Senate Committee on Federal and State Affairs Wednesday, March 8, 2016

Testimony in support of SB 200

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee:

GOOD DAY TO YOU. MY NAME IS VICKIE FROST. (give address).

TODAY I SPEAK AS A FRIEND OF HAROLD & ALBERTA LEACH,

AND FOR THE MANY FRIENDS OF THE LEACH FAMILY

WHO COULD NOT ATTEND TODAY'S HEARING,

BUT ARE WITH US IN SUPPORT.

WE, TOO, WANT TO THANK YOU FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK TODAY, AND WE ALSO WANT TO THANK SENATOR HOLLAND.

WE STAND IN SOLIDARITY WITH HAROLD AND ALBERTA LEACH
IN THEIR STEADFAST SEARCH FOR THE TRUTH OF WHAT HAPPENED
TO THEIR SON RANDY ON THAT FRIDAY IN APRIL IN 1988,
AND MORE IMPORTANTLY, WE WILL ALWAYS BE THERE WITH THEM
FOR THE FIGHT TO FIND RANDY LEACH.

WE BELIEVE IN HAROLD AND ALBERTA'S STATEMENT TODAY
AS IF IT IS OUR OWN.

WE WHOLE-HEARTEDLY BELIEVE THE LEGISLATURE SHOULD USE ALL
IT'S UNDERSTANDING AND POWER TO PASS SB 200
TO HELP GIVE RESOLVE TO HAROLD AND ALBERTA LEACH.

THEY HAVE STATED <u>THEIR EMOTIONAL PLEA</u> AND WE WILL STATE <u>OUR SUPPORTIVE PLEA</u>.

WHILE WE CAN AND WILL ONLY ADDRESS THAT TOP 10% OF 'THE TIP OF THE ICEBERG' INVOLVING RANDY'S CASE,
WE WILL ADDRESS THAT 90% 'BELOW THE SURFACE' ISSUES WITH ONLY ONE COMMENT.

WE HAVE BEEN WITH HAROLD AND ALBERTA LEACH DURING
THEIR LONG, PAINFUL, FRUSTRATING, AND FRUITLESS JOURNEY,
AND AT THIS POINT WILL STOP AT NOTHING
TO AFFECT RESOLVE FOR THE CASE AND FIND RANDY.

WE HAD SHORT NOTICE OF THIS HEARING SO WE DIDN'T HAVE TIME

TO GATHER ALL OF THE SUPPORTERS FOR THIS HEARING,

BUT THEY WILL HELP TO LET YOU KNOW THAT

HAROLD AND ALBERTA LEACH ARE NOT ALONE

IN FINDING RESOLUTION FOR THEIR SON, RANDY.

AFTER NO SUPPORT FROM LOCAL AND STATE TO ESTABLISH

AN INQUEST OR INQUISITION, IN 1990, HAROLD AND ALBERTA LEACH

PUT FORTH A PETITION ASKING FOR AN INQUEST OR INQUISITION

THAT HAD OVER 12,000 SIGNATURES OF SUPPORT,, STATE-WIDE.

THIS PETITION WAS SENT TO 9 ESTABLISHED ENTITIES

WHO MOST STATED THEY SUPPORTED THE PETITION,

BUT STATE AND LOCAL SURPRISINGLY,

FLATLY DENIED THEIR REQUEST.

	16	

THIS IS ONLY ONE EXAMPLE OF THE FRUSTRATION AND DISMAY

HAROLD AND ALBERTA LEACH HAVE HAD TO ENDURE.

THIS CASE OF RANDY'S HAS NOT LACKED MEDIA ATTENTION,
PRIVATE INVESTIGATOR ATTENTION, SOCIAL MEDIA ATTENTION, ETC.,
BUT THE CASE STILL REMAINS UNSOLVED.

THIS CASE OF RANDY'S HAS NOT LACKED THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE
WHO COULD HAVE BEEN INTERVIEWED UNDER OATH
FOR VITAL INFORMATION TO SOLVE THE CASE AND FIND RANDY.

AT THIS POINT, AFTER 29 YEARS, THERE IS NO VALID REASON WHY
HAROLD AND ALBERTA LEACH SHOULD NOT HAVE ACCESS
TO THEIR SON'S FILES TO HELP RESOLVE THE CASE
AND FIND THEIR SON.

**WITH OUR EXPERIENCES WITH THIS CASE, WE FEEL THIS WOULD NOT BE AN IMPOSITION UPON THE STATE OR LOCAL AGENCIES IF THIS CLAUSE OF SB 200 TO THE KANSAS OPEN RECORDS ACT IS PASSED.

***WITH WHAT OUR ADVISORS HAVE STATED TO US,

WE FEEL THERE SHOULD BE NO IMPOSITION

ON STATE OR LOCAL <u>STAFF</u> IN OUR OBTAINING THESE FILES.

AS PART OF ANY RECORDS DEPARTMENT, <u>THIS IS JUST PART OF</u>

THEIR JOB – RETRIEVING AND PRODUCING RECORDS PER REQUESTS.

****WE BELIEVE THERE WOULD BE NO HARM

TO OPEN THESE RECORDS OF CASES OVER 25 YEARS,

AND WE BELIEVE THERE WOULD BE NO DANGER

TO INDIVIDUALS INVOLVED OR NAMED IN THESE CASES,

AS EXAMPLED IN HAROLD AND ALBERTA LEACH'S CASE

BECAUSE THEY HAVE HAD ACCESS

TO NAMES AND STATEMENTS

BUT HAVE NOT TAKEN ACTION AGAINST THESE INDIVIDUALS.

IN CLOSING, WE ALL CANNOT EMPHASIZE ENOUGH
THE IMPORTANCE OF HAVING YOUR SUPPORT
TO APPROVE THIS SB 200.

THANK YOU AND WE ALSO PRAY FOR YOUR SUPPORT.