



<https://youtu.be/mrCDrNJoq6g>

On October 11, 2017 I returned home from work and found my husband and the Vancouver Fire Chaplain sitting in my living room, they were there to tell me my daughter was found dead in her bedroom. She had just turned 23 two weeks prior. She died from an overdose. My life at that moment came to a stop.

I was angry, I blamed myself, I blamed my husband, I blamed the world. That anger turned into a fight to find out what truly happened. I combed through text messages, emails and Facebook messages, I wasn't going to let anyone write off my daughters life like it didn't matter. I found what I needed. I found the person that was last with her. I found that he had provided her with heroin and showed her how to smoke it (because you can't overdose that way

or so he said). I tracked her car movements prior to that day. I tracked her cellphone prior to that day. I found where she had picked him up from that night. I found everything, including the video and pictures he took of her as she laid dying, I could hear her struggling to breathe. I knew he was there with her, I knew he had cleaned up the scene, I knew he walked away from the house remembering to lock the door behind him knowing no one would be home until the next day. He left her there to be found, calling no one, reaching out for no help. He went about his life while my daughters life was ended. I had everything needed to put this garbage in jail and I took it to the police. It took 2 1/2 months to arrest him, his family tried to hide him, to excuse his actions, to put all the blame on Kelsy. There were harassing texts, calls and FB rants claiming Brandon was innocent and that we were just dramatizing everything looking for attention. It was hell, pure hell. It nearly destroyed me, I contemplated killing him myself or just ending my pain but I still had another daughter that was enduring the same but different pain of losing her only sister. I had to see this through for her, for Kelsy, for Taylor.


Even with all of the evidence, everything was documented in his words, in Kelsy's words, but still the Prosecutors wanted to cut a deal with him. Their explanation to me was that even though we have what we need to prosecute Controlled Substance Homicide there is too much of a risk that a jury will not find him guilty because so many feel that it's the person's choice to take the drug, they took their life in their own hands and don't think the dealers should be held to a standard. I was blown away. This case was so strong, we had everything? Why?

My daughter had self-medicated with Xanax for the last year before she died, I had her arrested and requested the court to enforce drug tests, she was excepted into the Diversion Program in Clark Co, she had a probation officer, I pleaded with the court to allow me to put her in a 3-6 mo in-patient rehab facility at MY cost, I monitored her, I would call her probation officer and ask for help. I did everything within my power to stop this freight train but as far as they were concerned I was no more than a nosey overbearing mother. The courts stopped enforcing the drug tests within weeks, the probation officer never enforced her appointments or the rehab, the psychiatric nurse at the same facility she was supposed to start outpatient treatment prescribed her Xanax yet again? Between the incompetence of the Clark County Court system, the probation officer, the psychiatric nurse, and the prosecutors office and the horribly written drug laws, my daughter was killed over and over again.

Clark Co Prosecutors offered Brandon Sotelo Manslaughter in the 2nd degree, 48 months. On July 11, 2018 he was sentenced. What the court doesn't tell you is that these drug offenders will never serve this time. The prison systems says they are non-violent offenders and automatically are given a 50% sentence reduction

when they get to prison. It was the final blow for me. I will never be the same, Taylor will never be the same, my husband will never be the same. My daughter Kelsy at the age of 23 years and 16 days old was gone, her life thrown away and consistently violated by the lack of firm drug laws and fear in prosecuting those that violate the laws we do have. It needs to change, this all needs to change.

<https://www.columbian.com/news/2018/jul/11/man-sentenced-to-four-years-in-prison-in-drug-overdose-death/>



Man sentenced to four years in prison in drug overdose death | The Columbian

A 22-year-old Vancouver man was sentenced Wednesday in Clark County Superior Court to four years in prison for providing a friend with heroin and failing to help her when she overdosed. Brandon J ...

www.columbian.com

Sincerely,

Sarah Holland, Mother to Kelsy French Holland

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Taylor's Law