

# FEDERAL PUBLIC DEFENDER

## NORTHERN AND SOUTHERN DISTRICTS OF MISSISSIPPI

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April 28, 2008

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RE: Supplement to Complaint Letter dated April 11, 2008

Ladies and Gentlemen:

This letter is to supplement my last letter to you concerning the complaints about the operation of the Madison County Detention Center. I am reporting three additional incidents discovered since my April 11, 2008 letter. The names of the inmates are being omitted for confidentiality. However, they will be made available to any proper investigative team.

One of our Federal inmates witnessed the beating of an inmate in E pod 725 that occurred a couple of weeks ago. The inmate was a black male and was kicked repeatedly in his scrotum, then put in the "hole" to heal.


Another Federal inmate was told to lay on the floor and he complied, then the officer placed a taser against his head with the beam going into his eye. He was threatened. The inmate

has seen the officers use the taser on other inmates in the hallways for what he believes is punishment and not restraint. Thus he believed he was going to be tasered to the head, even though the officer did not shoot the taser. This individual was put in lock-down solitary for 15 days.

This past Thursday, a federal inmate apparently attempted to escape and was trapped between the two loading entry doors. An Assistant Federal Public Defender was waiting in the lobby and heard an extended violent commotion with doors and walls banging. The inmate was later taken to the University of Mississippi Medical Center, where according to his private attorney, the inmate suffers brain damage. It is being handled as a hanging suicide attempt.

I am once again requesting that all Federal inmates be removed to another facility. I have been informed that the Grenada County facility can handle up to 100 additional federal inmates. Moreover, they will provide transportation to and from the U.S. Courthouse in Jackson, Mississippi, which should eliminate any additional burden on the U.S. Marshal's office.

Sincerely yours,

  
S. Dennis Joiner  
Federal Public Defender

SDJ:aah

cc: Ronald R. Welch, Esq.  
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