Common Law Office of America P. O. Box 62985 Ewa Beach, Hawaii 96706-2645

June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
2601 Blair Stone Road
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-2500

Subject: Public Information and Inspection of Records

RE: Misconduct of Officers at Sumter Correctional Institution

Certified mail #: 7018 0680 0001 2346 1045

Dear Secretary,

This missive is to request a copy of the personnel records of certain officers at Sumter Correctional Institution pursuant to Chapter 33.102.101 (1) which states, "Requests for information my be directed to the Office of the Secretary, Department of Corrections, 2601 Blair Stone Road, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-2500. Request for personal inspection and copying of any records that are open to the public may be directed to the same office or to any office of the department where such records are kept."

Our office has been retained by the family of inmate Anthony T. Williams, DC #: I50147 housed at Sumter Correctional Institution (hereinafter "SCI"), who is an innocent political prisoner, wrongfully incarcerated for his civil rights activism. Mr. Williams has alleged that he has been retaliated against for writing grievances against several officers at SCI, who violated Chapter 33.208.002 (8), also who were engaged in cruel and inhumane treatment of inmates at SCI and using abusive and profane language in the process.

Mr. Williams alleges that he was called to Lt. A. T. Dougherty's office to explain the grievance he had written against officer D. Smith and was told by Lt. Dougherty that "he felt Mr. Williams was threatening his officers." Mr. Williams explained to the Lieutenant that "he was not threatening anyone, rather, he was making a complaint." Instead, the Lieutenant wrote a disciplinary action against Mr. Williams for 'verbally threatening" his officers in his office when he interviewed Mr. Williams by stating that Mr. Williams said: "If you don't get her out of my complex, I will take care of her." Mr. Williams emphatically denies Lieutenant Dougherty's accusative statements and Mr. Williams stated that "why would he verbally threatened an officer to a Lieutenant, in a Lieutenant's office?"

When Mr. Williams questioned Lieutenant Dougherty as to why was he being taken to the solitary confinement, Lt. Dougherty stated: "Nigger, because you didn't mind your own fucking business and you didn't stay in your own fucking lane. Next time, mind your own fucking business." Mr. Williams wrote a grievance to the warden about Lt. Dougherty's abusive and prophane verbal language directed against Mr. Williams, and has yet to receive a response, at which time, Mr. Williams' family has reached out to our office to intervene.

After being taken to the solitary confinement on May 14, 2021, Mr. Williams was given another disciplinary write up by accusing him of having a cellphone. Mr. Williams denies this accusations and stated that "they had planted the phone" because he did not have a cell phone. Mr. Williams had only been at SCI since April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021 and do not know anyone to even attempt to obtain a cell phone. Mr. Williams requested that they view the surveillance camera which it would show, as a proof, that the officers did not get a cell phone out of his locker, as written in their report. When the surveillance cameras were reviewed, the officers who accused Mr. Williams of cell phone possession, then changed their statements and said: "the phone was discovered in the officers' station outside the view of the cameras."

The disciplinary hearings for these write ups occurred on May 21<sup>st</sup> 2021, and Mr. Williams was found "guilty" and sentenced to sixty (60) days in solitary confinement and was told by the hearing officer, A. E. Reed, that "they are recommending Mr. Williams to be transferred." Mr. Williams notified these CSI officers that he would be "appealing their decision" because he was innocent and this was clearly a "retaliation" against him for writing numerous grievances due to the mistreatments he has been subjected to at SCI.

Mr. Williams has repeatedly asked for copies of the grievances that he had written to show he did not threaten anyone, rather, he cited the violations of Chapter 33 by several officers at the SCI.

In order to get to the truth of the matter, we are requesting the following records:

- 1. Disciplinary Report Log #: 307-210523 written by Lt. A. T. Dougherty
- 2. Disciplinary Report Log #: 307-210525 written by Officer S. P. West
- 3. Disciplinary Report Hearing for Log #: 307-210523 by A. E. Reed and D. A. Donahue
- 4. Disciplinary Report Hearing for Log #:307-210525 by A. E. Reed and D. A. Donahue
- 5. All grievances filed by Mr. Anthony T. Williams at Sumter Correctional Institution
- 6. All responses to the grievances filed by Mr. Anthony T. Williams
- Personnel records which include, but not limited to: written warnings, disciplinaries, reprimands, suspensions, inmate grievances filed against Lt. A. T. Dougherty, Officer D. Smith, Officer T. Jacobs, Lt. Reed, Officer Mohegan, A. E. Reed, D. A. Donahue and Warden Colon.
- 8. Copy of the surveillance footage on May 14, 2021, between 2 P.M. and 2:50 P.M., when officer S. A. West allegedly "found" the cellphone in Mr. Anthony T. Williams' locker.

9. Employee I.D. numbers, first and middle names of all the officers listed in #7 above.

Please note that if we do not receive the items requested: documents and information, within 30 days of receipt of this letter, we will file a federal law suit, not only for this information, and also, a law suit against the Florida Department of Corrections on behalf of Mr. Williams, for retaliation, deprivation of rights, conspiracy against rights, racial discrimination, intimidation and violation of the First, Fifth, Eighth and Fourteenth Amendments to the U. S. Constitution.

Mr. Williams is a PEACE seeking man that would not physically or verbally threaten anyone. In fact, he resents being lied to or deceived by anyone, especially if his moral, ethical and spiritual values are compromised. For a background on Mr. Williams and his civil rights activism, you may go to his website at: <a href="www.yearofjubile.com/anthony">www.yearofjubile.com/anthony</a>.

Sincerely,

/s/ Troy Boceti Senior Litigation Counselor

Cc:

- 1). Florida Governor: Ron DeSantis: State of Florida The Capitol; 400 S. Monroe St., Tallahassee, Florida 32399-001. 850-717-9337.
- 2). FBI Headquarters: 935 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W., Washington D.C. 20535-0001.
- 3). U. S. Department of Justice; Civil Rights Division; 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, N. W; Office of the Assistant Attorney General, main; Washington, D. C. 20530; 202-514-3847.
- 4). NAACP-National Association for the Advancement of Colored People: 4805 Mount Hope; Drive Baltimore, MD 21215; 410-580-5777

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