

Statement of John Karafa, victim of Abortionist Gary Boyle's Assault with a Handgun,  
presented orally before the court at the hearing on June 29, 2012

On the morning of the gun pointing incident we, the victims were having a discussion and waiting on the sidewalk to give out literature to anyone willing to take it. We had no way of knowing that the abortion doctor was going to turn in there since his business was next door with the entrance on Fussler Street. The video evidence shows that the doctor approached from behind us and made a left turn onto the driveway to the dentist's office, near where we were standing. We did not move but just watched him go by. It was shocking to see that he was pointing a gun at us.

We were not aggressive in any way. If the doctor was afraid of us, we gave him no reason to be. He could have driven around to the front of the abortion clinic where he has a security guard and security cameras. Or he could have continued down the street and called the police. Instead he chose to turn in and threaten our lives with his FNH 5.7 handgun.

Dr. Boyle's attorney told the court at the last hearing that he the Doctor always carries the gun in his lap when going to the abortion clinics. If it is for safety and readily available there was no need to show the gun by pointing it at us since he was in a moving vehicle with the windows up. It seems that this was merely an attempt to threaten us without provocation. He was making an aggressive move by pointing the handgun; we were not being aggressive towards him. At the very least I believe he was trying to intimidate us. I hate to think of what could have happened if we had tried to defend ourselves, although we had nothing to defend ourselves with against a gun.

This is a very serious situation that could have been much worse. We could have been shot like the man in the wheelchair in Owosso Michigan—Jim Pouillon—that was protesting on the sidewalk who was killed by a passerby. Or like the teenager in West Ashley the other day that parked his car in a parking lot and was shot just for being there. I believe that these incidents are very serious and need to be punished to the full extent of the law. I am disappointed that the charges were reduced. As a victim I feel that my rights were the last things considered.

I believe that the doctor has a motive for trying to stop us from a constitutionally protected activity. We have a right to be there and peacefully offer options to those going to the clinic for an abortion. I believe he is an activist for abortion and used his gun to try to silence us, or his anger about us being there caused him to act this way.

Our lives should not be threatened because we are exercising our right to peacefully pray. Any person who does threaten peaceful activists should be punished for what he has done. A mere slap on the wrist is insufficient and will not keep him from threatening us with his gun in the future. I ask that you give him the maximum sentence under the Public Disorderly Conduct statute and sentence him to thirty days in jail.