

My name is Virginia Krieger. I am NOT a politician. I am NOT a celebrity and, up until my simple life was stopped in its tracks by the death of my young daughter, I was not politically informed or active. I was an average, middle class voter, a working mom and a grandmother. Now just a few short years later, I am legion in Ohio and across the United States, a parent, who like so many others has suffered the terrible consequences of organized criminal activity that reached right into my home and decimated my entire family, for generations to come.

My only daughter, Tiffany Leigh Robertson, was a beautiful, talented, loving and energetic young woman. She was going places with her life and using her many gifts and talents to help others. She had many dreams and plans for her life. Not one of them included being left unconscious to die on the floor of a back room of a house in Warren from counterfeit pills laced with illicit fentanyl. Tiffany was a sweet and loving mother of two young children, babies. She was a two time semi-finalist for American Idol, and the recipient of hundreds of awards for her vocal abilities and her musical compositions. Tiffany was a prominent student leader and graduated high school a year early, completing her freshman year in college at the age of 18. Tiffany organized and lead the student based "Yellow Ribbon Campaign" for activated troops after 9/11. Tiffany worked with special needs children and spent her teenage and early adulthood helping others in need. In every sense of the word Tiffany was the all American girl next door, a daughter anyone would want, a vibrant, talented young woman with genuine love and compassion in her heart for everyone she met.

It was, in fact, Tiffany's generosity and care for others in need that lead to the terrible circumstances that claimed her life. While delivering baby clothes to a family in need, Tiffany fell through a dilapidated elevated porch landing on the ground 6 feet below. Tiffany suffered significant injuries, herniating 3 discs in her lumbar spine that required immediate and long term medical treatment. Tiffany did everything that one would expect a person to do when injured. She did everything right. She went to the emergency room and sought medical treatment. She went to her physician, was referred to a neurosurgeon, and was awaiting that appointment under the care and treatment of her primary physician when headlines across the country broke the news of the "opioid epidemic".

The term "opioid" implies prescription drugs. But, the fact of the matter is that we did not have a sudden rise in prescription related deaths at that time, despite the news headlines, but there was a well-defined and sudden 500+% increase in the number of heroin and illicit fentanyl deaths in the U.S. This was an illegal cartel driven drug epidemic, a heroin and illicit fentanyl epidemic that was closely related to a prescription related "Opioid Epidemic" – but it was not close to what the headlines implied. Were prescriptions being overprescribed at some point yes, but this problem was acknowledged by the medical community in 2008, and was already being brought under control when the news stories about "opioids" began to circulate in 2014 over 6 years later.

As a result of this mislabeled "epidemic", legislator's first wave of response focused on physicians.... and laws were passed which not only regulated patient care, but also dictated the circumstances under which prescription narcotics could be prescribed. Some states

even legislated the dosages that were allowed. Overnight reputable physicians found themselves lumped in with "pill mill" doctors, and these honest physicians found themselves being demonized and even criminalized. Good doctors were in fear of treating their acute and chronic pain patients at the risk of penalties and a vast number of family doctors stopped prescribing pain medication at all. Most physicians directed their patients to pain clinics which were in no way prepared for the massive influx of all those redirected patients at one time.

As a result, legitimate pain patients with documented medical conditions like Tiffany had to wait weeks, even months, to be seen in pain clinics to receive the treatment they so desperately needed. Sick, in pain and withdrawing from prescribed narcotic medications, many valid patients like Tiffany were driven to find the only relief that was available. Waiting for them on every street corner all and all too willing to sell their poison were the drug dealers. Sadly, these illicit narcotics were and still are much easier to obtain than safely controlled prescription medications.

Two "friends" of my daughter convinced her that they could help with her with pain relief, obtained street drugs, and gave them to my daughter. As my child lay slowly suffocating to death due counterfeit pain pills, containing heroin laced with fentanyl, the same two women who supplied Tiffany with these deadly illicit narcotics, spent hours going back and forth to two different ATM's stealing all of my daughters money from her bank account. They never called for help, despite knowing that she was in distress and even returned to the ATM after the coroner had come and removed my child's lifeless body from the home.

Tiffany wasn't the only one who died that day, my former life also ended, and so did the life of Tiffany's two younger brothers. Worst of all, the lives of her two young children who were only 3 and 5 years old, were forever changed and we still don't know the full scope of the mental and emotional damage they have suffered.

Recent research findings by Northwestern University and Pennsylvania University published on PLOS-One uncovered the number of reported drug related mortalities in the U.S. by the CDC are egregiously underreported and the actual number of drug related deaths more than double those estimated by the CDC. Instead of the reported 63,000 deaths in 2016 more than 142,000 American lives were lost due to drug related causes in a single year.

Even more shocking is based on these new mortality numbers, it puts the actual number of drug related deaths at over 792,885 dead in the U.S. to date. That is over 389 American lives lost every single day, 16 lives lost every single hour since 2013, due to drug related causes. Of those an overwhelming, 89% are the direct result of cartel driven narcotics in the United States. The number one cause of accidental death in the U.S. is now accidental overdose, with over 100,000 victims every year. This is triple the 39,000 deaths caused by car accidents in 2019. According to the Ohio Health Department in 2017, more than 4,859 Ohioans lost their lives to drug related causes. Of those, only 523 were prescription related

- yet our legislators still remain fixated on prescription opioids, to the benefit of the criminal drug trafficking organizations.

So not only do we NOT have the accurate mortality numbers of drug related deaths necessary to adequately assess and respond to the rising illicit substance presence; we have continued to promote and pass legislature based on flawed information that doesn't begin to address the massive numbers of those affected, their family members left behind or those family members struggling to save their loved ones lives.

According to the Department of Human and Family Services over 8.7 million children live in homes where substance abuse is present. That is 1 out of every 8 children in the U.S. Last year in Ohio over 14,000 children entered the custody of children and family services as a result of substance abuse. These children suffer from neglect and abuse brought on by their care-givers addiction causing long term if not permanent psychological and emotional damage due to poor care by parents who in many cases are simply unable to provide adequate care. These caregivers are being systematically poisoned by these illicit substances and would only be further enabled to continue in their behavior if laws like SB3 were passed. I am positive that because of the current pandemic and business shut down orders and stay at home orders, this number has probably doubled and quite possibly tripled.

As a side note, the incidence of reported abuse in foster care is as high as 80%, either by their foster parents or other children in the home. These children are the least acknowledged and most innocent victims of all, collateral damage of drugs and flawed attempts to fix a problem much bigger than any other in Ohio's history.

My grandson was only 5 years old when his Mommy died. To this day he cannot close the door to any room all the way due to the anxiety and paralyzing fear that we may not be there when he comes out. The post- traumatic stress and separation anxiety he now lives with without his mother will last forever. My granddaughter who was 3 years old still cries because she has so few memories of her Mommy, longing for that maternal connection that she will never have. Her mental and emotional trauma also will last forever.

In his grief over losing his sister my youngest son turned to the very substances that killed her. Right now he is fighting for his life. I can never express the sense of relief I felt when he was arrested for possession. For that brief moment of time when he was incarcerated, I was able to sleep for the first time in months comforted by the knowledge that he would be unable to procure the drugs that were slowly killing him and that those nights he spent in jail I would not be receiving a second terrible phone call to tell me that my child was dead. It was a well-run drug court in Florida that made his recovery possible after all other attempts to save him failed. **A law like SB3 would have removed the most important factor for successful recovery and that factor is motivation.** There is nothing more motivating than the potential of prison to help those affected to choose life when all else fails. SB 3 would not only take that tool away but it would help those deliberately harming our children and families to adapt and continue to operate in a protected status.

Were it not for the Florida drug courts, I would be standing before you today telling the story of how I buried two of my three children due to the illegal drugs. Because of the drug courts I now have hope for my son. There was no justice to be had for Tiffany's death. The two women responsible for her death were never prosecuted. The drug dealer who was selling the poison that claimed her life is still operating with impunity; impunity that will increase substantially if Ohio SB 3 passes into law.

International drug trafficking organizations (cartels) are present in every city state and county in the United States. These cartel members murder, rape and commit vast numbers of crimes without out punishment and pour illicit substances into our children that have literally destroyed entire communities, families and lives in greater numbers than anyone has ever seen before in all of our history.

The newest DEA heroin signature report asserts that 91.6% of the heroin in the U.S. is Mexican in origin. Illicit fentanyl being distributed by the cartels is the most dangerous illicit substance ever to enter the U.S. black markets. It is the first illicit narcotic that has leapt OUT of the substance abuse community and is affecting people with little to no history of substance abuse at all. Illicit fentanyl has been found to be laced into drugs from heroin to methamphetamines. Illicit fentanyl can be absorbed through the skin, inhaled or ingested. It comes in liquid, powder and counterfeit pill forms and it only takes 2 mg, that's two grains smaller than piece of rice to kill an average sized adult.

Children and adults are at extreme risk of death no matter what recreational drug they may experiment with in this environment, and the death tolls due to the illicit fentanyl continue to rise without any signs of slowing. In 2019 the DHS reported that there is strong potential for fentanyl to be used as a non-conventional chemical weapon. So the next time you see a news story about someone being arrested with a pound of fentanyl in their possession, understand that this means that this individual, ONE PERSON, was randomly walking around with the chemical capability of killing over 223,000 people right at their fingertips. If illicit fentanyl is ever used as a chemical weapon, in my opinion it would be a more deadly attack than all the mass casualty events in U.S. history combined.

Senate Bill 3 will not help those who suffer from substance use disorder. Instead it will make it easier for criminals to victimize and poison our children and for the public to continue to blame the victims because they are "druggies" or "addicts". These substances are PROVEN scientifically to bring grave harm to the human body and mind, yet somehow people suggest that the way to recovery is to lessen criminal penalties surrounding the possession and sale of poison.

If we were talking about arsenic or cyanide, this proposed legislature would be laughable, but for some reason when it comes to substances like heroin or fentanyl or other narcotics which are every bit as deadly, we can point a finger at the user, and blame them for their poor decisions. In essence this excuses the actual criminals who broke the laws when they created POISONS which they KNEW would bring harm to those who consumed them, dealers who counted on the fact that these substances were highly addictive, who KNEW that the users would require more and more of their poisons to avoid being sick and

celebrated the fact that their victims would have to return time and again to buy more of their deadly products until they eventually died. It is with this clear knowledge and understanding of what these products do to their consumers, that these criminals still made the choice to distribute these poisons victimizing all who consumed them, all the while knowing that the final outcome, if the victims continued to consume these illegal products, was irreparable physical harm or death.

The ONLY way to help those affected by substance use disorder is to help them one on one and treat them as individual cases. Blanket laws such as SB3 will not serve to help those who suffer from substance abuse disorder they will only harm them in the end. Our drug courts are set up to manage these cases and deal with those affected on an individual level to help provide the best outcomes possible. If we want to pass laws that will help them after recovery for employment opportunities then pass laws that would make it easier to expunge their drug related records after successful recovery but don't pass laws like SB3 that would literally enable them to continue to self-harm and empower the dealers who will adjust.

Our drug courts need a lot of work we need training for judges and prosecutors and even the police who handle those with substance use disorder, we need to institute laws for mandatory coverage of sober living and aftercare treatment to provide the best opportunity for good outcomes. We need to improve the rehabilitation centers, enact uniform regulated clinical standards for facilities who provide rehabilitation services to insure quality of care for those in need. We need to do a lot of things to do better in this fight but not ONE of those things should include instituting lower penalties for the possession of the harmful poisons killing our children.

The woman (Kristina Kelly) who provided the drugs to my child which claimed her life was arrested and charged with felony crimes 21 times ranging from possession, paraphernalia, repeated DUI's and driving under suspension, petty theft, and last year committed burglary when the resident was home. Ohio already has a revolving door justice system that allowed this repeat offender to remain in the public venue to harm my child. If this person had received the help she needed any one of the 15 times she met up with law enforcement before encountering Tiffany, she may never have crossed paths with my daughter and Tiffany may have still been here today. Ohio SB 3 would not only allow this user/dealer to continue to re-offend but it would also allow her to only be charged with misdemeanors despite her long history of criminal activity. How does that help anyone or protect the public?

So before you even consider enabling the organized drug trafficking organizations to continue harming our children or consider enabling our children to continue to self-harm, I want you to remember that MY Ohio child, my only and most beloved daughter Tiffany, is permanently and forever caged in a casket 84 inches long, 28 inches wide and 23 inches tall inside a concrete box buried 6 feet under the ground and she will NEVER be released from it. This same tragedy is being repeated over 389 times every single day as more and more of our American families continue to bury our children to these poisons that have been

unleashed upon our society. The day Tiffany died 5 lives were taken with her and not one of us will EVER be the same person we were before she died.

I also want you to remember my youngest son Zachary, a loving son, brother and uncle to my daughter's children, a stellar student, talented musician and former state champion athlete with an amazing sense of humor and love of life, who was preyed upon during his weakest moments of grief and is still fighting for his life to this very moment.

I want you to remember that all this harm to my family was caused by ONE user/dealer due to ongoing criminal behavior and a revolving door justice system that continued to allow her back into the public domain. It has been reported that Ms. Kelly was present for at least one other overdose similar to the circumstances surrounding Tiffany's death and her last crime included burglary while the resident was home. Ohio SB 3 would open the door for her and others like her to continue to harm other Ohio families and that's simply unacceptable.

I beg you to vote no on this legislation and instead work to make record expungement more accessible and improve that process to give recovered addicts a chance, improve our drug courts, strengthen criminal penalties associated with drug possession and seek real solutions to stop the drugs, stop the manufacturers and distributors of these harmful substances while providing the necessary legislature to give those suffering quality of care and a chance for life instead.

Please don't let my family's tragedy continue to repeat itself in the lives of other Ohioans. Please vote no on Senate Bill 3.

Respectfully Submitted,

Virginia L. Krieger, Grieving Mother

My Family Before Illicit Narcotics



Tiffany Leigh Robertson died 2/2/2015



Zachary Robertson- Fighting for Life



My grandchildren who lost their mother



Where we now spend every family holiday and special occasion



Kristina Kelly Warren City Court Record

arremunius/BenchmarkWeb/CourtCase.aspx/CaseSearch

Case Search Results

SEARCH TYPE: SEARCH CASES FOUND: 49 SEARCH TIME: 0.023 seconds

SEARCH: [New Search]

Name: Kelly, K

Search: []

SUMMARY	NAME	PARTY TYPE	CASE NUMBER	STATUS
[]	KELLY, KRISTINA L (8/11/1978)	DEFENDANT	2018 CRB 000470	CLOSED
[]	KELLY, KRISTINA L (8/11/1978)	DEFENDANT	2018 CRA 000405	CLOSED
[]	KELLY, KRISTINA L (8/11/1978)	DEFENDANT	2017 TRD 004959	CLOSED
[]	KELLY, KRISTINA L (8/11/1978)	DEFENDANT	2017 CRB 002571	CLOSED
[]	KELLY, KRISTINA L (8/11/1978)	DEFENDANT	2017 CRB 002276	CLOSED
[]	[REDACTED]	DEFENDANT	2016 TRD 001322	CLOSED
[]	KELLY, KRISTINA L (8/11/1978)	DEFENDANT	2016 CRB 002601	CLOSED
[]	KELLY, KRISTINA L (8/11/1978)	DEFENDANT	2016 CRB 000399	CLOSED
[]	[REDACTED]	WITNESS	2015 CRB 002099	CLOSED
[]	[REDACTED]	DEFENDANT	2015 CRB 001588	CLOSED
[]	KELLY, KRISTINA	DEFENDANT	2013 CIV 000626	CLOSED
[]	KELLY, KRISTINA L (8/11/1978)	DEFENDANT	2011 TRD 005946	CLOSED
[]	KELLY, KRISTINA L (8/11/1978)	DEFENDANT	2011 TRD 002253	CLOSED
[]	KELLY, KRISTINA L (8/11/1978)	DEFENDANT	2011 TRC 007352	CLOSED
[]	KELLY, KRISTINA L (8/11/1978)	DEFENDANT	2011 CRB 002618	CLOSED
[]	KELLY, KRISTINA L (8/11/1978)	DEFENDANT	2011 CRB 002071	CLOSED
[]	KELLY, KRISTINA L (8/11/1978)	DEFENDANT	2011 CRA 002070	CLOSED
[]	KELLY, KRISTINA L (8/11/1978)	DEFENDANT	2010 TRD 007107	CLOSED
[]	KELLY, KRISTINA L (8/11/1978)	DEFENDANT	2010 C/E 000656	CLOSED
[]	KELLY, KRISTINA L (8/11/1978)	DEFENDANT	2009 TRD 006997	CLOSED
[]	KELLY, KRISTINA L (8/11/1978)	DEFENDANT	2009 TRC 002569	CLOSED

Kristina Kelly Trumbull County Court Records

CourtVIEW

Home Search eFile

Search Results

Displaying all 2 matches.

Case Number	Case Type	File Date	Initiating Action	Party/Company	Party Type	Date of Birth	Case Status
2011 CR 00803	CR - Criminal	09/30/2011	Possession of Cocaine/Crack-F5	KELLY, KRISTINA L	DEFENDANT	08/11/1978	CLOSED
2018 CR 00183	CR - Criminal	03/06/2018	BURGLARY (occupied structure/person present)	KELLY, KRISTINA L	DEFENDANT	08/11/1978	CLOSED

Kristina Kelly Niles City Court Records

8	TRD0701648A	Kelly, Kristina	Concerning: Kelly, Kristina D.B.A./A.K.A.: Warrant: N	Filed: 11/15/2007 Case Type: Traffic Viol./Cause: no o.l.	Case	Docket
11	TRD0900364	Kelly, Kristina L	Concerning: Kelly, Kristina L D.B.A./A.K.A.: Warrant: N	Filed: 03/17/2009 Case Type: Traffic Viol./Cause: driv under susp	Case	Docket
12	TRD1200451A	Kelly, Kristina L	Concerning: Kelly, Kristina L D.B.A./A.K.A.: Warrant: N	Filed: 02/29/2012 Case Type: Traffic Viol./Cause: driv ovi susp	Case	Docket
13	TRD1200451B	Kelly, Kristina L	Concerning: Kelly, Kristina L D.B.A./A.K.A.: Warrant: N	Filed: 02/29/2012 Case Type: Traffic Viol./Cause: 44/25 speed	Case	Docket