

Dear Honorable Members of the Parole Board:

I am writing today about the upcoming parole of Jeffrey Hodge, inmate A275835

Jeffrey Hodge kidnapped and murdered my friend Melissa Herstrum while she was a student at the University of Toledo. Jeffrey Hodge was a police officer for the University and kidnapped and murdered her while on duty. He used his power as a police officer and protector to take advantage of Melissa and ultimately kill her.

Melissa was my close friend and we lived in the same neighborhood. I will never forget returning to my dorm room from class and receiving the call that Melissa had been found murdered. I collapsed to the floor and knew life as I knew it was changed forever. How could Melissa, a kind, smart, happy girl with a smile that could brighten anyone's day, be murdered??? Melissa was always helping people and strived to be a nurse. She was a good person who didn't put herself in risky situations. It just didn't make any sense.

It was almost a week later when we learned the devastating fact that she had been murdered by a police officer. A person of authority that we had been taught to respect and trust. I remember where we had all gathered to watch the press conference and how stunned we all were to learn it was him. We later learned from Melissa's sorority sisters that Jeffrey Hodge was the police officer that came to their sorority house to "protect and comfort them". He inserted himself in the investigation at every step which shows he was trying to cover up what he had done and showed no remorse.

For years my girlfriends and I drove around with printed signs in our cars to hold up to the window in case we were ever pulled over at night by a solo officer. It explained that a friend had been murdered by a police officer after he pulled her over and could he please call for another officer or follow me to a safe location. That is not how someone should feel about police officers, but Jeffrey Hodge destroyed our trust and we feared for our safety.

It is imperative that he is not released. He admitted to what he did and said he had no reason. Doctors who interviewed him at the time said he showed signs displayed by serial killers. He was just caught after his first murder. This behavior cannot be corrected. He will be a threat to society if he is released.

Please deny the parole of Jeffrey Hodge.

Ohio Parole Board

4545 Fisher Rd, Suite D
Columbus, OH 43228

Dear Honorable Members of the Parole Board:

I am writing in regards to the upcoming parole hearing of Jeffrey Hodge [A275835].

My dear friend Melissa Anne Herstrum was kidnapped and killed by Jeffrey Hodge. I met Melissa soon after she moved to Rocky River, OH when we were in grade school. I graduated High School with Melissa, and was with her at the University of Toledo a few weeks before her violent death.

Jeffrey Hodge was unrepentant when he plead guilty to kidnapping and murdering Melissa. Rather, he admitted to being angry and killing her for no reason. As a sworn police officer, Jeffrey Hodge used his Position of Authority to prey on Melissa; and his misogynistic ego-fueled rage made it easy for him to kill her. He is irredeemable.

Melissa would be 49 now, and Jeffrey Hodge is only a few years older. He does not deserve a chance at the full life that he took from my friend.

I respectfully request that you DENY PAROLE to Jeffrey Hodge [A275835].