

Hello,

My name is Linda Johnson. Our family lost our son, Charles Richmond (Richie) Johnson on September 24, 2017 due to a methadone overdose. Needless to say, we are devastated. This drug was supplied to our son by a "friend." Richie had never taken it before. He became addicted to opiates due to injuries he sustained while doing tricks on a BMX bike as a teenager. He had completed a treatment program using suboxone, but he was injured again and was recovering from surgery at the time of his death at age 27. He seemed to be handling the pain well, but got a hold of this drug from a person he trusted. His case has gone to review by the US Attorney's office as the methadone may have been obtained illegally as our son did not have a prescription for it but the person who gave it to him did. We were told that the person who gave him this drug would only get 12-18 months if that. We are hoping that something comes of the federal case, but are thankful that you are campaigning for longer sentences for dealers that take advantage of people battling addiction. We hope that dealers will think twice before supplying dangerous, deadly drugs to anyone. I urge our legislature to please vote in favor of this important law.

Sincerely,

Kurt and Linda Johnson
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