

Yvonne Bradley- First Meeting

I remember the first time going in to see Mr. Mohamed. At that particular time—I'm kind of embarrassed to say this now—I was really scared to go in to meet him. And I had no reason to be scared, given my background, given my criminal background, given that I've sat face to face with people who were convicted of crimes. But I remember walking in there thinking, *Wow, I'm scared of what I can even say to this individual.* And I think it was at that point when I started putting together—after meeting Mr. Mohamed and seeing him, seeing his demeanor, and looking into his eyes and seeing his body language—that he was probably more scared of me, than I was of him.

And I'm coming in telling him, and he had no choice, I'm coming in telling him, "I'm your attorney." And he's trying to figure out, *Are you really my attorney? Is this a...?* Because one of the things I heard that they were doing at Guantanamo, it was after attorneys would meet with certain clients, or that individuals would go in—I don't know who they were—saying they were attorneys, trying to get detainees to confess or to open up or make admissions. So part of, I think, probably that was going through his process is, *What kind of trick is this? Is this real?* Because in Guantanamo it's *Alice in Wonderland*. You don't know what's real, you don't know what's...it's absolutely madness.

So I walk into the cell thinking, *Oh my God, this guy's a terrorist. I'm not going to give him any information. He's probably going to get something out, to do something against me or my family.* I walk in there with that type of attitude. I walk out saying, "This is total nonsense." Almost angry because I realized for the first time that whatever I knew about Guantanamo, whatever I read about Guantanamo, whatever information they had about Binyam was likely not true. And that was the first time when it just hit me, like wow, how fear and propaganda can make such a difference of how people understand things. And I was probably more mad coming out of that cell with Binyam than I was scared when I first went in.