

**The Honourable Robert Douglas Nicholson
Minister Of Justice For Canada
House Of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6**

Dear Mr. Nicholson,

On February 10, 1956 a black spot was forever etched into the history of our country. It was during the wee hours of the morning on this date at Bordeaux Jail in Montreal that Canada decided the fate of Wilbert Coffin by allowing him to be hung by the neck until he was dead on the gallows of this facility.

Mr. Coffin was a prospector from Gaspé, Quebec, having been born and raised there. In June of 1953, three hunters from Pennsylvania were murdered in the forest near Gaspé. Wilbert Coffin was reported to have been the last person to have seen these people alive. Based on this report, a very flimsy case, supported entirely by the weakest of circumstantial evidence, Wilbert Coffin was charged with the first degree murder of one of these individuals. The judiciary of the day did not pursue an investigation of the remaining two individuals, and thus, their killer was allowed to mingle as a free person for life. Tragically, Wilbert Coffin paid the ultimate price, even though evidence and wrong doing on the part of the judiciary proves otherwise.

It can be demonstrated that Mr. Coffin was unable to fight the system. He had no money, and he was forced to accept a legal defense comprising a drunken lawyer. He was never permitted to speak at his trial. It can now be proven beyond doubt that the judiciary withheld certain key evidence at trial, and as well, certain evidence was skewed affecting the outcome in favour of the crown.

Mr. Coffin's trial at Percé was of nineteen days duration. The total deliberation time by the jury comprised thirty-one minutes, equating to one minute and twenty seconds for each day of trial.

Canadians have been advised that the CCRG (Criminal Conviction Review Group) is now reviewing this case. The original application was made in 1991. This is totally unacceptable, and goes against fairness for the Coffin family.

Prior to the last federal election, Canadian voters were advised that it was time to clean up government. That day has arrived for members of parliament of all political stripes to ensure this is carried out. Canadians should not be forced to accept anything less than a fair and impartial process of law. These are fundamentals as guaranteed by our Charter Of Rights And Freedoms.

Wilbert Coffin was executed as a result of a very flawed process of law. His family recognizes that his life can never be restored. His family is deserving though of a sense of dignity that would result from appropriate action on your part by speeding this process. I implore you and the federal government to act swiftly, and bring this matter to conclusion without further delay.

Sincerely yours,