

Stephanie Mohr
Reg No xxxxxxxx
Federal Prison Camp
Alderson, West Virginia

Dear Caring Friend,

It's cold in here....

And I'm not sure if my hands are shaking from cold, from fear... Or because I'm about to cry -- again.

Today is my birthday and I wanted you to see the picture my son Adam drew for me when he was 4. Adam said it was my birthday cake...



But this year, I wasn't home with my son and his Daddy...or home when Adam blew out the five candles on his own birthday cake in July...

If the courts have their way, I'll miss my son's next seven birthdays -- until he has almost completely grown up without me.

My name is Stephanie Mohr. I was a decorated police officer in Prince George's County, Maryland -- until I was sentenced to spend 10 years in jail -- for doing my job-- All this -- OVER A DOG BITE and...an unfair trial.

And, if you love justice enough to help me with this -- my last chance to prove my innocence-- I may get to go home to Adam and my family. That's why I so desperately hope and pray you care.

I look around these walls -- decorated with the pictures my son draws to cheer me up and I shake my head in wonder... How did I get here?

I was a decorated officer, well trained in working with my police dog, Valk.

Back in 1995, at a time when there were a lot of burglaries in my county, my partner and I were called to assist when two men, Jorge Cruz and Ricardo Mendez, burglary suspects, were spotted on a rooftop.

When Mendez made a run for it, I released Valk, to stop this dangerous suspect just as I'd been taught -- with a procedure called "bite and hold".

Valk did his job. Mendez was treated and released at the hospital. Both men were charged with breaking and entering. Police found they were both illegal aliens who'd been arrested before for selling cocaine. They were deported.

Apparently, they later sneaked back into the country and were arrested again -- for possession with intent to distribute cocaine! But my part in all this was long over. I went back to work.

It wasn't until years later that a Justice Department prosecutor saw a way to make a name for herself.

You won't believe it but she claimed -- I violated Mendez's civil rights when I stopped him from escaping!

I was arrested for doing my job and catching a criminal!!!

The local media started digging up anything they could about our police department -- true or false. It got the public all riled up. But in the end, the jury vote was 11 to 1 in my favor so Adam's Daddy and I went back to our normal lives -- back to our baby.

Little did we know some "civil rights" groups would start demanding a new trial. And the Justice Department caved to the pressure.

They decided they had to make an example of someone - anyone! They didn't care if it meant throwing me in jail -- for doing my job!

So they dragged me back into court for a second trial and that's where it all got unfair. Since their last attack didn't work, this time, Federal prosecutors played the race card.

During the trial, someone even bused a bunch of illegal laborers down to the courthouse. They stood outside yelling threats and obscenities at me as I walked into the court. I was terrified!

They made me sound like someone who would unjustly release my police dog on minorities.

And the judge allowed the jury to hear these allegations and others.

Then he wouldn't let our defense experts testify that my actions were completely within approved procedures. It was totally unfair...

But the media loved it! They stirred up so much hatred that people started thinking if I wasn't convicted, the community could suffer riots like the ones in Los Angeles a few years back.

All I knew was I couldn't breathe as I heard them convict and sentence me -- without a fair trial. 10 years IN Jail for a Dog Bite!

10 years for doing my job -- protecting our community from dangerous criminals and drug dealers. 10 years away from my son!

Since the trial, my attorney's have discovered there is a Federal law preventing police officers and firemen from serving on juries. So there wasn't even a question of getting a jury of my peers! The very people who would have understood correct and accepted police procedures, fellow police officers, were prevented from serving.

And more hope!! The Supreme court recently ruled Federal Judges don't have to be bound by sentencing guidelines -- and that ruling clears the way for my appeal

for a new trial! I know this is my last chance. Dear friend -- that's why I desperately need your help.

Because if I can't take advantage of this one last chance.. I may spend the next ten years in a jail cell instead of raising my son..

All because someone wanted to protect the civil rights of an illegal alien fleeing the scene of a crime!

I can't tell you how it tortures me as I sit rotting in jail.. thinking about how I put my life on the line every day as a police officer.. And had to resign in disgrace because of a dog bite!

Our family lost everything. And my son lost his Mommy. And that is where you come in. That is where your commitment to justice is critical... If I'm to have my absolute last chance to prove my innocence..get out of jail and go home to my family.. We desperately need your help. Our family has no money left for the lawyers and legal documents critical to making an appeal and winning my freedom. So I have turned to the Law Enforcement Legal Defense Fund (LELDF).

LELDF helps good officers unfairly charged for their actions in the line of duty. Every penny of their funding comes from private donations like yours. And LELDF has been a Godsend to me.

Maybe you remember -- Chuck Schwarz in New York, and Larry Nevers in Michigan. LELDF helped them among others. And LELDF came to Officer Stacey Koon's defense when anti-police activists in Los Angeles wanted to throw him in jail for leading the arrest of convicted criminal Rodney King.

And now -- they're urgently raising money on my behalf because LELDF is convinced -- The law preventing police officers from serving on juries is unfair and unconstitutional! And that my trial was unfair!

And when we are successful -- when I'm free and home with Adam -- with my family -- your support will have provided lasting help to every other police officer in the country!

But LELDF can't support justice for our brave police officers -- without your help.

When I think about how much of Adam's life I've already missed -- how much I will still miss-- The baseball games, the birthday parties, the good night hugs and the "I love your, Mommys"...My heart breaks all over again.

Every dollar you send -- even \$25 -- could mean the difference between my rotting in jail for 10 years for a dog bite.. and going home to help raise my sone.

Your support will give me, and many other desperate officers under attack.. the chance to prove our innocence once and for all.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart for any help you can send.

Signed: Stephanie C. Mohr

P.S. I missed Halloween with Adam, and Christmas ... You can't imagine how it feels to know I won't be home with Adam again until he's a teenager Unless we

can prove the unfairness of my trials. But to prove my innocence and bring me home to my family I urgently need -your caring gift of \$25, or \$50 - or even more - to LELDF today. Please don't leave me here to celebrate any more birthdays without my son - because of a dog bite!

Personal Reply to:
Stephanie Mohr
C/O Law Enforcement Legal Defense Fund
45005 Aviation Drive P.O. Box 18129
Washington, D.C. 20041-6129

Dear Stephanie,

You are not alone! I'm committed to helping make sure you get your one last chance to prove your trial was unconstitutional and your sentence unfair. I want you to come home to help raise your adorable son, Adam.

I'm appalled that you could be jailed for doing your job - protecting the public.

That's why I'm enclosing my most generous tax-deductible gift ever - made out to "LELDF" in the amount of:

_____ \$1,000 _____ \$5000 _____ \$250 _____ \$100 _____ \$50 _____ \$25

_____ \$Other. I know legal expenses are huge. And I know this is your last chance to regain your freedom and go home to your son.

Sincerely,

Please sign here so I know who to keep in my prayers.

The Law Enforcement Legal Defense Fund is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. Contributions are tax-deductible. A copy of our latest financial report is available from our national office (1815 H Street NW, Suite 1001, Washington, D.C, 20006) or by contacting:

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Washington: Charities Division, Office of the Secretary of State, State of Washington, Olympia, WA 98504-0422, 1-800-332-4483.

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