

Moniz-Carroll, Rhonda

From: Hunt Williams <hunt@creamhill.net>
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2015 5:29 PM
To: JudTestimony
Subject: Remarks to be made in support of House Bill 7015

My name is Huntington Williams. I live in Cornwall, Connecticut.

I chose to speak today because I was with a good friend when he ended his life by gunshot ----because there wasn't an available alternative.

John was terminally ill with cancer, was of perfectly sound mind, and on the verge of losing control of his life --- becoming the proverbial vegetable. He refused to become a burden to family and society.

When I arrived at 9:00 that June morning he announced to me that this was the day. After this last of many years of visits he showed me the sadly rusty Smith & Wesson .38 caliber revolver which I examined to see that it was operable and reliable. We went into the garden, he with his walker. We decided how he should proceed, I spoke me farewell, shook his hand and walk a short distance away. I said "God Bless ---- " but was cut short by the report of the gun.

I went to John, determined that he had been successful in ending his life, and called 911. By 4:00 PM that afternoon the State Police Major Crime Squad had finished its investigation. I was free to go.

Seven months later a State Police detective called to tell me that I was under arrest for manslaughter. Eventually, largely because of overwhelming public support, I suspect, I was given accelerated rehabilitation and a year of probation. None of all that was necessary --- a tremendous waste of time, money and effort.

Far more importantly, no one should have to resort to a violent death, and no one should die alone.

Do you have any questions about this unfortunate incident?