STATE OF GEORGIA COUNTY OF APPLING

AFFIDAVIT OF J

Comes now the affiant, Jerse Pleases who, having been duly sworn by an officer authorized by law to administer oaths, deposes and states as follows:

- 1. I am over the age of eighteen and competent to testify to the matters herein.
- 2. I served as an alternate juror in the death penalty trial of Warren King in Appling County in September 1998. I sat for the entirety of the trial but did not deliberate with the jury.
- 3. At the time of the trial, I worked as an administrative office manager in the Appling County Health Care System. I still work in the health care system.
- 4. I took my jury service very seriously. At the time of trial, based on the evidence presented, I was very conflicted on whether I would vote to give Warren King life without parole or a death sentence if I became a deliberating juror. I felt that Mr. King was guilty of being involved with Karen Crosby's death but might not deserve to be executed.
- 5. My Christian faith is very important to me, and I have always been very involved in my church. My late husband and I attended Riverside Baptist Church in Baxley at the time of trial, a church I still attend today. My husband served on the Board of Deacons, where he cared for the physical needs of the congregation and the church, like visiting the sick, ministering to members of the community, or helping with home repairs and food deliveries. I taught Sunday School and Vacation Bible School, led youth outreach programs, and helped young women coming up in the church.
- 6. Because of my faith, I took the trial very seriously, as I understood that I may be asked to decide another person's fate. My Christian values would have informed the way I reached a decision in this case.
- 7. I have since been contacted by Mr. King's legal team from the Georgia Resource Center, and have had an opportunity to review the reports of Dr.

Ernest Miller, Dr. David Fassler, and Wayne Hill. Since the trial, I have not spoken to anyone else on Mr. King's legal team until now.

- 8. After reviewing the reports of Dr. Miller and Dr. Fassler, I am shocked that information about Mr. King's mental health and schizophrenia diagnosis was not presented to us as a jury. If I had known that Mr. King had schizophrenia, that would have solidified my view that a life sentence without parole was the appropriate punishment.
- 9. Mr. King seems like a troubled teenager who suffered from a traumatic family life and mental health issues. He is someone who needed treatment and access to medication, and certainly not to be executed.
- 10.I have also reviewed Mr. Hill's expert report about the crime scene. After reviewing the report, I have serious doubts about whether Mr. King was the actual shooter, and I am even more convinced that I would not have voted for death.
- 11.I think it is extremely unfair that Mr. Smith is serving life with parole while Mr. King may be executed. In my opinion, both Mr. Smith and Mr. King should have been sentenced to life without parole.
- 12. It makes me very sad to think that Mr. King may be executed. Having heard all the evidence at trial and after reviewing the reports of Dr. Miller, Dr. Fassler, and Mr. Hill. I strongly feel that his sentence should be commuted to life without parole.

Further affiant sayeth naught:

Dated this 8th day of October, 2023.

JI PA

Sworn to and subscribed before me, this given day of October, 2023.

Notary Public

My Commission expires Seprember 4, 2027.