

March 19, 2019

Allegheny County District Attorney's Office
C/O ADA Fitzsimmons & Foglia
Room 303 Courthouse
436 Grant Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

Dear ADA Fitzsimmons & Fodi:

On behalf of my family, I'd like to thank you for all the hard work, sleepless nights and genuine effort you have invested in seeking justice for my son, Antwon Rose II. In private and sometimes publicly, I have directed my frustrations with this process at your office. I want you to know it was never because I doubted your abilities. I am Antwon's mom. When all is said and done, I will still be his mom and will continue to fight for his legacy and memory every day for the rest of my life.

Throughout this process, you have both been patient, you have worked to keep me informed and you have made it your responsibility to give me peace during times of agitation. I'd like to personally thank you both for that.

I know every mother believes their child is "exceptional" and as advocates for victims it may sound repetitious to you. However, I am not asking you to just take my word for it. Please remember what those in the community who knew Antwon had to say about him.

As I sit through the trial and the defense discusses the dangers of the community in which Antwon lived and the criminal element that surrounded him — even the allegations of criminal involvement on the day he was killed— I am reminded of just how unique he was and will always be to me and those who knew him best.

He was a rose that grew from concrete. Despite darkness all around him, he was kind, loving and funny. The smile that emanates from photos of him truly reflects who he was. Quick-witted and hilarious, his friends also say he was one of the best of skiers they knew. He taught the kids in our neighborhood to roller blade, skateboard and even gave the kids his own roller blades and skateboards to use (only for me to replace!).

I always wanted Antwon to know how much I loved him and now I realize how much he was loved by so many in the community.

I know you have a strategy to obtain a conviction. I don't know anything about trial strategy, but I know it is important that the jury has a chance to hear about who my son was. They deserve to know the real him. The defense has tried to make him out to be "just another thug," but please let the jury know who he really was.

I have faith that the outcome is inevitable. Most importantly, though, I have faith in both of you! I appreciate all of your dedication and please know it is not in vain. I truly believe the two of you

are just as committed to getting justice for Antwon as I am, as my family is and all of the lovers and supporters of justice for Antwon are! I thank you for understanding my overbearing, protective and sometimes bossy nature.

What makes me proudest in life is that I am, and will always be, Antwon's mom.

Sincerely,

Michelle Kenney
Mother of Antwon Rose II