



U.S. Department of Justice

Civil Rights Division

Office of the Assistant Attorney General

Washington, D.C. 20035

May 8, 1998

The Honorable Sonia Johannsen
Chair
Black Hawk County Board of Supervisors
316 E. 5th Street
Waterloo, Iowa 50703

Re: Notice of Intent to Investigate
Black Hawk County Jail, Waterloo, Iowa

Dear Ms. Johannsen:

I am writing to inform you of our intention to investigate conditions at the Black Hawk County Jail in Waterloo, Iowa. This investigation is authorized and will be conducted pursuant to the Civil Rights of Institutionalized Persons Act, 42 U.S.C. § 1997 et seq.

The purpose of the investigation will be to determine whether conditions at the Black Hawk County Jail violate the federal constitutional rights of inmates held there. The investigation will focus on, but not be limited to, medical and mental health care and protection from harm. The initiation of this investigation in no way evidences any prejudice on our part that inmates' federal rights have been violated. If any violations are found, we look forward to conferring with you and your staff concerning corrective actions that might be appropriate.

We would like to initiate this investigation as soon as possible. In that regard, attorneys from my office will contact members of the County Attorney's office to work out the specifics of an initial meeting and tour of the Black Hawk County Jail. The attorneys assigned to this matter are Andrew Barrick, at (202) 514-6249 and Anne Olesen, at (202) 616-8970.

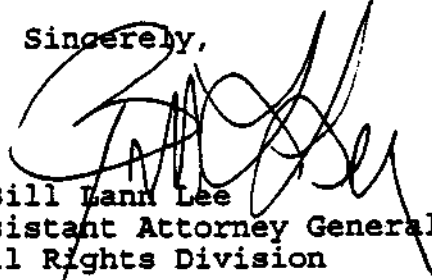
CRIPA Investigation



JC-IA-001-002

Your cooperation in this matter is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bill Lann Lee", written over the typed name and title.

Bill Lann Lee
Acting Assistant Attorney General
Civil Rights Division

cc: Tom Ferguson, Esq.
Black Hawk County Attorney

Mr. Michael Kubik
Black Hawk County Sheriff



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May 8, 1998

The Honorable Eduardo Gonzalez
Director
United States Marshals Service
600 Army Navy Drive
Arlington, VA 22202

Re: Investigation of the Black Hawk
County Jail, Waterloo, Iowa

Dear Mr. Gonzalez:

I wish to advise you that we are investigating conditions of confinement at the Black Hawk County Jail in Waterloo, Iowa, pursuant to the Civil Rights of Institutionalized Persons Act, 42 U.S.C. § 1997 et seq. We understand that there are approximately 30 federal pretrial detainees housed at the Jail.

The purpose of the investigation is to determine whether conditions at the Jail violate the constitutional rights of its inmates. The investigation will focus on, but not be limited to, medical and mental health care and protection from harm. If you have received any complaints regarding the facility, please advise us.

We will cooperate fully with the Marshals Service in this matter and will consult with you regarding the status of our investigation. If you have any questions, please contact Andrew Barrick, the attorney assigned to this matter, at (202) 514-6249.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Bill Lann Lee
Acting Assistant Attorney General
Civil Rights Division

cc: Mr. Joseph T. Frey
Chief, Prisoner Operations
Prisoner Services Division