

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **For Immediate Release**

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## **Attorneys Ask for Clemency to Allow Williams to Continue His Critical Mission to Steer Youth Away from Crime, Gangs**

### **Reply petition suggests governor look no further than his own words to guide his decision; attorneys also disprove tactics by officials to smear Williams**

(Sacramento, Calif.) On Monday, November 21, 2005, attorneys for Stanley Tookie Williams submitted their reply petition to Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger in support of clemency. The petition for Williams, a five-time Nobel Peace Prize nominee, highlights his powerful story of redemption and the contribution he has made to steer inner-city youth away from crime and gangs. Recognizing his positive contribution to society, more than 47,000 people have signed a citizens' petition in support of clemency at [www.savetookie.org](http://www.savetookie.org) and thousands more without computer access have signed a paper petition.

In the reply petition, attorneys for Williams, led by Peter Fleming Jr., from Curtis, Mallet-Prevost, Colt and Mosle, write that the District Attorney is dismissive of the needs of the countless disadvantaged youth that Williams has helped. To make their case, attorneys ask the governor to look no further than his words to guide his decision.

"The American dream? In the inner cities, children don't even dare to dream," Schwarzenegger wrote on August 16, 2000 in the Los Angeles Times. "Instead, they're told that they're trapped... We can help these children bridge the gaps created by hardship and hopelessness. We can help them get the drive, focus, attention, skills and pride that lead to hope."

"Governor Schwarzenegger is an honorable man," said Peter Fleming Jr., lead counsel for Williams. "His own words demonstrate that he understands the need to create hope for inner-city kids and to give them a fighting chance to succeed. He has a tough decision to make, but only one decision – granting clemency to Stanley Tookie Williams – will leave California in a better place. Stanley has the opportunity to continue his life-saving work. No one can touch the lives of inner city youth the way that Stanley Tookie Williams can."

In echoing the governor's own words, the petition added, "This is the message the District Attorney should be endorsing. It is the message the District Attorney should be sending. Law enforcement which focuses only on punishment breeds anger. Ultimately, it is a system which is destined to fail."

The reply petition also disproves and calls into question the tactics of law enforcement and prison officials to smear Williams and efforts to win clemency. On Tuesday, November 15, 2005, a representative from the Fontana Police Department told print and television media that a warrant had been issued for Lafayette Jones, a known sex offender, for raping a 13-year old child. The police incorrectly, and without evidence, identified Mr. Jones as the son of Stanley Tookie Williams. Janice Anderson, the mother of Mr. Jones, stated in a sworn affidavit that her son is not the son of Stanley Tookie Williams, 52, but is the son of a 59-year old man named Stanley Williams.

In a sworn declaration, Mrs. Anderson writes, "The man known in the news media as Lafayette Jones, who is a fugitive from a rape charge is not the son of Stanley Tookie Williams. I am Jones' mother."

Mrs. Anderson, after hearing the false report that her son's father was Stanley Tookie Williams, called Fontana Police immediately. She was told by a police sergeant that "it did not matter." The sergeant excused the lie as a police tactic.

This was followed two days later, on Thursday, November 17, 2005, in a statement from Vernell Crittendon, the spokesperson for San Quentin State Prison, that he suspected “Stanley Williams of orchestrating gangland crimes from his cell.” The inflammatory allegation, which was repeated in print and television media, is false and contradicts official San Quentin documents. An official San Quentin Institutional Classification Committee (ICC) Summary dated August 5, 2004, states:

“Lt. G. Fuller stated that during his assignment in East Block he has not observed Williams in any gang involvement. ICC commended Williams on his positive program over the last 10 years. Williams thanked ICC for their respectful treatment.”

The San Quentin report is supported by statements from the Los Angeles Police Department whose spokeswoman, April Harding, recently stated there is no evidence of any illegal gang activity on the part of Stanley Tookie Williams.

Daniel Vasquez, warden at San Quentin from 1983 to 1993, was recently quoted as saying, in reference to Crittendon’s statements, that he had never seen such an inflammatory statement in a news release from the prison, and that it was “like they’re trying to drum up business for death row.”

The petition goes on to state that, “This type of conduct from law enforcement is incompatible with justice. To the contrary, it is official misconduct.”

In their petition, attorneys for Williams conclude, “. . .the District Attorney ignores the needs of California’s youth and the sense of hope and future that Stanley Williams brings to so many who are disadvantaged. In the end, we ask what makes sense. We ask what is practical reality. Giving Stanley Williams life is the right decision because it does the most good.”

A full copy of the “Reply Petition for Executive Clemency on Behalf of Stanley Tookie Williams” can be found at [www.cm-p.com](http://www.cm-p.com).