



# LAW OFFICES OF CHRISTOPHER J. McCANN

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### FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

TO:	California Commission on the Fair Administration of Justice	FROM:	Christopher J. McCann
COMPANY:		DATE:	9/13/2007
FAX NUMBER:	(408) 554-5026	TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER:	2
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RE: Proposed Bills to Protect the Rights of the Accused

URGENT     FOR REVIEW     PLEASE COMMENT     PLEASE REPLY     PLEASE RECYCLE

NOTES/COMMENTS:

Please see attached---CJM

September 13, 2007

The Honorable Arnold Schwarzenegger  
State Capitol Building  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: SB 511, SB 756, SB 609 – SUPPORT**

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger:

As a criminal defense attorney in Orange County, I strongly urge you to protect the innocent by signing SB 511, SB 756, and SB 609.

I am dedicated to protecting the innocent from wrongful conviction. Yet, all too often, judges and juries are misled by poor quality evidence, including tainted eyewitness identifications, unreliable statements, and false testimony from informants. Modern DNA evidence has proven that innocent people are sent to prison for crimes they did not commit far more often than we think. These wrongful convictions disproportionately impact African-Americans, Latinos and low-income individuals.

These three bills will implement the reforms suggested by the non-partisan California Commission on the Fair Administration of Justice. They will address the most common causes of wrongful conviction. Specifically:

- Senate Bill 511, sponsored by Senator Elaine K. Alquist (D-San Jose), will require the electronic recording of police interrogation in cases involving homicides and other violent felonies.
- Senate Bill 756, sponsored by Senator Mark Ridley-Thomas (D-Los Angeles), will require the Attorney General to draft guidelines for the conduct of police line-ups and photo arrays to increase the accuracy of eyewitness identifications.
- Senate Bill 609, sponsored by Senator Gloria Romero (D-Los Angeles), will require the corroboration of testimony by jailhouse informants.

Again, I strongly encourage you to sign SB 511, 756, and 609 into law.

Very truly yours,



Christopher J. McCann

cc: California Commission on the Fair Administration of Justice via fax: (408) 554-5026