



STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION
4TH FLOOR RACHEL JACKSON BLDG.
320 SIXTH AVENUE NORTH
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37243-0465

February 7, 2008

Mr. Alex Friedmann
Associate Editor
Prison Legal News
5341 Mt. View Road., No. 130
Antioch, TN 37013

Dear Mr. Friedmann:

This is in response to your letter to Commissioner Little, dated December 27, 2007, in which you request, pursuant to the Tennessee Public Records Act, the following records:

“All documents, reports and records, whether in hard copy or electronic format, related to the resignation, firing or dismissal of Warden Glenn Turner, Assistant Warden Jeremy Hensley, Assistant Warden Sarah Rice, and/or Internal Affairs Officer Keith Huggins at the Hardeman County Correctional Facility. This request encompasses any correspondence, emails, memos or reports sent from CCA to the TDOC concerning the firing or resignation of the above-named individuals, or concerning the firing, dismissal or replacement of any other CCA wardens, assistant wardens or internal affairs officers at HCCF within the past twelve (12) months from the date of this request.”

The following documents have been identified as responsive to your request:

1. Terminations log for the period 10/1/2007 through 10/31/2007,
2. Promotions/Demotions/Transfers Log for the period 10/1/2007 through 10/31/2007,
3. November 2, 2007 letter to [REDACTED] from TDOC Internal Affairs Director Jerry Lester,
4. November 8, 2007 letter to [REDACTED] from Commissioner George M. Little.

Copies of the documents are enclosed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Debra K. Inglis".

Debra K. Inglis
General Counsel



STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION
INTERNAL AFFAIRS
100 BOMAR BOULEVARD
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37209-1100
TELEPHONE: (615) 741-7144
FAX: (615) 741-0758

Crossville Office
53 N. Main Street
Suite 106
Crossville, TN 38555
Tel. (931) 707-0024
FAX (931) 707-5242

Dyersburg Office
1150 Henry Street
Suite 8
Dyersburg, TN 38024
Tel. (731) 288-8031
FAX (731) 288-8030

November 2, 2007

Inmate James Ingram #358113
West Tennessee State Penitentiary
PO Box 1150
Henning, TN 38041

Mr. Ingram,

This letter is in response to your inquiry concerning the results of investigation into your allegation that you were physically assaulted by former Warden Glen Turner while housed at the Hardeman County Correctional Facility on May 16, 2007.

After receiving notification of your allegation, the TDOC Internal Affairs Division did initiate a formal investigation, SUB-07-050, at the direction of Commissioner George Little. The investigation did sustain your allegation, finding Glen Turner in violation of TCA 39-13-102, Aggravated Assault, and TCA 39-16-402, Official Misconduct. A complete copy of the investigative report was provided to Assistant District Attorney General Joe VanDyke, 25th Judicial District.

Official court records indicate that on September 18, 2007, Glen Turner entered a plea of guilty to the charge of Official Oppression and was sentenced to (1) year Judicial Diversion, effective September 18, 2007.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jerry Lester".

Jerry Lester, Director
TDOC Internal Affairs
100 Bomar Blvd
Nashville, TN 37209

PHIL BREDESEN
GOVERNOR



GEORGE M. LITTLE
COMMISSIONER

STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION
SIXTH FLOOR, RACHEL JACKSON BUILDING
320 SIXTH AVENUE NORTH
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37243-0465
Office (615) 741-1000 • FAX (615) 532-8281

November 8, 2007



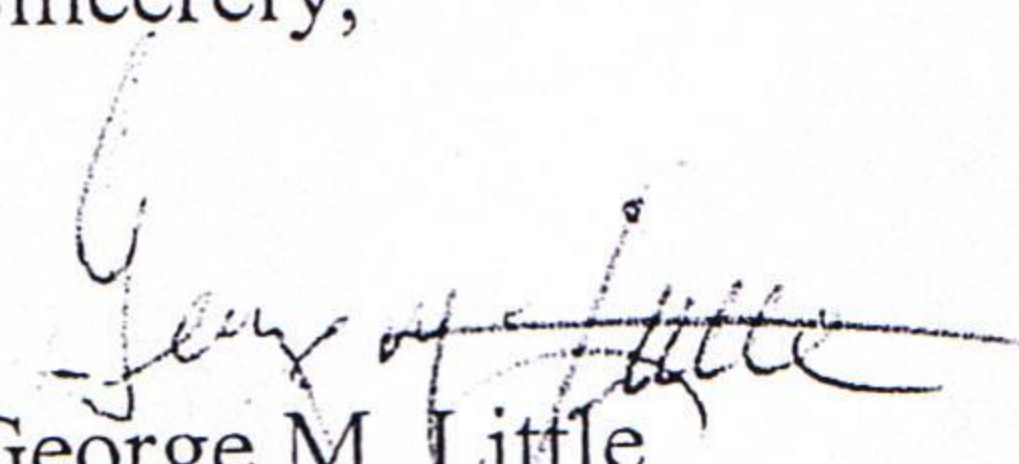
Dear [REDACTED]:

SUBJECT: [REDACTED]

Enclosed is a copy of the Internal Affairs letter (dated 11/2/07) sent to your son regarding the outcome of the investigation. The investigation sustained his allegations of assault by former CCA Warden Glen Turner. All information from TDOC's formal investigative report was submitted to the District Attorney's Office in the 25th District for prosecution. Your legal representative will, if not already, be in contact with the appropriate parties.

In regards to your son's status at West Tennessee State Penitentiary, he will not be released from administrative segregation due to his involvement with the incident at Hardeman County Correctional Facility prior to the incident with Mr. Turner. He may serve up to a year in administrative segregation from the date of the incident. His behavior while in administrative segregation will dictate how much longer he will remain on a maximum custody level. If you have any additional inquires regarding his incarceration, please contact Warden Tony Parker at 731-738-5044.

Sincerely,


George M. Little

GML: JD
Enclosure

cc: Assistant Commissioner of Operations, TDOC
Warden, WTSP
Acting Internal Affairs Director
Operational Support Service File, [REDACTED]
GL-07-1061



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320 SIXTH AVENUE NORTH
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37243-0465
TELEPHONE (615) 741-1000 / FAX (615) 253-1668

MEMORANDUM

TO: Claire Drowota, Executive Director
Select Oversight Committee on Corrections

FROM: Reuben V. Hodge, Assistant Commissioner of Operations

DATE: July 28, 2007

SUBJECT: Use of Force Incident

Hardeman County Correction Complex

Recently the Department received information that an unnecessary use of force may have been used during the lock down incident that occurred on May 16, 2007 (see attached). The specific allegation suggests that unnecessary use of force was used by Warden Glen Turner. After receiving this information, the Commissioner of Correction authorized the Tennessee Department of Correction Internal Affairs to investigate this allegation. At the time of this report, Warden Glen Turner has been placed on administrative leave with pay pending the outcome of this investigation. Warden Steve Dotson of the Whiteville Correctional Complex is overseeing the operation of both Whiteville Correctional Complex and Hardeman County Correctional Facility.

RVH:JD:CMF

PC: George M. Little, Commissioner
Dorinda Carter, Communications Officer
Jim Thrasher, Assistant to the Commissioner
File



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09/21/2007

Follow-up to Above Report

On July 26, 2007, Warden Glen Turner was placed on administrative leave with pay by Corrections Corporation of America pending the results of an investigation being conducted. On August 19, 2007, Glen Turner submitted to Corrections Corporation of America a letter that he is resigning his position as Warden and leaving Corrections Corporation of America. This resignation was accepted by Corrections Corporation of America.

On August 28, 2007, Tennessee Department of Correction was advised that Joe Easterling has been named Acting Warden at Hardeman County Correctional Facility. Indications are that he will be named Warden of Hardeman County Correctional Facility. Acting Warden Easterling can be reached at 731-254-6000 ext 2201 or by e-mail Joe.Easterling@correctionscorp.com.

RVH:JD:CMF

PC: George M. Little, Commissioner
Dorinda Carter, Communications Officer
Jim Thrasher, Assistant to the Commissioner

File

From: Jerry Lester
To: Hodge, Reuben.V; Sullivan, Judy
Date: 9/21/2007 5:28 PM
Subject: Re: Hardeman Co. Incident -- Use of excessive force 5-16-2007

CC: Drowota, Claire; Harmon, Bill; McKee, Bob; Tracy, Jim
Ms. Sullivan,

Please allow me to respond to your inquiry, as I was the case agent in the investigation.

The incident dated May 18 is likely the incident report concerning the disturbance in the chapel area of the facility, and would not mention the excessive use of force, as it was never reported at the facility. It was not until July 19, when the TDOC received notification from inmate Ingram's attorney of his intent to file civil suit, that anyone at the facility began to acknowledge the excessive use of force by Warden Turner.

Commissioner Little immediately authorized an Internal Affairs investigation into the matter on July 19, and instructed me to conduct the investigation. Assistance was also provided by the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation.

The investigation did support that Warden Turner physically assaulted inmate Ingram by throwing him to the floor and striking him at least twice in the head with the closed fist of his right hand. The case report has been provided to Assistant District Attorney Joe VanDyke, who indicated a willingness to seek the criminal prosecution of Turner for violations of TCA 39-13-102, Aggravated Assault, a Class C Felony, and 39-16-402, Official Misconduct, a Class E Felony.

A civil suit against Warden Turner is almost certain on behalf of inmate Graham, who was only slightly injured, having received a 2" laceration above his left eye, just below his brow.

If I can be of any further assistance, please feel free to contact me.

Jerry Lester, Acting Director
TDOC Internal Affairs
100 Bomar Blvd
Nashville, TN 37209

Office: 931-707-8281
Fax: 931-707-5242
Cell: 423-273-0736
Email: jerry.lester@state.tn.us

Disclaimer

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>>> "Judy Sullivan" <judy.sullivan@legislature.state.tn.us> 9/21/2007 3:39 PM >>>

>
>
> Reuben,
> In your report to Claire concerning the Hardeman County incident you
> refer to an "incident that occurred on May 16, 2007 (see attached)."
> There is no attachment. I do have a copy of an incident report dated
> May 18, 2007 but there is no mention of the warden using excessive

- > force in that report.
- >
- > On what date did the TDOC Internal Affairs initiate their
- > investigation of the excessive use of force allegations?
- >
- > Did the investigation prove that the allegations of using excessive
- > force were true and if so what type of force was used?
- >
- > Have any criminal charges been filed against the former warden? Has
- > the inmate filed a lawsuit?
- >
- > Was the inmate(s) injured and if so, how serious were the injuries?
- >
- > Thanks for your help,
- >
- > Judy Sullivan 741-1546
- >
- >
- >