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SUPREME COURT  
COURT OF APPEALS

January 22, 2026

Chief Justice and Associate Justices of the Supreme Court  
P.O. Box 249  
Jackson, MS 39205

RE: *Carly Madison Gregg v State of Mississippi*, Docket No. 2024-KA-01178-SCT

To the Honorable Justices of the Mississippi Supreme Court,

We respectfully submit this letter in support of granting Carly Gregg a new trial, in light of the serious issues raised by her attorney in the appeal currently before the Court. We write as members of Carly's immediate family—her aunt, stepfather, and grandparents—who have closely observed Carly both before and after the tragic events of March 19, 2024.

Prior to that day, Carly was widely known as a diligent, capable, and engaged student. She excelled academically and was recognized and celebrated by Northwest Rankin High School for her performance and dedication. Beyond the classroom, those who knew her through extracurricular activities have consistently expressed profound shock at the events of March 19, noting that such actions were entirely out of character for the young person they had come to know.

Since her arrest, our family has shown unwavering support, attending every proceeding and standing by Carly through the past 22 months. This steadfast presence reflects not denial, but a deep belief in Carly's character and a continued hope for her future. It also reflects our commitment to ensuring that justice is carried out with care, accuracy, and humanity.

Of particular concern are the circumstances surrounding Carly's trial in September 2024. As outlined by her attorney, the pace and scope of the proceedings—including

the rushed nature of pre-trial mental health evaluations, the trial itself, Miller hearing, and sentencing—raise serious questions about whether adequate time and consideration were afforded to the complex factors at issue. A new trial would allow for fuller and more careful consideration of Carly's mental health at the time of the offense, compliance with proper procedure during the investigation, and whether the constitutional standards required under *Miller* were fully met.

As was acknowledged by both the prosecution and the defense during trial, this case is not simply a question of who committed the act, but why it occurred. That question lies at the heart of justice in this matter. A new trial would provide the opportunity for a more complete examination of those underlying circumstances and help ensure that the outcome is consistent with both the due process of law and natural justice.

Granting a new trial would not erase the pain suffered by our family, nor would it diminish the gravity of what occurred. Rather, it would affirm the principle that even in the most difficult cases, our justice system must proceed with deliberation, fairness, and compassion. It would also afford a measure of mercy and clarity to a family who continues to struggle toward understanding and closure.

We extend our deepest appreciation for your time, your service, and your careful consideration in reviewing this case.

Respectfully submitted,

Amber Floyd, Aunt  
Heath Smylie, Stepfather  
Bob Breland, Grandfather  
Vicki Breland, Grandmother  
Denita Smylie, Step-grandmother