

FREE POLITICAL PRISONER JEFF 'FREE' LUERS



Jeff Luers' Legal Appeal Update February 2005

Jeff filed an appeal of his case on January 14, 2002 before the Oregon Court of Appeals. The appeal is 50 pages long and covers many aspects of Jeff's ludicrous trial and sentence. We are hoping that this appeal will take 10-12 years off his sentence. The state responded to the appeal in early October 2003, Jeff's lawyer responded in March 2004 and July 2004 arguments were postponed due to the *Blakely v. Washington* court decision in Washington state.

As of the time of this writing, Jeff's appeal is on hold. In June, the United States Supreme Court decided *Blakely v. Washington*, 542 US ___, 124 S Ct 2531, ___ L Ed 3d ___ (2004). The case has the potential to affect the sentences of thousands of people sentenced under Oregon's sentencing guidelines, including Jeff's. The Oregon Court of Appeals has received requests for additional briefing on *Blakely* in so many cases that it has delayed ruling on these requests until Oregon courts have a chance to figure out the impact of *Blakely* on sentencing in Oregon. The Oregon Court of Appeals and Supreme Court are expected to begin issuing opinions in some representative cases (also called "lead cases") soon. After that, the Court of Appeals will decide to allow or deny additional briefing in cases like Jeff's, and his appeal will go forward from there.

Legal costs for Jeff's appeals will be in the tens of thousands of dollars and help is greatly needed. Please send checks and money orders made out to "Free's Defense Fund" and send them to Free's Defense Fund, POB 3, Eugene, OR 97440 or go to www.freefreenow.org to make an online credit card donation. Every bit helps!

For more information, write:
Free's Defense Fund POB 3, Eugene, OR 97440 or freefreenow@mutualaid.org
Jeffrey Luers, #13797671, Oregon State Penitentiary, 2605 State Street, Salem, OR 97310
www.freefreenow.org