

## Testimony of Sarilda Routier

DIRECT EXAMINATION

2

3 BY MR. S. PRESTON DOUGLASS:

4 Q. Sarilda, you testified earlier in the  
5 trial, but just to remind everybody, in case there's --  
6 it's been a little while, you are Darlie's mother-in-law?

7 A. Yes, I am Darlie's mother-in-law.

8 Q. And you are grandmother of Damon and  
9 Devon?

10 A. Devon and Damon and Drake and Dillon.

11 Q. You testified earlier in this trial  
12 that you believe very much in your daughter-in-law?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. That you believe in Darlie?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. And, the jury has found that -- her  
17 guilty of killing your two grandchildren. I want to ask  
18 you: Do you still maintain your confidence and your  
19 belief and your faith in Darlie?

20 A. I most certainly do.

21 Q. You were in here when the verdict was  
22 read?

23 A. Unfortunately, I was.

24 Q. And you understand that all that is  
25 left now is to move on; is that right?

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1 A. That's what I am told.

2 Q. You understand that the jury is faced  
3 with the decision of Darlie Routier's life, between  
4 execution and imprisonment for life.

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. Now, I want to ask you if you have any  
7 thoughts you want to share with the jury?

8 A. Well, to be really truthful, I am  
9 still in shock. I didn't prepare myself for that at all.  
10 I don't know where we all were. But yes, I understand  
11 that that's all over. I don't know how y'all came to  
12 that decision. But I know it wasn't easy. I'm sure it  
13 wasn't. I hope it wasn't easy.

14 But you know, of course, I don't have  
15 to tell you this: I think you are wrong. But what I do  
16 want to tell you is that, you know, you have made a  
17 decision, and we all have to live with it. But there is  
18 still another decision. For goodness sakes, if you make  
19 the decision to put her to death, if something happens  
20 and we finally find this man, or whoever did this, she

21 might could be gone. And then you will have to --  
22

23 MR. GREG DAVIS: I'm sorry. Could we  
24 please have this in a question and answer.

25 THE COURT: Sustained. Please, just  
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1 ask the -- let's ask in the question-and-answer form  
2 please.

3 THE WITNESS: Well, my statement --

4 THE COURT: Well, wait a minute until  
5 you are asked a question.

6 THE WITNESS: Okay. I'm sorry.

7

8 BY MR. S. PRESTON DOUGLASS:

9 Q. Sarilda, let me ask you this:

10 Obviously, you believe that it's important that Darlie's  
11 life be spared?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. Okay. Tell the jury why you believe  
14 that.

15 A. Well, for one thing is that, you know,  
16 this decision wasn't just for Darlie against Darlie.  
17 It's against all of us. Our whole family has been  
18 through so much. I lost those two grandbabies, they will  
19 never come back to me. Please, please, don't do any more  
20 to us. I am just begging you, please. I mean, I have a  
21 daughter that's under sedation. I have a husband that  
22 may have a heart attack. They lost their home.

23 You don't know the hordes of people  
24 that you are affecting. I know you made the decision the  
25 best that you could, but you have a right to make this  
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1 decision again. This is a new decision.  
2 I mean, my goodness. I mean, dig down  
3 deep in you somewhere and just don't make it any worse,  
4 please. Please, don't make it any worse. Don't do any  
5 more to us.

6 Q. Okay.

7

8 MR. S. PRESTON DOUGLASS: Sarilda,  
9 thank you.

10 I'll pass the witness.

11 THE COURT: Mr. Davis.

12

13 CROSS EXAMINATION

14

15 BY MR. GREG DAVIS:

16 Q. Mrs. Routier, you remember in, I

17 believe it was December that you called me one day?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. Do you remember that conversation that

20 you told me?

21 A. I remember well.

22 Q. That if your daughter-in-law was

23 guilty of this offense?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. You thought she ought to die?

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1 A. I said, if she did it, but my

2 daughter-in-law didn't do it. You want to recall the

3 wording of that conversation.

4 Q. No, ma'am. Again, if she is guilty,

5 she ought to die?

6 A. If she did it, but she did not do it.

7

8 MR. GREG DAVIS: No further questions.

9 THE WITNESS: She most certainly did

10 not do it.

11 THE COURT: Thank you, ma'am. You may

12 step down.

13 Your next witness, please.

14 MR. RICHARD C. MOSTY: Your Honor, and

15 ladies and gentlemen of the jury, the defense rests.

16 MR. GREG DAVIS: State closes.

17 MR. RICHARD C. MOSTY: Defense closes.

18 THE COURT: All right. Ladies and

19 gentlemen of the jury, that is all the testimony you will

20 be hearing in this case. What has to happen now is I've

21 got to put together a Charge of the Court. We have it

22 done, and the lawyers are going to remain. We're going

23 to get that ironed out tonight.

24 So you will be recessed until 9:00

25 o'clock tomorrow morning, at which time you will hear

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1 arguments from both sides in this phase of the case. It

2 will be yours to decide.

3 Same instructions as always. Don't

4 discuss this among yourselves until all of you are

5 together, the Charge has been read, and you're back in

6 the jury room. Don't discuss this with anybody, don't

7 discuss this case with anybody else; do no investigation

8 on your own. You are going to decide this phase of the

9 trial like the other on the testimony you hear and  
10 evidence you will receive in this courtroom.  
11 Likewise, do not listen to any radio,  
12 look at any TV or read any newspapers or any other  
13 periodicals concerning this case until it's over.  
14 We will see everybody here tomorrow  
15 morning at 9:00 o'clock.  
16 Wear the juror badges in the  
17 courthouse area.  
18 Thank you very much.