

**APPLICATION FOR CLEMENCY**



Office of the Governor  
State of California  
State Capitol  
Sacramento, California 95814

This Application for Clemency must be used to request:

- a commutation (reduction) of the applicant's current sentence if the applicant is presently in prison or jail, or on probation or parole;
- a pardon based upon innocence; or
- a pardon based upon rehabilitation if the applicant has completed his or her sentence but is not eligible for a Certificate of Rehabilitation under Penal Code section 4852.01.

Please complete sections I, III and IV and that portion of section II that applies to your case.

Please TYPE or PRINT in blue or black ink.

**I.**

**APPLICANT INFORMATION**  
To be completed by all applicants

|                                    |  |                                      |                                 |  |
|------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| LAST Name<br><b>Kruzan</b>         |  | FIRST Name<br><b>Sara</b>            | MIDDLE Name<br><b>Jessimy</b>   |  |
| Date of Birth<br><b>01/08/1978</b> | Place of Birth<br><b>Monterey Park, California</b> | Social Security Number<br>[REDACTED] | Prison Number<br><b>W-59700</b> |  |

**Current Residence**

|   |                            |                                    |  |
|---|----------------------------|------------------------------------|--|
| Address<br><b>Central California Women's Facility, P.O. Box 1508-C510-30-2L</b> |                            | Apartment, Lot, Suite, Space, etc. |  |
| City<br><b>Chowchilla</b>   | State<br><b>California</b> | Zip code<br><b>93610-1508</b>      |  |

**Reason for Requesting Clemency**

What relief are you requesting? (Complete the corresponding portion of section II)

|   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pardon based on rehabilitation and not eligible for a Certificate of Rehabilitation under Penal Code section 4852.01 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commutation of current sentence | <input type="checkbox"/> Pardon based upon innocence |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commutation/Pardon based on Battered Woman's Syndrome   | <input type="checkbox"/> Compassionate Release                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Other                       |

Why are you requesting clemency? **Please see attached statement #1.**

**Conviction Information**

Commitment Offense **First degree murder (PC 187) with special circumstances (lying in wait (PC 190.2(a)) and murder while engaged in robbery (PC 190.2(c)(17)(i))), and an enhancement for personal use of a firearm (PC 12022.5(a)).**

|   |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|
| Date of offense<br><b>03/10/1994</b>          | Date of conviction<br><b>05/11/1995</b>  | Arresting agency<br><b>Riverside Police Department</b>                             | County of conviction<br><b>Riverside</b>   |
| Superior court case number<br><b>CR 65498</b> | Your trial attorney's name and Address<br><b>Hon. David Gunn, Superior Court of California, County of Riverside, 4050 Main Street, Riverside, CA 92501</b> | Sentence<br><b>Life Without Possibility of Parole with a four-year enhancement</b> | If you are currently a prisoner, what is your release date, if any?<br><b>No date (LWOP)</b> |

Did you appeal your case?  Yes  No  
If yes, appellate case number and status of case

**Case No. E017118, Fourth District Court of Appeal (December 13, 1996); Case No. S058564, Supreme Court of California (March 26, 1997). Both appeals were denied. A full procedural history of my case is provided in Exhibit 1.**

My Life began on January 8, 1978, in Los Angeles, California. I was born to a mother who brought me into this world unwed and unsure of her decision to keep me. I grew up in Monrovia, California, in a two bedroom duplex directly across the street from my elementary school.

I have fond memories of entering a drawing contest, riding my bike and learning how to cut roses the right way from my elderly neighbor. As I write this letter though, my happy memories are far and few in between, I cannot move forward until I can express what I must sincerely convey.

My childhood memories are a reminder to me that George Howard was a father himself. That he had a son and his son no longer has a father because of my actions. George was a son himself and what I have done and the remorse I feel will never go away, nor do I wish it to. I feel a deep set sorrow for taking George's life. It is daily I experience a level of grief and sadness in my heart and in my thoughts. However, as I mentioned I do not want this emotion to go away. It is a part of who I am today and I have utilized it to grow in a healthy manner. It is through the aid of intense therapy, self help groups and inspiration readings such as "Man's Search for Meaning" by Viktor Frankl.

Through these inner struggles, it became a challenge for me that the feelings of remorse I hold for George are also for the young child I once was who was abused on many levels by him.

I really want this letter to be about the person I am today, rather than about the pain and abuse I suffered in the past. But I know that abuse still remains a part of who I am today.

I endured mental and physical abuse from my mother at a very early age. I also was sexually abused by many people. This includes George Howard, who first sexually assaulted me when I was eleven years old and who began sexually trafficking me when I was thirteen years old.

This continued until I was 16 years old. I was two months past my sixteenth birthday when I shot and killed George.

When I first arrived at Central California Women's Facility I was eighteen years old and unsure of my new home. I carried within me the pain and rage from my past. There was a struggle inside me though that wanted to develop. There was a young Sara who was the track runner, student body president and person who even wrote about Drugs and its Effects that wanted to grow. However in prison without strong guidance its easier to let emotions of pain and anger out.

After several years of my incarceration that strong guidance found me. Her name is Lt. Z. Cooper. What she did was plant seeds of encouragement. Her words gave me the strength I needed to desire to no longer feel empty inside.

I discovered many positive outlets for myself. More self help groups were offered and I signed up for them. These groups helped me set healthy boundaries for myself. Even though I cannot change the blue print of my past, but I am able to build a foundation that's planted within. Today at thirty-two years old I am not a victim. And that young girl I felt inside me before has grown and developed and is able to express herself in the woman I am today.

And the woman I am today is able and capable of making healthy choices for myself. No longer will I compromise who I am for others. Today I can and do lead a life of example for others.

If I am given the opportunity to rejoin society I know I will make the most of it. Just like I have made the most and continued to make the most of my life here. I am requesting a commutation of my sentence based on my history of abuse, my youthful age and vulnerability at the time of the crime and because of the person I am today.

It is with love I seek to be forgiven, it is with love I have forgiven all who have hurt me. I sincerely request to be forgiven for the harm and pain I have caused. I appreciate this opportunity to have the time to explain a bit about myself to you and respectfully request a grant of clemency.

*Sara J. Krizan*

My life began on January 8, 1978 in Los Angeles California. I was born to a mother who brought me into this world unwed and unsure of her decision to keep me. I grew up in Monrovia Ca, in a 2 bedroom duplex directly across the street from my elementary school.

I have fond memories of entering drawing contests, riding my bike and learning how to cut across the right way from my elderly neighbor. As I write this letter, though my happy memories are far and few inbetween, I cannot move forward until I can express what I must sincerely convey.

My childhood memories are a reminder to me that George Howard was a father himself. That he had a son and his son no longer has a father because of my actions.

George was a son himself and what I have done and the remorse I feel will never go away, nor do I wish it to. I feel a deep set sorrow for taking George's life. It is daily I experience a level of grief and sadness in my heart and in my thoughts. However, as I mentioned I do not want this emotion to go away. It is a part of who I am today and I have utilized it to grow in a healthy manner. It is through the aid of intense therapy, self help groups, and inspiration readings such as "Man's Search for meaning" by Viktor Frankl.

Through these inner struggles, it became a challenge for me that the ~~very~~ feelings of remorse I hold for George are also for the young child I once was who was abused on many levels by him.

Sara J. Krizan

I really want this letter to be about the person I am today rather than about the pain and abuse I suffered in the past. But I know that that abuse still remains a part of who I am today.

I endured mental and physical abuse from my mother at a very early age. I also was sexually abused by many people. This includes George Howard, who first sexually assaulted me when I was 11 years old and who began sexually trafficking me when I was 13 years old.

This continued until I was 16 years old. I was two months past my 16th Birthday when I shot and killed George.

When I first arrived at Central California Women's Facility I was 18 years old and unsure of my new home. I carried within me the pain and rage from my past.

There was a struggle inside me though that wanted to develop. There was a young Sara who was the track runner, student body President and person who even wrote about Drugs and its Effects that wanted to grow. However in prison without strong guidance it's easier to let the emotions of pain and anger out.

After several years of my incarceration, that strong guidance found me. Her name is LT-2 Cooper. What she did was plant seeds of encouragement. Her words gave me the strength I needed to desire to no longer feel empty inside.

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Sara J. Krugan

up for them. These groups helped me set healthy boundaries for myself. Even though I cannot change the blue print of my past, ~~my~~ but I am able to build a foundation that's planted within. Today at 32 years old I am not a victim. And that young girl I felt inside me before has grown and developed and is able to express herself in the woman I am today.

And the woman I am today is able and capable of making healthy choices for myself. No longer will I ~~compromise~~ compromise who I am for others. Today I can and do lead a life of example for others.

If I am ~~also~~ given the opportunity to rejoin society I know I will make the most of it. Just like I've made the most and continued to make the most of my life here I am requesting a commutation of my sentence based on my history of abuse, my youthful age and vulnerability at the time of the crime and because of the person I am today.

It is with love I seek to be forgiven, ~~as~~ as it is with love I have forgiven all who have hurt me. I sincerely request to be forgiven for the harm and pain I have caused.

I appreciate this opportunity to have the time to explain a bit about myself to you and respectfully request a grant of clemency.

Sara J. Krizan



Attorneys for Sara Kruzan

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <p>Ronald McIntire<br/>Melora Garrison<br/>Perkins Coie LLP<br/>1888 Century Park E., Suite 1700<br/>Los Angeles, CA 90067-1721<br/>Phone: (310) 788-9900<br/>Fax: (310) 788-3399<br/><a href="mailto:RMcIntire@perkinscoie.com">RMcIntire@perkinscoie.com</a><br/><a href="mailto:MGarrison@perkinscoie.com">MGarrison@perkinscoie.com</a></p> | <p>Marc Boman<br/>Kelly Moser<br/>Perkins Coie LLP<br/>1201 Third Avenue, Suite 4800<br/>Seattle, WA 98101<br/>Phone: (206) 359-8000<br/>Fax: (206) 359-9000<br/><a href="mailto:MBoman@perkinscoie.com">MBoman@perkinscoie.com</a><br/><a href="mailto:KMoser@perkinscoie.com">KMoser@perkinscoie.com</a></p>       |
| <p>Michael Teter<br/>Pomona College, Dept. of Politics<br/>425 N. College Avenue<br/>Claremont, CA 91711<br/>Phone: (909) 607-8296<br/>Fax: (909) 607-1274<br/><a href="mailto:Michael.Teter@pomona.edu">Michael.Teter@pomona.edu</a></p>   | <p>Pat Arthur<br/>Patricia Soung<br/>National Center for Youth Law<br/>405 – 14th Street, 15th Floor<br/>Oakland, CA 94612<br/>Phone: (510) 835-8098<br/>Fax: (510) 835-8099<br/><a href="mailto:PArthur@youthlaw.org">PArthur@youthlaw.org</a><br/><a href="mailto:PSoung@youthlaw.org">PSoung@youthlaw.org</a></p> |

**II.**  
**REQUEST FOR CLEMENCY**  
Please complete the section below that applies to your request.

**COMPASSIONATE RELEASE**

Complete this section if you are presently in prison and requesting clemency due to a medical condition.

|   |
|---|
| Please explain the medical condition that warrants clemency:  |
| Your current physician's name:  |
| Physician's address:  |
| Physician's telephone number:   |
| Have you applied to the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation or the Board of Parole Hearings for a recall of your sentence pursuant to Penal Code Sections 1170? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| What was the result?  |

**PARDON BASED ON REHABILITATION**

Complete this section if you have completed your sentence, you are requesting clemency based upon rehabilitation and you are not eligible for a Certificate of Rehabilitation under Penal Code section 4852.01.

|   |
|---|
| Give a brief account of your offense.   |
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|   |
| Explain your rehabilitation efforts during incarceration.   |
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|   |
| Describe your record in prison, jail, parole or probation. (List all disciplinary action taken against you) |
|   |
|   |
| When were you discharged from probation or parole?  |
|   |
| Describe your rehabilitation and activities since release.  |
|   |
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|   |
| Why you are requesting a pardon?  |
|   |
|   |

**II.**  
**REQUEST FOR CLEMENCY**  
Please complete the section below that applies to your request.

**COMPASSIONATE RELEASE**

Complete this section if you are presently in prison and requesting clemency due to a medical condition.

Please explain the medical condition that warrants clemency:

Your current physician's name:

Physician's address:

Physician's telephone number:

Have you applied to the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation or the Board of Parole Hearings for a recall of your sentence pursuant to Penal Code Sections 1170?       Yes       No

What was the result?

**PARDON BASED ON REHABILITATION**

Complete this section if you have completed your sentence, you are requesting clemency based upon rehabilitation and you are not eligible for a Certificate of Rehabilitation under Penal Code section 4852.01.

Give a brief account of your offense.

Explain your rehabilitation efforts during incarceration.

Describe your record in prison, jail, parole or probation. (List all disciplinary action taken against you)

When were you discharged from probation or parole?

Describe your rehabilitation and activities since release.

Why you are requesting a pardon?

**PARDON BASED ON INNOCENCE**

Complete this section if you are requesting a pardon based upon innocence.

Describe the evidence of your innocence that was discovered **after** conviction and explain its importance.

Has this new evidence been presented to the arresting agency or district attorney? If so, what was the result?

Has this new evidence been presented to the courts? If so, what was the result?

**COMMUTATION/PARDON BASED ON BATTERED WOMAN'S SYNDROME**

Complete this section if you are requesting clemency based upon battered woman's syndrome.

Describe the evidence of battering and its effects in the relationship between you and the victim that led to the crime.

**Please see attached statement #2.**

Was this evidence presented at trial?

**No.**

Have you sought a writ of habeas corpus pursuant to Penal Code section 1473.5 based upon this evidence?

**Yes. Please see the memo provided by my attorneys that explains the court history of my case.**

**COMMUTATION OF SENTENCE**

Complete this section if you are currently under sentence and requesting clemency for any reason not covered above.

Explain why you are requesting clemency.

**My earlier statements (attached statements #1 and #2) cover the reasons why I am requesting clemency. I would like to emphasize, in addition to the battering and its effects, my age and vulnerability at the time of the abuse and crime, as well as my transformation since incarceration and my strong sense of remorse.**

Have you sought relief from the courts?

**Yes. Please see the memo provided by my attorneys that explains the court history of my case.**

Dr Nancy Kaser-Boyd's declaration and Dr. Linda Barnard's report provide the evidence of battering and its effects as due social service and medical records that are a part of my application for clemency.

But, in my words:

My relationship with George Howard began with abuse. On the day he first introduced himself to me, I was eleven years old. He took me for ice-cream, drove me around in his fancy car and then sexually molested me. From the sexual, emotional and physical abuses I had already endured at that age, I had learned that abuse did not mean George couldn't or shouldn't be a part of my life. He continued to do kind things for me, like taking me roller skating and out to eat. He also began talking to me about his views about sex and marriage. Now I see he was indoctrinating me, but back then I saw a wise, experienced person sharing his wisdom.

The sexual abuse continued and then he put me out on the street trafficking for him. I was thirteen.

I was sixteen years old when I shot and killed George Howard in the "Honeymoon Suites" at a Riverside Motel. He was preparing to have sex with me. I was in the motel room in parts because of his threats and pressure from another person who wanted me to get money from George.

When George went to plug in a sexual device, the fear, anger and panic from all of the past abuse exploded inside of me and I shot him. I do not want to make excuses for what I did. There are no excuses for taking someone else's life. But I appreciate that this application allows me to explain the context of events that allowed it to happen.

*Sara J. Krizan*

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When George went to plug in a sexual device, the fear, anger, and panic from all of the past abuse exploded inside of me and I shot him.

I do not want to make excuses for what I did. There are no excuses for taking someone else's life. But I appreciate that this application allows me to explain the context of events that allowed it to happen.

Jerry Krizan

**III  
NOTICE TO DISTRICT ATTORNEY**

Penal Code section 4804 requires that you give the district attorney of the county of conviction written notice of your intention to apply for a pardon. You must complete the attached form and mail it to the district attorney **before** you submit this application to the Governor's Office. If you are requesting a pardon for more than one conviction involving more than one county, each district attorney must be given notice.

*I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that I have served the district attorney of the county of*

Riverside *with notice of my intent to apply for a pardon, as required by Penal Code section 4804.*

(Name of county)

Jerry J. Krizan  
(Applicant's signature)

September 24, 2010

(Date)

**IV  
DECLARATION UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY**

This Application for Clemency may be submitted to the Board of Parole Hearings for investigation and recommendation pursuant to Penal Code Section 4812. This application may also be submitted to law enforcement or other agencies for investigation or recommendation.

**I certify (or declare) under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the forgoing is true and correct. I understand that any omission or misstatement of facts may result in denial of my application and the filing of perjury charges against me.**

Jerry J. Krizan  
(Applicant's signature)

September 24, 2010

(Date signed)

1 Ronald A. McIntire, Bar No. 127407  
2 RMcIntire@perkinscoie.com  
3 Melora M. Garrison, Bar No. 205408  
4 MGarrison@perkinscoie.com  
5 **PERKINS COIE LLP**  
6 1888 Century Park East, Suite 1700  
7 Los Angeles, CA 90067-1721  
8 Telephone: 310.788.9900  
9 Facsimile: 310.788.3399

6 Attorneys for Defendant  
7 Sara J. Kruzan

8 **SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**  
9 **COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE**

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11 People of the State of California,  
12 Plaintiffs,  
13  
14 v.  
15 Sara J. Kruzan,  
16 Defendant.

Case No. CR56498

**PROOF OF SERVICE OF NOTICE OF  
INTENTION TO APPLY FOR  
CLEMENCY**

