



U.S. Department of Justice

Civil Rights Division

Office of the Assistant Attorney General

Washington, D.C. 20535

MAY 3 1988

REGISTERED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. Robert Eleuterius
President
Harrison County Board of Supervisors
1801 23rd Avenue
Gulfport, MS 39502

Re: Investigation of the Harrison County Jail
in Gulfport, Mississippi

Dear Mr. Eleuterius:

I am writing to inform you of our intention to investigate conditions at the Harrison County Jail ("HCJ") in Gulfport, Mississippi. The investigation is pursuant to the Civil Rights of Institutionalized Persons Act, 42 U.S.C. §1997-1997j (1982).

The purpose of the investigation will be to determine whether HCJ violates the constitutional rights of its inmates. The investigation will focus on, among other things, allegations concerning (1) suicide precautions, (2) classification systems, (3) security and surveillance by guards, (4) conditions of confinement, (5) medical and mental health services, and (6) abuse of inmates. Initiating this investigation in no way evidences any prejudgment that HCJ violates its inmates' constitutional rights. If any violations are found, however, we will confer with you and your staff concerning appropriate corrective actions.

As a means of commencing this investigation, we wish to arrange for our attorneys, consultants, and perhaps agents of the

U.S. v. Harrison Co.

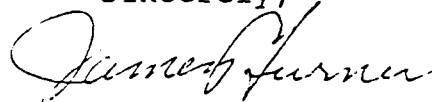


JC-MS-013-001

Federal Bureau of Investigation to visit and tour HCJ. We shall be in touch with your staff to work out the specifics of our initial investigation.

Your cooperation in this matter is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "James P. Turner".

James P. Turner
Acting Assistant Attorney General
Civil Rights Division

cc: Robert A. Payne, Esquire
Harrison County Attorney

Mr. Rick Gaston
Warden
Harrison County Jail
& Youth Detention Center

Mr. Joe Price
Harrison County Sheriff

George L. Phillips, Esquire
United States Attorney
State of Mississippi
Southern District