

MICHAEL GENNETTEN

Mike Gennetten was convicted of second degree murder and sentenced to 30 years imprisonment after being convicted of second degree murder involving the death of the infant child of his live-in girlfriend. During Rule 29.15 proceedings, compelling evidence emerged that Mr. Gennetten's trial lawyer was grossly incompetent because he failed to call several doctors who would have testified that the nature of the child's injuries were entirely consistent with the accidental cause of the victim's death described by Mr. Gennetten during his trial testimony. After extensive evidentiary hearings, the litigation in the case culminated with a decision by the Missouri Court of Appeals, Western District granting Mr. Gennetten a new trial in 2003. *State v. Gennetten*, 96 S.W.3d 143 (Mo. App. W.D. 2003). Rather than take the risk of retrial, Mike accepted an Alford Plea and a reduced sentence of 14 years. Mr. Gennetten was freed from prison and has continued his active outdoor life near the Lake of the Ozarks.