if we can help anyone, it's the right thing to do. (Sams) was one of the last persons anyone would expect to find involved in something like this. It's a real shame and shows what drugs can do to someone."

Sams resigned from his position as a criminal investigator with the Hickory Police Department, effective today. He had been suspended without pay since the time of his arrest.

"This in an unfortunate situation for the police department, the community and for Mark," HPD Capt. Wayne Sumpter said. "He was a good police officer. He has had a very good attitude about this situation. He made no excuses, and as far as I-know, he looks at it in the best of

light. He got help with his problem."

Sams was a 10-year veteran of the force. He was wellliked and respected by members of his own and other departments. His arrest shocked the law enforcement community.

"He was charged Feb. 25 after an investigation by Hickory Police and the State Bureau of Investigation.

Reports from the time of his arrest said Sams was charged after an investigation into missing drugs from Medical Village Pharmacy on Fairgrove Church Road, where he worked off-duty in security.

Court records show the charges came in connection with missing prescription pain killers, including Percocet, Roxilox and Roxiset.

Sams suffered from migrane headaches and had been taking pain killers with a prescription from his physician.

"The prescription wasn't able to ease the pain," Hayes said. "He, very slowly, started talking more medication and before he knew it he was addicted. Those pain killers can be very addictive; it's a vicious circle."

Ineffective Assistance of Counsel Claims

 Failure to investigate or use courtappointed investigators

Ignored the possible guilt of others with motive in both cases

Ineffective Assistance of Counsel Claims

Lead attorney "did not know" he could interview state's witnesses before trial

■ Lead attorney visited Ed <u>ONCE</u> between 8/93 and 10/94 (one month before trial)

Newly Discovered Evidence

Tenene's death was not a homicide

 Presence of additional, unidentified semen on Tenene

Witness recantation regarding Betty's death

Judge Ervin's Findings

Dr. Jason's testimony "strongly indicates that Tenene Conley's death was not a murder."

The notion that a defendant can be put to death when no crime in fact occurred is troubling at best."

Anatomy of a Post-Conviction Case

5 evidentiary hearings between 12.03 and 5.06

Honorable Judge Robert Ervin Defense submitted:
49 witnesses
131 exhibits

State submitted:

3 witnesses
58 exhibits



North Carolina Department of Correction Public Access Information System



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General Summary Information

INACTIVE

P&P Status:

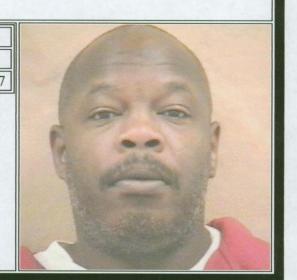
Name(s): CHAPMAN, GLENN E.

Demographics

Gender: MALE Race: BLACK

Age: | 38 | **Birth Date:** | 11/27/1967

FREE ED CHAPMAN!



Most Recent Incarceration Summary

Conviction Date: 11/15/1994 Total Term: DEATH

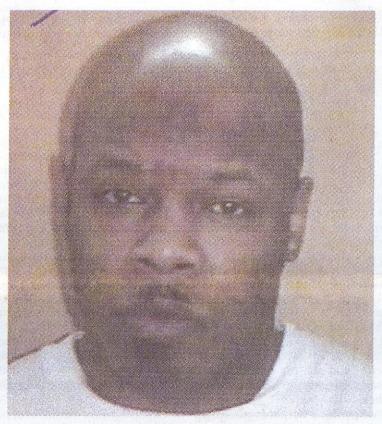
Projected Release Date: DEATH

Primary Offense: MURDER FIRST DEGREE

PRINCIPAL)

Iotal Ierm: DEATH

15 years of waiting





PHOTOS COURTESY OF PAMELA LAUGHON

Glen Edward Chapman, left, at age 25 in 1992 and right, at age 38 in 2005. Chapman is on death row for the murder of two women in Hickory in 1992 and has been granted a new trial after a court order. Chapman awaits trial at Central Prison in Raleigh.

One man's journey through accusations, incarceration,

Chronology: From Death to Release!

May, 2006 Last evidentiary hearing

■ Dec., 2007 Order granting new trial

4.2.08

DA dismisses both charges Ed is RELEASED after <u>4887</u> days on Death Row "We, as criminal defense lawyers, are forced to deal with some of the lowest people on earth, people who have no sense of right and wrong, people who will lie in court to get what they want, people who do not care who gets hurt in the process. It is our job — our sworn duty — as criminal defense lawyers, to protect our clients from those people."

[Cynthia Rosenberry]

Waiting to Exhale . . . and be FREE

Weeks before release from Central Prison

■ The departure from Death Row

From bologna & cheese to steak for dinner

Crickets on the porch



Trey Bouvier - Staff Photographer

Top, Glen Edward Chapman sits in Carmichael Hall on Friday. Chapman came to UNCA to meet with students, faculty and others instumental in his exoneration from death row last week. Bottom, Chapman walks with litigation specialist Pam Laughon on the UNCA campus.

After 15 years on death row, Glen Edward Chapman is finally free

How a UNCA professo helped Ed Chapman leave death row behind





Life's Tasks: The 1st Two Months!

- Cell phone first day of freedom!
- SSN
- Driver's license
- Transportation from bicycle to car!
- Employment 3 weeks after release
- Housing 2 months after release



Until You

There was those who played their role far better than I,
And landed me on death row waiting to die.

And I did, I passed away day after day Until it rolled into years and there was nothing left, not even tears. My anger became bitterness shifting from one emotion to the next,

Volumes of feelings of unwritten text.

Where and when would freedom come, When would my truth be sung and this injustice undone?

I waited patiently while fearing to hope But hoping to live, holding on to all I had to give.

I felt powerless as a man, grasping to understand my divinity my destiny - Was there a plan?

I grew to know how to grow and blossom behind bars,

Somehow capable of believing and still reaching for the stars.

Glen Edward Chapman June, 2008







STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

Administrative Office of the Courts P.O. Box 2448 Raleigh, NC 27602

NOTICE OF CLAIM TO INCOME TAX REFUND

G.S. 105A-8

TO THE TAXPAYER NAMED BELOW:

GLEN E CHAPMAN 24 HAWTHORNE LN ASHEVILLE, NC 28801-1608 SOCIAL SECURITY NO .:

XXX - XX - 3348 NOTICE DATE:

02/05/2009

The Administrative Office of the Courts has intercepted your State Income Tax Refund under the North Carolina Setoff Debt Collection Act, Chapter 105A of the General Statutes. The refund will be applied to the attorney fee judgments or other debts owed to the State of North Carolina listed below.

If you have questions about the accuracy of this information, contact the agency listed in the notice on the reverse side. Read the notice on the reverse side.

DO NOT CONTACT THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE

	NAME	COUNTY	CA	SE NO.
CHAP	MAN,GLEN,EDWARD	CATAWBA	92CR	S006904
CHAPN	MAN,GLENN,EDWARD	CATAWBA	92CR	S018186
CHAPN	AN, GLENN, EDWARD	CATAWBA	93CR	S011980
CHAPN	AAN,GLENN,EDWARD	CATAWBA	94M	001479
CHAPN	1AN,GLENN,EDWARD	CATAWBA	95M	001088
CHAPN	AAN,GLENN,EDWARD	CATAWBA	95M	001178

Post-Scripts and Remaining Tasks

Who killed Betty Ramseur?

What was outcome of SBI investigation into lead detective's perjury?

Pardon of innocence for Edward

Pardon of Innocence for Glen Edward Chapman

Thanks for listening.

Please write or email:

Governor Bev Perdue

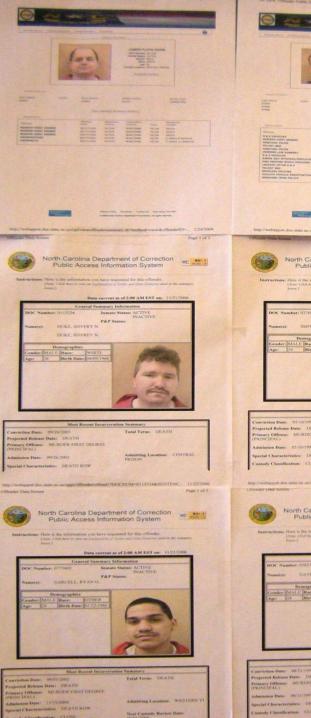
<<u>clemency@nc.gov</u>>

Executive Clemency Office 4294 Mail Service Center Raleigh, NC 27699-4294



Our Prayer for the Dying

Friends and men left behind on Death Row, Central Prison Raleigh, NC



oly Classification: CLOSE























I'm crossing that bridge with lessons I've learned Playing with fire and not getting burned

I may not know what you're going through But time is the space between me and you

There is a light through that window Hold on say YES, while people say no

'Cause life carries on.

(Prayer for the Dying, Seal)



Pardon of Innocence for Glen Edward Chapman

Thanks for listening.

Please write or email:

Governor Bev Perdue

<<u>clemency@nc.gov</u>>

Executive Clemency Office 4294 Mail Service Center Raleigh, NC 27699-4294