

Judge Dwyer,

Thank you for allowing me to address the court today at the sentencing of Toussaint Davis for his conviction in the robbery of the Lennon's – W.B. Wilcox Jewelry Store, and the subsequent murder of New Hartford Police Officer Joseph Corr.

Today marks a milestone in the sad and difficult journey we have been on for the last 14 months. Even after today, our sad journey will continue for many more months, and for some of us, a lifetime.

As Chief of Police for the New Hartford Police Department I was particularly impacted by the murder of Officer Corr, and the horror sustained by the robbery victims. I doubt I will ever be entirely free of the private, lonely responsibility of sending a young police officer out on his last tour of duty.

February 27, 2006 is a day of infamy for us. On that Monday evening violent criminals descended upon our Community and committed a series of crimes that included terrorizing innocent employees during a jewelry store robbery, and murdering Officer Corr. Toussaint Davis, who sits here today convicted of robbery and murder, made a conscious decision to participate in these crimes. As a matter of record, the evidence at trial shows that he played a significant role in planning the robbery.

The facts of this case have been decided in a Court of Law, and hence are not for our discussion or debate today. Today is about the rule of Law and the punishment that attaches when one is convicted of violating the law.

The torrent of violent events that occurred in our community on February 27, 2006, simply must not go under-punished.

Toussaint Davis's life has been a crime in progress. I believe he is incapable of remorse or rehabilitation, and is destined to commit similar crimes if allowed to eventually go free. Therefore, since he stands convicted of 18 counts of robbery and one count of murder, I respectfully request that the Court sentence him to the maximum punishment allowed by Law.

Thank you.
Chief Raymond L. Philo