

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Guidelines, Sentencing \(MSGC\)](#)  
**Subject:** Take carjackings seriously!  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 26, 2023 1:37:08 PM

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Re: Take carjackings seriously!

Dear Minnesota Sentencing Guidelines Commission,

I urge you to put victims' interest over offenders by assigning a more severe penalty to the crime of carjacking. The Minnesota legislature recognized the epidemic of carjacking in our cities by creating this new law because they understand that this devastating act has left countless Minnesotans traumatized. Now you need to do your job and assign a severe penalty to carjacking in order to send a message to criminals that the punishment for this traumatic crime includes prison time. Treating carjacking using the existing robbery standard is not enough of a deterrent to stop this behavior and the same criminals will spin through the revolving door of justice, free to repeat their crimes. Minnesota victims deserve better. Carjackers need a stronger sentence. Please take this into account at your meeting on July 27, 2023.

Sincerely,  
Donna Jump

[REDACTED]  
5620 11th Ave S Minneapolis, MN 55417 Constituent

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Guidelines, Sentencing \(MSGC\)](#)  
**Subject:** contact us form submission  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 1, 2023 10:44:47 PM

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Web site information request by [REDACTED] on 2023-08-01.

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firstname: Char

lastname: Gary

email: [REDACTED]

requestedFromType: Academic

description: I am writing you about crime !!! I believe crime in Minnesota is out of control !!! You need to start stiffer policies for criminal behavior!! Murder should be life sentence automatically !!! I think the death penalty should be brought back !!! If you care about us Minnesotans you will do something about the crime !!! The juvenile crime is really out of control these kids know there is no real consequences for juveniles so there multiplying!!! It's getting worse!!! You need to do something !!! Please listen to the citizens of Minnesota we should not have to live in fear !!! Thank you char Gary

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**From:** [cindy Johnson](#)  
**To:** [Guidelines, Sentencing \(MSGC\)](#)  
**Subject:** STATE OF MINNESOTA V. Sylvester Terell Vaughn CA FILE NO.: 23A01040 MNCIS NO.: 27-CR-23-4248  
**Date:** Thursday, August 10, 2023 11:42:45 AM

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My name is Cynthia Johnson and I am the step mother of Josiah Robert Oakley. My son was killed by Sylvester Vaughn on December 11th 2022. Mr. Vaughn was almost three times the legal limit, driving 90 miles an hour when he killed my son. He was sentenced to only 48 months, 2/3rds of which he will serve behind bars. He will then get to return to his life as normal. I have seen countless news stories since my son was killed for the same crime. All given 48 months or less. How is this acceptable? This has to change. Our family will not rest until these guidelines are changed. My son's life is worth more than 48 months. So are the countless lives that have been lost due to criminal vehicular homicide. This is my 3rd attempt to reach someone. I am happy to attend a meeting and speak with the board myself. This cannot continue.

It shouldn't matter how many "points" the defendant has for prior offenses. If they take someone's life that should be it! If you say they will serve 10-15 years then they should serve 10-15 years! 48 months is a complete disregard for the human life lost and I am ashamed to live in a state that thinks that's acceptable.

I've attached part of my victim impact statement. I want the sentencing board to understand how much this has impacted our family. Please do something!

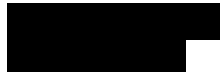
The sentencing guidelines for criminal vehicular homicide are a disgrace. How does someone get to drive drunk, kill someone and return to their life as normal in less time than it takes a teenager to complete high school? With one poor decision, my family's life has changed forever. I don't EVER get to see my son again. Mr. Vaughn will get to see his children upon his release. He will get to see them graduate, get married and have children of their own. Meanwhile, Josiah's mother Desiree Oakley is without her only child. My husband is without his first born son. Our children are without their brother. And I am left without my oldest son. We will never get to see him get married or have his first child. We will never see him move up the ladder at UPS as he intended. We will never hear him laugh or make fun of his dad being "an old man". We will never see him in his Christmas pajamas at the movie theater on Christmas Eve as we do every year.

My heart is permanently broken. My son was taken. He didn't move away. He was taken. The last time I saw

Josiah was the night before he was killed. We all went out to Applebee's to celebrate his sister's 21 st birthday. It was a great night. All 5 of the kids were there. We had dinner and the kids were reminiscing about their childhood and how much time had passed. Josiah said he really liked his job at UPS and talked about transferring to another state if there was an opportunity for him to advance in the company. His dad and I both said at the same time "You're not going anywhere". Josiah just laughed at us. We tried to get him to come back to our house and hang out for the evening. Josiah said he had made plans. We all got up and left. Little did we know that would be the last time we would see him. That was 2 hours before the crash.

Our family did not want to offer any kind of settlement. We did not agree to 48 months. Nor did we understand why we were told we had to offer a settlement before court proceedings even commenced. There's a video of him hitting my son in that intersection. It's pretty clear what happened here. This was NOT AN ACCIDENT! The punishment should fit the crime. Please don't ask us to accept anything less that was just in this case. Please set the precedence that there are consequences for breaking the law and taking an innocent person's life. Please give our family the closure we deserve.

Once again our family was told that these were the guidelines so 48 months is all he gets. Please help us and the other families suffering.



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