



For Immediate Release

November 27th, 2011

Jeff Gilham appeal hearing to commence

Key Points

- Jeff Gilham's appeal against his 2008 conviction of the 1993 murder of his parents will be heard in the Court of Criminal Appeal, Monday Nov 28 through Friday Dec 2. The court will not sit on Tuesday Nov 29.
The panel of judges to hear the appeal are Justice Peter McClellan, Justice Elizabeth Fullerton and Justice Peter Garling.
- Jeff's conviction resulted after a controversial and unfair trial in which a variety of evidence and circumstances were misinterpreted and distorted by the prosecuting legal team.
- At trial, the prosecution constructed a melodramatic circumstantial case based on dubious forensic science and plainly wrong facts. After eight days of deliberation the jury in the *second* trial (the first resulted in a hung jury) found Jeff guilty of murdering his parents and he was subsequently sentenced to life imprisonment by Justice Roderick Howie.
- Jeff's appeal has *18 separate grounds* against his conviction and sentence.
- The appeal will answer *each of the 14 circumstances* on which the prosecution relied at trial and *new evidence* to several aspects, including significant mishandling of evidence such as the knife used in the attacks.
- The main areas of the appeal include fresh evidence that shows:
 - The carbon monoxide in Christopher Gilham's blood is consistent with him – not Jeff – setting fire to his parents.
 - Helen Gilham, who was found in front of an intercom connecting Jeff's boatshed bedroom with the main house, left a bloodied finger mark on the intercom that was recorded on the crime scene video being wiped away by police investigators.
 - Evidence on the similarity of stab wounds was entirely unsupported by scientific evidence. The stab wounds experts relied on inaccurate diagrams to base their conclusions of similarity.
 - There were serious flaws in the fire demonstrations presented to the jury at the second trial which were grossly misleading.
- Jeff Gilham, his wife, family and supporters are looking forward to the appeal hearing. We are confident that, with a fair and impartial hearing, the appeal will be successful and Jeff's 2008 conviction will be overturned.

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About Jeff NEEDS Justice

The **Jeff NEEDS Justice** team is a group of supporters of Jeff Gilham, who has been wrongly convicted of the 1993 murder of his parents. We are committed to seeing his conviction and life sentence overturned and his name cleared. Our aim is to bring Jeff home to his young family and return him to his productive life in our community.

See: <http://www.jeffgilham.com.au>
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