



RE: Media inquiry regarding your client Carl Hubbard

From Shereef Akeel <shereef@akeelvalentine.com>

Date Tue 9/15/2026 11:52 AM

To Diane Bukowski <diane_bukowski@hotmail.com>

Cc Emad Hamadeh <emad@akeelvalentine.com>

Dear Ms. Bukowski,

Thank you for reaching out, and more importantly, thank you for the years you have spent covering Carl's case. Long before our firm became involved, you and the Voice of Detroit were telling Carl's story and keeping public attention on a conviction that never should have happened. That kind of steady, independent reporting matters. It reminds people that Carl is still waiting for justice, and it gives people who have been ignored for decades a place to be heard. Carl speaks highly of you, and we are grateful for your support of him and of the clemency campaign.

Carl let us know he had spoken with you, and we are glad to help with your updated story.

We have filed a Motion for Relief from Judgment and Brief in Support filed in the Wayne County Circuit Court, along with the exhibits. If you want a copy, please set us know.

Below is a statement from our office that you are welcome to use and attribute to our firm.

--

Our motion puts forward new evidence that no court has considered before, and we believe it removes what is left of the case against Carl.

First, in 2024 the Detroit Metro Times published an investigation showing that between 2001 and 2004, nearly all Wayne County criminal case files from 1995 and earlier were taken from a storage warehouse and destroyed, which state law does not allow. That period includes some of the most troubled years of Detroit's homicide unit, when coerced statements and misconduct were widespread. Kim Worthy has said publicly that staff under the prior administration were directed to find and destroy these files. She has also said that pages covering those years were torn out of the office's own log, and that the office still cannot locate its pre-1995 files. When Carl asked for his file, he was told only that the office had no records, not that it had been destroyed. That file held evidence that could have helped him. One example is the results of a subpoena prosecutors sent to a cab company to check the main witness's story, which were never shared with Carl's defense.

Second, one of the owners of the neighborhood store (Special K) at the center of the prosecution's case has signed a new sworn statement. The case relied on a second witness, Andrew Smith, who testified that he saw Carl in the area on his way to the store and was inside the store when the shots were fired. The owner, who knew Mr. Smith and had banned him from the store, now swears that Mr. Smith was not there that night, and neither was Carl. When a federal appeals court upheld Carl's conviction in 2024, it relied on Mr. Smith's testimony.

Third, we learned that before Mr. Smith ever testified, police arrested him on suspicion of this same murder, after Carl had already been charged. The day after his arrest, Mr. Smith gave a statement pointing to Carl. Carl's defense was never told about that arrest. Years after Carl was convicted, it came to light that Detroit homicide detectives in that era kept what they called "miscellaneous files." These were separate files where witness statements, other suspects, and evidence that could help the accused were set aside and kept from the defense. The record of Mr. Smith's arrest was in one of those files, and the judge who convicted Carl never heard about it.

Taken together, this evidence shows what Carl has said from the beginning: he is innocent, and he should come home.

Thank you.

Shereef Akeel, Esq.
Akeel & Valentine, PLC
888 W. Big Beaver Road
Suite 350
Troy, MI 48084
Tel: (248) 269-9595
Email: Shereef@akeelvalentine.com
www.akeelvalentine.com

From: Diane Bukowski <diane_bukowski@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, September 14, 2026 6:29 PM
To: Shereef Akeel <shereef@akeelvalentine.com>
Subject: Media inquiry regarding your client Carl Hubbard
Importance: High

You don't often get email from diane_bukowski@hotmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)
Hello, Atty. Akeel. This is Diane Bukowski, editor of the Voice of Detroit newspaper. We have been covering the case of Carl Hubbard over the past years. See: [FULL PARDON FOR WRONGFULLY CONVICTED CARL HUBBARD! SIGN MACARTHUR JUSTICE CTR. PETITION | VOICE OF DETROIT: The city's independent newspaper, unbossed and unbought](#)

He called me recently to let me know he was also filing in the trial court in addition to the campaign for clemency. I was so happy to hear that. But I see by the Register of Actions that the trial judge, now Charise Anderson, has postponed a review date repeatedly until October. I don't see the prosecutor response yet.

I would like to do an updated story on Carl's pending hearing. Sometimes that will alert them that action is needed. I told him I would contact his attorneys to see if you would provide me with a copy of his motion and exhibits.

Please let me know if you are able to do this. Thanks for representing him! It has been a very long battle for him, and he was clearly innocent.

Thank you kindly,
Diane Bukowski
Editor
Voice of Detroit, LLC
P.O. Box 35278
Phone: 313-825-6126