

Sample Victim Impact Statement

Crime: PC 192

***This statement was written by a Grandmother and Grandfather of a victim who was killed in an automobile accident in which the defendant made an illegal left hand turn into oncoming traffic. I have permission from the family to share their statement but I have removed their identifying information. – Victim Advocate*

Our names are John and Jane Smith. We are the grandparents of Jason Smith. Jason passed away from a car accident on January 1st, 2010 at 12:00pm.

When the defendant, Mr. Bob Jones, took Jason's life from us, it was like he ripped our hearts out. We were, and continue, to cry and die inside with all the pain that this caused our family.

We miss Jason so much and you cannot imagine the pain that this has caused. Jason was a joy to be around. Whenever we went to his home, he always had a bouquet of flowers for me to take home – that was the type of person Matt was, always thoughtful and loving.

No parent should have to watch their child bury their grandchild. No grandparent should have to live with the needless taking of their first born grandchild. This is the most painful think you can go through. We feel like there is nothing we can do to help our son, Jason's dad. We watch our son having to face every day without Jason and trying to help his family, taking case of Matt's business, hi home, pets, personal possessions and legal matters in addition to his normal family obligations and job responsibilities. This is difficult beyond words.

We, our son and his family and all of Jason's other family and friends should not have to live with the results of the defendant's careless driving. Our lives are forever changed and will never be the family we once were.

We will never be able to attend Jason's wedding, hold his children and share in the joy his life and future accomplishments would have brought us. We will not be able to lend support or comfort in the challenging times of his life. Jason would be alive today if the defendant had not been so careless.

We are aware that the maximum penalty is one year and beg the court to give you that. We also hope that the defendant's license is revoked but understand that this is beyond the court's jurisdiction. Every day we wake to face another day without Jason and we can only hope that serving time and losing driving privileges will make the defendant give some thought to what he has done to Jason, our family and so many other loved ones.

