

THE STATE OF



TENNESSEE  
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER

## EXONERATION

TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, GREETINGS:

**WHEREAS**, on November 9, 2007, in the Circuit Court for Grundy County, Tennessee, Adam Clyde Braseel (TOMIS #432115) was convicted of first-degree premeditated murder, felony murder, especially aggravated robbery, attempt to commit first degree murder, aggravated assault, especially aggravated burglary and assault (case no. 4221) and was sentenced to life imprisonment; and

**WHEREAS**, newly-discovered evidence led to Mr. Braseel's convictions for first-degree premeditated murder, felony murder, especially aggravated robbery, attempt to commit first degree murder, especially aggravated burglary and assault being overturned, and Mr. Braseel entered an Alford plea regarding his aggravated assault charge in exchange for immediate release; and

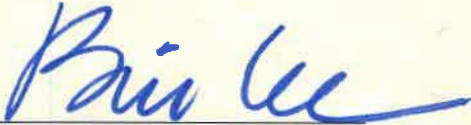
**WHEREAS**, Tennessee's constitution and statutory law vest in the governor broad power to grant executive clemency; and

**WHEREAS**, this case appears to me to be a proper one for the exercise of executive clemency for the following reasons:

Mr. Braseel's original trial was fraught with procedural and evidentiary problems. Examples include the defense counsel's failure to call witnesses about Mr. Braseel's alibi for the night of the crime, faulty eyewitness identifications that were tainted by procedural deficiencies, the prosecution's failure to disclose certain physical evidence to the defense, and the lack of physical evidence or motive linking Mr. Braseel to the crime. After the trial, fingerprint testing technology advanced, which allowed for the retesting of a fingerprint that was found at the scene of the crime and believed to belong to the perpetrator. The print did not belong to Mr. Braseel; rather, it belonged to a known violent criminal. On the advice of counsel, Mr. Braseel entered a best interest plea in exchange for a sentence of time served and the ability to leave custody, but he has always maintained his innocence. The Tennessee Board of Parole recommended exonerating Mr. Braseel.

**NOW THEREFORE**, I, Bill Lee, Governor of the State of Tennessee, by virtue of the power and authority vested in me by Article III, Section 6 of the Tennessee Constitution and by the laws of the State of Tennessee, do hereby grant an exoneration in favor of Adam Clyde Braseel, with respect to his convictions in case number 4221 in the Circuit Court for Grundy County.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State to be affixed at Nashville, Tennessee on this 2nd day of December, 2021.

  
GOVERNOR

  
SECRETARY OF STATE

