

Mrs. Ellen Humphrey
6240 Old Natchez Trace Road
Santa Fe, TN 38482
January 19, 2004

Dear Judge Haynes,

My name is Ellen Humphrey. I am the widow of David Humphrey, Jr., who was known as Junior. Junior and I have lived on the farm next to the Kelley Hollow farm that Bernie Ellis owns since 1970. I have been Mr. Ellis' neighbor for the past 34 years. He has always been a good neighbor of ours, and has never bothered anybody.

In July, 1998, my husband Junior was diagnosed with lung cancer. The nurses at the Ambulatory Care Clinic in Columbia told Junior that he should find some marijuana as soon as possible before he began his radiation therapy and chemotherapy to help reduce the pain of these treatments and to help keep up his appetite. Junior went to Bernie Ellis to ask him if he could provide Junior with marijuana. Bernie gave Junior some marijuana, enough to last him until the end. Bernie wouldn't take any money for the marijuana that he gave Junior; he gave it to Junior for free.

At first, Junior didn't use the marijuana. But as he got sicker, he was having a hard time sleeping and keeping his appetite up, so he decided to start using the marijuana. Once he started using the marijuana, it helped him rest and allowed him to sleep longer. Junior said that the marijuana made him feel better and allowed him to rest better and be more comfortable.

Before Junior died, his cancer first spread to his brain and his spine, and then it spread all over his body. We moved his bed up near one of the windows in the living room so he could look outside. One day, when he was looking for the marijuana cigarettes that someone had rolled for him, he pulled down the curtains on the window to get to the cigarettes. After Junior died on December 20, 1998, it took me a very long time to put those curtains back up.

When a man like Junior is in pain, he needs whatever it takes to help him stop hurting. The marijuana that Bernie Ellis provided to Junior helped make him more comfortable during the last months of his life, made it possible for Junior to rest and to sleep, and it helped him keep his appetite up. Before he died, Junior said that he was thankful that his neighbor had been able to give him some marijuana. As Junior's widow, I also want to say that I appreciated the gesture, and the help that Bernie Ellis was able to provide to my husband before he died.

I will be happy to come to court to speak on Bernie Ellis' behalf and to repeat what I have said in this letter. He is a good neighbor and he does not deserve what is happening to him.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Ellen Humphrey