

Kartel fans petition Obama administration for retrial, deejay's mom speaks out

Despite Vybz Kartel's conviction on a murder charge on Thursday, his family and fans are clinging on the smallest bit of hope the deejay can beat his current predicament, as dire as it may be

His fans in particular are going to the extremes to try and secure and out for the self-professed 'World's Boss' as they have petitioned the United States government to help free him. The petitions, started this weekend, claim that Vybz Kartel did not receive a fair trial in the Clive 'Lizard' Williams case, which he and three co-accused were convicted of his August 2011 murder. One of the petitions claimed evidence tampering by police during their investigation, citing alleged corruption and bias against him throughout, though that petition has been stopped. A second petition, started on Sunday, is hoping to secure 100,000 signatures by April 15 so it can be formally presented to U.S. President Barack Obama's administration. Meanwhile Kartel's mother and sister have spoken out for the first time since the Mar. 13 verdict. His mother, Teresa Palmer gave an exclusive interview with the Jamaica Observer on Friday in which she expressed anger and sadness at the situation, suggesting many 'lies' have been told on her son. 'I don't like that. A lot of lies were told. They tampered with the phones,' she said. 'Dem man yah no need no sentence. Dem must go a road. Dem haffi let go mi pickney.' Palmer said she has not eaten since the verdict and is trying to cope with the news. She believes, however, that several people have unfairly judged her son because of his hardcore lyrics and persona he presents. 'They say who God bless, no man curse,' she said. 'You can fight against a man like this? You [should] fight against people who come into your community and rob, rape and kill. I don't know why society is fighting the man and he never took anything from them.' Kartel's sister, Morine Nelson even chimed in, challenging an assertion by Jamaica's security minister, Peter Bunting that her brother's music has promoted crime over the years, while insisting people should stop hating the deejay without knowing his background. Vybz Kartel and his co-accused will be sentenced on March 27. However, his legal team has indicated they will file an appeal to overturn the conviction. Meanwhile a juror in the Clive 'Lizard' Williams case, Livingston Cain has been charged with five counts of attempting to pervert the course of justice and conspiracy to pervert the course of justice after allegedly offering millions of dollars to sway other jurors in the case to render a not guilty verdict for Kartel and company. He will appear in the Half Way Tree Magistrates Court on March 18.