

Board of Pardons
333 Market Street, 15th. Floor
Harrisburg, PA. 17126

Re; Charles J. GOLDBLUM, AP-2904

Ladies and Gentlemen;

Please allow me to introduce myself to you and establish my background. My name is James R. Ramsey Sr., in 1965, I entered into law enforcement and became a Pittsburgh Police Officer. I was quickly promoted to Detective and worked in Organized Crime and Narcotics. I was a U.S. Department of Justice, Special Agent for the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) for 7 years and I retired in 1992. I am currently a Private Investigator and also a Special Investigator for the FBI. I am the most conservative person you will ever meet and I believe in the proper administration of justice.

In 1976, I was working as a Detective for the Pittsburgh Police and I recall Charles GOLDBLUM being arrested for an alleged murder. I know all of the investigators in the case and I remember the efforts that were made to convict Mr. GOLDBLUM. I was approached by an attorney friend of mine several years ago and asked to read the GOLDBLUM file and interview a couple witnesses and give him my honest opinion. I told the attorney that I am biased because of my background, but I would give him my honest opinion. After reading the file, I was shocked that there were so many errors on the part of the investigating Detectives. I was not surprised however that, years later the presiding Judge and Prosecutor admitted that Mr. GOLDBLUM did not get a fair trial for the alleged murder of George WILHELM. I believe that Mr. GOLDBLUM was justly found guilty of the arson charge and he was given a substantial sentence to serve for that crime. I am also convinced that Mr. GOLDBLUM was not given a fair trial for the murder charge and his sentence should be commuted.

The following are some of the reasons that I am staking my 44 year reputation in criminal investigations, that Mr. GOLDBLUM did not receive a fair trial and should not be in prison.

When I asked to read the murder book and any related files, I learned that they were missing. I learned that the police file, coroners file and crime unit

file were all missing. This is unheard of in the Pittsburgh Police Department because the defendant has not exhausted all of his appeals.

When I asked to look at the photos of the interior of the vehicle, where MILLER stabbed WILHELM, I was told that there were no photos taken. This is impossible, because in all of the 1970's if the Pittsburgh Police Crime Unit was either busy or off duty, the Allegheny County Crime Lab would be available to photograph a crime scene. I wanted to look at the blood spatter to determine in my own mind if a person in the rear of the vehicle could have participated in the stabbing. The photos would have helped me to form an opinion. The blood spatter is very important in all cases because it will give an investigator a lead on who participated. GOLDBLUM was in the rear of the vehicle behind the driver and MILLER was in the front passenger seat and WILHELM was the driver. MILLER denied that he killed WILHELM and the blood spatter would have proved him a liar. MILLER was diagnosed as a confabulator. WILHELM's blood all over MILLER's clothing and the dying declaration sealed his fate. There was no forensic evidence tying GOLDBLUM to the murder.

Within a short time after the killing, the police investigators knew that the forensic evidence pointed to MILLER as the lone assailant. They were aware of the dying declaration, the blood spatter, MILLER's bloody clothing, the scratches on his hands and face, and that he had failed to pass a polygraph. In spite of their knowledge of these undisputed facts, they decided to use a confabulator (MILLER) to testify against GOLDBLUM. GOLDBLUM was in the wrong place at the wrong time, attempting to cover up the arson in his parent's failing restaurant business. It is not uncommon to use one person to testify against another and I did this over a thousand times. The difference is, that when you use a person as an informant, you have to be sure that that person is not a liar (Confabulator). The murder investigators either knew that MILLER was a confabulator/liar and ignored this fact or they were didn't care as long as they got a conviction for the status book. You must understand that this was a highly published case and careers were made on convictions of highly published cases. One of the homicide investigators told me that he would not allow the lead investigator (FREEMAN) on his scene. FREEMAN went on to become a Police Commander.

I have met Mr. GOLDBLUM and have spoken with him numerous times. I have met with the GOLDBLUM family and some of their friends. As a

professional investigator I am convinced that Charles GOLDBLUM is not guilty of the murder of George WILHELM. The person guilty of that murder, is the now deceased Clarence MILLER. For more than 20 years, MILLER maintained his innocence. In 1998, during an interview by two members of this Board, for the first time MILLER admitted his complicity. This means that his testimony at GOLDBLUM's trial was not truthful. This should be kept in mind while making your decision.. The presiding Judge Donald ZEIGLER and Assistant District Attorney F. Peter DIXON both admit that Charles GOLDBLUM did not get a fair trial and he is innocent of the murder of Gorge WILHELM and I agree with both of them. If Judge ZEIGLER and Assistant District Attorney DIXON had it to do all over again they would have dismissed the charges against GOLDBLUM due to lack of credible evidence.

CONCLUSION: Mr. Charles GOLDBLUM was found guilty of arson and has served his sentence. In my opinion, Mr. GOLDBLUM was found (erroneously) guilty of murder and should be considered for commutation. The trial Judge and Prosecutor now believe that Mr. GOLDBLUM is innocent and should be released. Mr. GOLDBLUM is in advanced years and is not healthy and poses no threat to the community. One of the purpose's of a Board of Pardons is to examine the case and determine if the administration of justice failed a citizen. I believe that based on the information that I have provided, you will do the fair and just thing and do as the Trial Judge and Prosecutor request, the immediate release Mr. Charles GOLDBLUM.

Very truly yours

James R. Ramsey Sr.