**Marvin Roberts**

Yesterday at 10:17 PM ·

That first night I spent in jail was one of the hardest moments in my life. I had serious charges, murder was one of them. After being "Booked" I was put in the drunk tank at F.C.C.. I was not drunk. The tiny room smelled funny and the mattress was torn up. It was my first time in jail. I never got in trouble. Being only 19 and on the skinny side you could say I was scared. I told the Guard (C.O.) that I wasn't supposed to be in there, that I was innocent. Nobody heard me. I layed down on that torn mattress and had sad thoughts. Who could sleep in a situation like that? I prayed and asked God to get me out...please get me out. I prayed and still my spirit was breaking. I was hurting real bad. I don't know when I started crying or how long it lasted. My world was upside down. I'd love to say I was released the next day and that was that. No, this is not a happy ending. We spent over 18 years trapped in that nightmare. Fighting for our lives and never giving up! I say we because I was not alone. George Frese, Kevin Pease, and Eugene Vent were trapped with me. But we knew we were innocent and kept fighting. The Fairbanks Four we are called now. Back than we were lost boys. Lost, but still we kept faith. Finally, God answered our prayers. In December of 2015 our lives were given back to us. And I know this would not have happened without all of our supporters. Thank-you. I will always be grateful to all who brought us home to our families. I share this story because I wanted you to know what it was like for me, an innocent persons first time in jail. It really could happen to anybody. Can you imagine? We spent all of our twenties and most of our thirties in prison. All that lost time with our loved ones. We could have been building a retirement, mastering a trade. Instead I find myself working two jobs right now. Barely any time to spend with my family. The Fairbanks Four did not get compensated. Another reason I share my story is because there are currently two "House Bills" in the beginning stages in Juneau that could benefit The F-Four. 'HB 118' would compensate the wrongfully convicted, including us. 'HB 126' would let the wrongfully convicted receive all back dividends, including us. I once again ask for your help....please. If passed, these 'Bills' could do wonders for the boys and I. I'd love to spend more time with family. I want to get professional counseling for this trauma we endured. The 'Bills' would also be a deterent against wrongful convictions. I would never want to see another innocent person locked up. Please, contact your local State Representative and/or Senator. Letters, e-mails, ph calls, anything. Ask them to support HB 118 and HB 126. Please, please, please...thank-you for believing in us...God bless all of you!

171 Shares