

# Aaron Hernandez May Testify in Lloyd Family's Wrongful Death Suit



Ursula Ward, Odin Lloyd's mother spoke at a press conference at her attorney, Douglas Sheff's (right) office, about her pending civil lawsuit against Hernandez.  
*The Boston Globe/John Tlumacki*

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Boston.com Staff | 04.22.15 | 4:01 PM

Lawyers for Odin Lloyd's family said they will call Aaron Hernandez to testify in the wrongful death suit announced Wednesday against the former New England Patriot.

Doug Sheff, the lawyer representing Lloyd's family, said that Hernandez would be compelled to testify in the suit because he will not be protected by his Fifth Amendment rights against self-incrimination.

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Lloyd's mother, Ursula Ward, gave a brief statement about her son, but her lawyers fielded all questions from reporters.

"The day I learned my son was shot and killed, I thought my life ended with his," said Ward. "I always wished I was there to take those bullets for Odin."

Though no specific amount of money has been requested, Sheff said they would seek any money owed to Hernandez by the Patriots, as well as other assets, including his \$1.3 million North Attleboro home.

"This has never been about money," said Sheff. "No amount of money would satisfy this loss."

According to Sheff, Ward simply wants to know what happened the night her son was killed on June 17, 2013.

"She wants to ask what happened," said Sheff. "Very simply, what happened and then the next question is 'why.'"

Hernandez **was convicted** for the first-degree murder of Lloyd and sentenced to life in prison without parole. He never took the stand during the trial.

Though the Patriots were originally named in the suit, they were dismissed upon the agreement that any money released to Hernandez would be granted to the Lloyd family. The Patriots, who say they owe Hernandez nothing, **are currently in a dispute** with the NFL Players Association. The NFLPA had filed grievances on behalf of Hernandez in 2013 after he was cut by the Patriots, seeking more than \$6 million in guaranteed money.

"I'm not confident he has money, but he has received a lot of it," said Sheff.

Sheff said the first step was to question those who had handled Hernandez's money to locate where his assets—if any—existed, before deciding who to depose.

In 2014, Hernandez **was reportedly struggling to pay his defense team** after his financial assets, including his home, were frozen by a court.

Asked by a reporter what would happen if Hernandez had no money left, Sheff said "we'll cross that bridge when we get to it."

According to Sheff, if Hernandez transferred money to any friend or family member since the beginning of the Odin Lloyd case, it would be dubbed a fraudulent conveyance, and would be sought in the wrongful death suit.

Regarding the timeline of the suit, Sheff said they expect to have something in court in a few weeks.

Hernandez is also being sued in civil court for the 2012 double murder for which Hernandez is facing criminal murder charges. Both families of the two victims in the South End shooting are seeking \$6 million each in damages.

### The Aaron Hernandez Murder Case in Pictures



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On January 20, 2013, Aaron Hernandez caught 9 passes for 83 yards in his last game with the Patriots, a 28-13 loss in the AFC Championship to the Ravens.

*Ray Stubblebine/Reuters*

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