



County of San Bernardino
Office of the District Attorney
JASON ANDERSON, District Attorney

May 5, 2022

Governor Gavin Newsom

Ann Patterson, Legal Affairs Secretary

David Sapp, Chief Deputy Legal Affairs Secretary

Office of the Governor
1303 10th Street, Suite 1173
Sacramento, California, CA 95814

Re: Roe v. Wade, Kevin Cooper

Dear Governor Newsom,

Thank you for releasing your May 2, 2022 press release on the draft U.S. Supreme Court Opinion that may seek to overturn the abortion rights case of Roe v. Wade. That release was similar to your press release on June 4, 2021 regarding the federal judge who compared the AR-15 rifle to a Swiss Army knife in his decision to overturn Court precedent upholding California's Assault Weapons ban. I understand your frustration at reviewing court's seeming dismissal of the rule of law, precedent and *stare decisis*.

Now you know how I and the surviving family members of Doug Ryen, Peggy Ryen, Jessica Ryen, Christopher Hughes, including attempted murder victim Josh Ryen, feel about your so-called innocence investigation on behalf of convicted mass murderer, Kevin Cooper. The same innocence investigation being led by a *mergers and acquisitions* law firm.

For over thirty years, every competent and empowered trier of fact and reviewing State and Federal Court have ruled that Kevin Cooper murdered four people, and tried to murder a fifth, in the sanctity of their home. The same foundations of precedent and *stare decisis* you so passionately argue to preserve a woman's right to choose and keep Californians safer by banning assault weapons should apply to the numerous decisions regarding Kevin Cooper's guilt. Show integrity, consistency and reliance on those same things by terminating the innocence investigation you ordered for Kevin Cooper. The record and precedent confirm Cooper's guilt.

You have to wake up. Our Office will fight like hell. The victims' family members will not be silenced. I am furious that my daughter and son could grow up in a California that is less safe than the one they were born into if you reduce Kevin Cooper's death sentence or release him from custody while ignoring every court's prior decision of guilt in this case.

Sincerely,

Jason Anderson
San Bernardino County District Attorney