

**PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING HOUSE BILL 1382  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES JUDICIARY COMMITTEE**

**NAME:** Tyrone Werts      **AGE:** 41   **AGE AT TIME OF ARREST:** 24  
**CHARGE:** Felony Murder      **DEGREE OF GUILT:** Second Degree  
**COUNTY:** Philadelphia      **DATE OF ARREST:** June 8, 1991

**BRIEF OUTLINE OF CASE:**

On May 6, 1975, I, along with three other individuals agreed to commit a robbery of a drug dealer in North Philadelphia. We essentially made this agreement without giving it a lot of thought because dealing drugs was illegal and he could not effectively involve the police if he was robbed. We all drove to the location where the drug dealer frequented. After a search of the area, we were unable to locate him. We were directed by one of our co-conspirators to another individual's home to see if he knew where to find the drug dealer. After reaching his home, he got into the car and we again drove to a few areas continuing to search for the drug dealer. However, we still could not find him. At this point, the new rider suggested that we take him 32nd and York Streets where some illegal gambling was taking place. After some discussion, an agreement was made to commit this unfortunate act.

After checking the place out, we made our plans. Two people agreed to go inside the premises, while two agreed to act as look-outs. I agreed to remain in the car to await the outcome. After about five minutes, everyone came running back to the car where I was informed that someone was accidentally shot. We drove from the scene and everyone was taken home. It was about a week later when I found out the person who was shot, had died.

On June 8, 1975, I was arrested and subsequently convicted of 2nd degree murder and sentenced to life imprisonment. One of my co-defendants plea bargained to testify against everyone, and the other pled to a lesser degree, and both have since been released.

**ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS:**

After coming into the prison environment, I decided that if my life was going to count for something, I had to begin the process of making changes in my life. I started on the road to improvement by earning my G.E.D. in 1976, and enrolling in Post Secondary Education classes through Cheyney State University, Montgomery County Community College, and Villanova University. Since that time, I have earn an Associate of Science degree in Business Administration from Montgomery County, and a Bachelor of Art Degree in General Studies from Villanova.

PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING HOUSE BILL 1382

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

NAME: BRIAN WALLACE AGE: 34 AGE AT TIME OF ARREST: 14

CHARGE: MURDER, ROBBERY DATE OF CONVICTION: JULY 7, 1972

TRIAL BY JUDGE: NO JURY: YES DEGREE OF GUILT: 1st. Degree

BRIEF OUTLINE OF CASE:

On August 10, 1971, I and two co-defendants entered the business of Mr. Guido Zanni, a variety store owner, located at the intersection of 15th. & Wharton streets. We entered with the intention of only robbery. Unfortunately, upon leaving, Mr. Zanni fired a shot at us and we panicked and shot back out of fear. Mr. Zanni was hit, unfortunately resulting in the loss of a human life.

After being arrested on August 13, 1971, only days after being detained at the Youth Study Center, I attended a preliminary hearing at 1801 Vine Street. Since only a juvenile, (14 at the time) and soon to be 15 years old, (February 8, 1972) it was recommended that I be certified as an adult and a hearing was held February 10, 1972. I was certified as an adult, and so were my co-defendants. Charges were Robbery, Conspiracy, Murder, and Firearm Violations. I was found guilty of all charges, one of my co-defendants was found not guilty, the other found guilty of all charges and sentenced to an indefinite sentence (18 months to 3 years). I was given a life sentence.

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS:

Business Ed.	Thresholds Problem Solving
Basic Ed.	VIP Self Development Life Mngmnt.
School Seminar's	Communication Group
Night School	Impulse Control Group
Welding School	Long Term Offender Group
Tailoring Night School	Lifers Therapy Group
Speaking w/C.O. Trainees	Al Kafarrah Substance Abuse Group

CURRENT ACTIVITIES WITHIN INSTITUTION:

Al Kafarrah Substance Abuse  
N.A.A.C.P.  
Jaycee's  
Communication Group