

Reading 9

Victim Awareness: Reading, Analyzing, and Writing Victim Impact Statements

1. Jane Mosher Victim Impact Statement
2. MADDvocate – A Healing Impact
3. MADDvocate – I Knew Before I Was Told
4. MADDvocate – Shattering of the Soul
5. MADDvocate – Trial and Consequences
6. Madoff Victim Impact Statements - Ronnie Sue & Dominic Ambrosino
7. Madoff Victim Impact Statements – Norma Hill
8. Madoff Victim Impact Statements – Carla Hirschhorn
9. Madoff Victim Impact Statements - Caren Low
10. The Penn Stater - Remembering Michael

June 10, 2009

The Honorable Denny Chin
US District Court
Southern District of New York
500 Pearl St
New York, NY 10007-1312

Madoff Letters Packet page 8

Dear Judge Chin,

This is not an easy letter to write. I am opening up my families financial status to anyone who wants to see it which is incredibly humbling and humiliating after years of hard work and major philanthropy. My family's name can be seen on buildings for the Albert Einstein College of Medicine, The Hebrew Home for the Aged in New Rochelle, and the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. We are benefactors of Lincoln Center and founders the Simon Wiesenthal Center in Los Angeles and too many more charities to mention. Bernard Madoff has robbed three generations of my family. Mr. Madoff seems to have done all he could to protect his family while now I have lost almost everything I have to protect mine.

Our relationship with Madoff started over thirty years ago. Our accountant, Paul Konigsberg, is/was a friend and investor with him. My father saw that Paul was doing well and decided to invest some money with him. My father opened up accounts for my brothers and myself with our Bar and Bat Mitzvah gifts. Over the years we all continued to feed money into our accounts. I would save as much as I could knowing that I had my "rainy day" fund as all financial advisors suggest.

After my father retired in the late 1980's he used the "interest" from this account to live on. He sold his house about seven years ago in Westchester County and added that money to his account too. Now it is all gone. His house in Florida is up for sale. He is looking for work but who wants to hire a 72 year old man? We all knew that there is risk associated with the stock market but our statements showed we were diversified and we also though that we would be covered by SIPC if something was not on the up and up.

The news on December 11 was beyond shocking. I couldn't eat for days and subsequently lost 7 lbs. (that's about 7% of my body weight 1) I was walking around in a complete daze and had to go on anti-depressants. My husband is an architect and with the economy being what it was, I didn't know what we were going to live on or if we would have to move. What if there was no more work? What if his clients couldn't pay? I had to pretend to smile when my ten year old daughter was around and try not to reveal the fear that I was living with. I am looking for work and hope that I will be able to find a job that allows me to be home when my daughter gets home from school.

What gave him the right to do this to us?! He knows everything. He knows where the money is and who else is involved and is not talking thus he shows NO remorse for what he has done. For this alone he deserves the maximum sentence. Combine that with how much suffering he has caused his investors and it's a slam dunk. In addition, I cannot believe for a second that his family was not involved or did not know anything about his fraud. If they didn't know, why haven't they given back some of the stolen funds? How much do they possibly need? How many houses? How many cars? How many millions? It's absolutely revolting.

I guess one lesson learned is not to give away too much money before you die as you never know what can happen. In addition ...who can you trust? Can you trust the SEC when they do an investigation and say no fraud is found?

Sad.

Sincerely yours,

Caren Low