

## **Letter of introduction, the cause of Kenny Richey**

Dear Sirs.

**For more than ten years I, Karen Richey,** have campaigned for the release of Kenneth T Richey from Death Row in Ohio, USA.

In 1986 Kenny was convicted of Arson on the basis of very doubtful evidence, and since the fire in question had led to the death of a child it had become a capital case and the sentence was death. That is now close to twenty years ago, and the case as well as the man is still very much alive.

The “science” used as evidence against Kenny has been refuted by no less than three independent and well respected experts: Richard Custer, Andrew T Armstrong, and Tony Cafe.

Their conclusion is that there never was any Arson, but a regular accident – meaning Kenny got convicted for a crime that never was.

Kenny is part Scottish, part American, and a Scottish citizen, He grew up in Edinburgh. He is often referred to as The Scot on Death Row.

**His supporters consist** of personalities like the late Pope John Paul II, the Bishop of Canterbury, Irvine Welsh, Sister Helen Prejean, Susan Sarandon, Robbie Coltrane, Orkney and Shetland MP Alistair Carmichael, MSP Margo MacDonald, Clive Stafford Smith and many others.

Early 2005 we had our first major success, as the old verdict was thrown out on appeal and remanded back to trial court. This was later overruled by the US Supreme Court, which in turn remanded it back to the original appeals court. While this certainly was a setback, things still do tend to look good.

However, the campaign is in serious financial trouble. Not debts but a severe shortage of funds. Basically the only funds available now and always has been my private economy, which was never very good to begin with – and which now is on its last leg.

**I am at a loss of how to proceed.** I simply cannot keep sustaining the campaign on my own funds, and I have no real experience with charities or long term sponsors.

Actually no experience of sponsors at all apart for the one-shot donations I've gotten from dedicated supporters when the need has been overwhelming.

I'm not asking for any kind of sponsorship for my private economy, as it will have to manage itself. What I'm asking for is the means to continue the campaign on other funds than my own. This is imperative, as I am responsible for the well being of my family of four, while living below poverty levels, and subsidising the campaign – all at the same time.

I will not be anything less than honest, I am betrothed to the man I campaign for. It is a fact, even though it is something that has happened during the course of the campaign, rather than before it.

**What I am asking is one of two things, or both circumstances allowing:**

- **Help finding sponsors for the campaign.**
- **Direct financial help.**

Any help of course is welcome, but what I'm really looking for is not a quick fix, but for sponsors that's willing to stay and contribute what they can for a period of time.

Basically I would like to achieve a situation where more of my energy goes to the campaign and less to financial woes.

Costs incurred while campaigning are such as (not conclusive):

Stamps, letter-paper and envelopes, acquisition and reproduction of images and printed material, travelling expenses, web-space and domain, computer and web related technical support, legal fees, computer hardware, software and Internet connection, phone-bills (which can become monstrous) and to some extent extra expenses for food and such while campaigning.

**I've kept this up for ten years, but I sincerely am at the end of my rope.**

Any advice or help will be very much appreciated.

Yours sincerely

Karen Richey