

**Audrey Clowers**  
**Proponent Testimony for SB 358**  
**to the Kansas Senate Judiciary Committee**  
**February 4, 2026**

**Written Only Testimony**

Dear Chair Warren and Members of the Committee:

My name is **Audrey Clowers**. I am a victim & survivor of sexual violence connected to the Clark Petersen case & I am testifying in support of **Senate Bill 358**.

I am submitting testimony today because SB 358 addresses a moment in the criminal justice process that caused real and lasting harm to victims and survivors--including myself and others who were victimized by Clark Petersen.

After Clark Petersen was convicted by a jury, the decision to allow him to remain on bond and return home overnight before sentencing was devastating. For many of us, it felt like a complete dismissal of the harm we endured and the courage it took to come forward. Allowing someone convicted of serious crimes to remain free after conviction sends a dangerous message to victims, survivors, and our communities. It undermines sense of safety, retraumatizes those who have already endured significant harm, and reinforces the belief that the system prioritizes offenders over accountability.

For me, this decision gave me anxiety & feeling dismissed. Personal experience is powerful. There is no "right" way to say this.

SB 358 is necessary because it ensures that once a person is convicted of serious crimes, bond is revoked and accountability is immediate. This change is not about punishment--it is about safety, dignity, and respect for victims and for our community. This bill would help prevent other victims from experiencing the same harm and retraumatization that we did.

SB358 is the result of collaboration between victims and survivors, legislators, and local officials. It reflects what survivors have been asking for: a justice system that takes our safety seriously after conviction, not just during trial.

I respectfully urge the committee to support SB 358 and advance this bill. Victims and survivors deserve to feel safe, believed, and respected at every stage of the justice process--including after conviction is secured.

Thank you for your time and for considering my testimony.

Sincerely,

Audrey Clowers  
Manhattan, Kansas Resident