



U.S. Department of Justice

Civil Rights Division

Office of the Assistant Attorney General

Washington, D.C. 20035

MAR 29 1994

The Honorable James E. Folsom
Governor of Alabama
Alabama State Capitol
600 Dexter Avenue
Montgomery, AL 36130

Dear Governor Folsom:

I am writing to inform you that we intend to investigate conditions at the Julia Tutwiler Prison for Women in Wetumpka, Alabama. This investigation is 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 Julia Tutwiler Prison for Women violate the federal constitutional rights of inmates held there. The investigation will focus on, among other things, allegations we have received regarding: (1) medical care, (2) mental health care, (3) physical plant, and (4) overcrowding.

The initiation of this investigation does not indicate a prejudgment on our part that federal rights have been violated. Additionally, if any violations are found, we intend to confer with you and your staff concerning any appropriate corrective action.

We would like to initiate this investigation as soon as possible. In that regard, attorneys from my office will contact your staff within the next week to arrange a tour of the prison by our consultants, Civil Rights Division personnel, and perhaps agents from the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The attorney responsible for this matter is Christopher Cheng, (202) 514-8892.

CRIPA Investigation

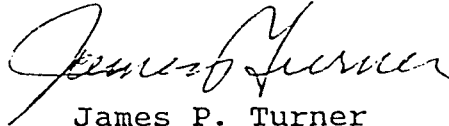


PC-AL-006-008

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Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,



James P. Turner
Acting Assistant Attorney General
Civil Rights Division

cc: The Honorable Jimmy Evans
Attorney General
State of Alabama

Ms. Shirlie Lobmiller
Warden
Julia Tutwiler Prison for Women

James E. Wilson, Esq.
United States Attorney