



## SPARTACUS PROJECT OF NEVADA

DONALD HINTON, DIRECTOR

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Sunday, September 21, 2008

**THE OLDEST COLD CASE IN HISTORY!**

**A TRUE STORY.**

**I know. I lived it.**

**Submitted by Donald Hinton**

Advisory Commission on Admin. of Justice  
Exhibit Kpg 1 of 24 Date: 9-22-08  
Submitted by: D. Hinton



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**DONALD HINTON, DIRECTOR**

**1919 Hall wood Drive, Las Vegas, Nevada 89119 (702) 740-0402**

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### **TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE:**

In 1957 I was at my family home where I resided at the time. Shortly after 3:00am I was awoken and arrested in full view of my family. I was not handcuffed. Something the police did not do in the 1950's.

I was taken to the Inglewood, California police station and greeted by a large number of policemen and FBI men. Captain Stevenson of the Inglewood police force came forward and told me not to worry—he knew I didn't do it. Just what it "was" at the time was a mystery.

I was placed in a line up with several others. None of which were over 12 years of age and 5 foot tall. I was placed before a two-way mirror, which I could see through. I witnessed a group of people and a young girl and everyone was pointing towards me, but the girl. She kept shaking her head "NO". Didn't matter--she was getting the old finger in the chest routine and told to say "YES". This went on for about an hour. The girl, sobbing heavily and shaking, never changed her mind. "I was not the man!"

My father arrived at the police station and spoke to Captain Stevenson. My father was very blunt and he meant what he said: "Release this boy and I mean now!" My father worked for Standard Oil in El Segundo, California. Standard Oil kept the city of El Segundo in their parks, public swimming pools and other recreational facilities. My father was a well respected man with Standard Oil, and he could request the extra money the city enjoyed spending on their local citizens—be cut off.

I was pulled out of the line up and placed into a room with Captain Stevenson, my father, and many others. I was now asked to tell the men in the room where I was at 1:30am on this day. My answer was simple: "I was home in bed." My father spoke up and stated for all to hear: "This is exactly the same thing I told you. " He is coming home with me!" I was released. " I was never asked if I killed anyone."

The crime: 2 El Segundo policemen were killed in El Segundo, California—at 1:30am on this day. Earlier in the same day by about an hour (12:30am) the man suspected of killing the policemen had raped a young girl and pistol-whipped the two boys she was with and her girlfriend. I think he had robbed them, also. Those were the young people the police was trying to convince I was the killer, and this girl's rapist.

Had the son-of-bitch policemen succeed in getting that young, scared girl to say it was me—I'd have gone to the gas chamber in San Quentin, California! I watched the police torture this girl for an hour, but she kept indicating the man was taller. So did the other three victims. "The man was taller." I didn't appear tall to the girl—even when placed in a line-up with juveniles. I had been identified by the victims from a previous police mug shot for fighting. However, let's not forget the police had to have known the man in this case was taller, why else would the police place children in their line-up with me?

This incident has caused me to be denied coaching little league baseball & football, which I enjoy. And, when I was stopped by a policeman for anything, including a traffic ticket—they were warned to call for backup. Police guns have been pulled on me for such incidents. I was denied parole twice in California—unless I could tell the parole board something about these cops getting themselves killed.

"I knew the men killed. One was decent, the other was not. I believe, the policemen—angered this man into killing them." Parole board didn't like my answer, but what could I tell them—who killed and why? I had no knowledge! That didn't seem to matter. They believed I did it, and that was enough for them.

For the record: The man who shot the two policemen was apprehended in North Carolina in 2003. He confessed to the killings and is serving a life sentence in California's prison system. What else do you want to know about our wonderful justice system? Are they reliable and truthful? "HELL NO!"

It is time to clean up our judicial system with energy towards the truth. It is overdue!



**Fwd: Story on Crime**

Saturday, September 20, 2008 2:26 AM

**From:** "tonjamasrod40@aol.com" <tonjamasrod40@aol.com>

**To:** spartacusproject@yahoo.com

Sent: Fri, 19 Sep 2008 7:23 pm

Subject: Story on Crime

### The Oldest Cold Case in History

#### The Heinous Crime

When the cold case unit was formed in Los Angeles, detectives faced a daunting backlog of 9,000 unsolved murder cases dating back four decades. But killings don't get any colder than the 1957 murder of two young cops during a routine traffic stop. Investigators had all but given up on the case — one of the oldest unsolved homicides in the country — when modern technology finally caught up with justice.

The story begins 48 years ago, on July 21, in a desolate area of an oil field in Hawthorne, California. With its view of the ocean and glittering city lights, the spot made a perfect lovers' lane, which is where, around midnight, two teenage couples in a 1949 Ford were parked. They weren't alone for long. Out of the darkness, a man in his 20s, with a pompadour hairstyle, approached the car and, in a distinct Southern drawl the teenagers would never forget, said all he wanted to do was rob them. He pointed his .22, told the frightened youths to hand over their watches and cash, then made himself out to be a liar.

Snapping off pieces of both duct and surgical tape to strap over their eyes and mouths, he forced three of them, two boys and a girl, into the backseat, while he raped the other girl in the front. Terrified, the youths figured

they'd be killed so there would be no witnesses.

Instead, the intruder ordered the teenagers to take off everything but their underwear, and left them, nearly naked, in the middle of nowhere as he sped away in their Ford.

Two miles to the west, in the city of El Segundo, officers Richard Phillips, 29, and Milton Curtis, 25, were patrolling the streets when they saw a man in a Ford run a red light. It was 1:30 a.m. They pulled the car over and noticed clothes — a yellow sundress, a slip and a man's sport shirt — strewn across the backseat. The officers ordered the driver out of the car, and as Curtis used his radio to call headquarters, the man pulled out his .22 and shot Phillips three times in the back. Then he pointed the gun inside the patrol car where Curtis was sitting and fired three more times, striking him in the chest.

Phillips managed to discharge his service revolver three times in the direction of the man — who by then was climbing back behind the wheel

of the Ford -- before he fell to the ground. With both officers down, the driver took off. Four blocks away, he abandoned the car and fled on foot.

Back in the oil field, the teenagers eventually stumbled upon a security guard and asked for help. Still dazed when the police showed up, the youths struggled to recall physical details of the perpetrator in hopes a composite sketch would lead to his arrest.

The young rape victim was examined, but in the 1950s, says Darren Levine, the deputy DA assigned to the case in 2002, "the way they handled a rape case was much different from today. They gave back the girl's semen-stained underpants and slip, so we never had that forensic evidence to work with later on."

Keith Curtis, now 53, was only five, and his sister two, when he heard a knock on the door at four in the morning. "I was awakened by voices and my mother's crying," he recalls. His mother was so rattled she couldn't get the front door unlocked. "What's wrong?" she called to the El Segundo police chief. "Is my husband hurt?"

"No, it's worse than that," said the chief, who, at a house a mile away, had just delivered the same devastating news to the widow of Officer Phillips and his three young children.

"I was confused for a while," Curtis says. "My mother kept saying my father had just gone away on a trip. Finally, she told me he'd gone to heaven and couldn't come home."

The killing of the policemen made headlines in Southern California for months. In the abandoned Ford, detectives found three bullet holes from the shots Phillips fired -- two in the rear window and one in the trunk -- but located only two projectiles. Where was the third? The answer would eventually stun them. Also in the Ford, torn clothing and 20 pieces

of tape were found, along with three partial fingerprints on the steering wheel and a car panel. But with no computer databases against which to check the prints, police simply sealed and stored them.

Over the next few years, as detectives worked the case, bits of evidence surfaced. A month after the murders, a woman gardening in her backyard near where the Ford was abandoned found a man's watch but made no connection to the crimes. Two years later, her husband was clearing brush in the yard when he discovered a piece of a .22-caliber handgun but, like his wife, didn't think much about it and put it on a shelf in the garage.

In 1960, the couple's son was working outside when he found the revolver's rusty cylinder. The boy's father, having seen news stories about the officers' deaths, put two and two together. He reasoned that, with his house located close to the crime scene, the suspect had tossed the incriminating evidence in the backyard as he fled. The man phoned police.

When a ballistics check confirmed that markings from rounds fired by

the gun were consistent with bullets removed from Curtis's and Phillips's bodies, elated police finally had their first break. Investigators were able to trace the murder weapon to a Shreveport, Louisiana, Sears store, where records indicated it had been purchased three days prior to the killings. But because identification wasn't

necessary for the purchase, the customer had simply signed the receipt, "G. D. Wilson," in wide-spaced lettering.

the way they handled a rape case was much different from today. They gave back the girl's semen-stained underpants and slip, so we never had that forensic evidence to work with later on. Investigators located the clerk who handled the transaction and, amazingly, he recalled that the purchaser was a man with a pompadour who seemed in a hurry to get out of town. But the trail went dead when those leads led nowhere, sending the case into cold storage for another 42 years.

#### An Unlikely Tip

The backlog of cold cases grows longer each year. Of the more than 560 homicides committed annually in Los Angeles, almost 50 percent go unsolved.

Lisa Kahn, head of the DA's forensic sciences division, and David Lambkin of LAPD's cold case unit, are leading the effort to crack the city's cold cases by using modern technology, including tracking software, DNA evidence (blood, hair and semen) and computerized databases of fingerprints and ballistics records. The work began in 2001 with a \$50 million state grant to cover the costs of examining DNA in unsolved sexual assault cases. The grant allowed detectives to review cases using a state database containing 300,000 DNA samples from known offenders. To date, investigators in L.A. have solved 28 cold cases and are hopeful of solving another 50 this year.

Kahn first became fascinated with forensics when she tried a double rape case in the late '80s. It was the first case in L.A. County in which DNA was entered as evidence, and it introduced Kahn to the world of genetic profiling. Because the rapist wore a mask, his victims could not identify him. Kahn obtained blood samples from the suspect that, when tested against semen left in the victims' bodies, produced a DNA match.

"I look at an old case like a big forensic puzzle," says Kahn. "You can tell a lot from DNA testing -- whether there were multiple perpetrators, for example, or whether a victim was killed, or dumped, at the scene."

Not all cold cases are solved using DNA. Fingerprint evidence can be a helpful tool, and it would prove key in the El Segundo officers' murder case. Before computerized fingerprint databases were developed in the mid-'80s, detectives had to come up with a suspect and then compare prints on file, often with limited results.

With advances in technology, however, fingerprints can now be scanned directly into huge computer systems. "We can take a fingerprint from a crime scene, process it and search it against prints in the database," says Lambkin, "which can tell us who the suspect is instead of vice

versa."

That's precisely what happened in the 1957 case, which was reopened in the fall of 2002 after:

Investigators, out of the blue, received a tip.

A man dying of cancer informed police that his kid brother, years earlier, had boasted of killing the El Segundo officers. When detectives checked out the kid brother, they determined that he wasn't credible.

"He took credit for all sorts of crimes," says Deputy DA Levine, "including killing Robert Kennedy. But the tip, though irrelevant, stirred up interest in the case."

By then, fingerprint analysis had come a long way. In July 1999, the FBI completed compiling its Integrated Automated Fingerprint Identification System (IAFIS), a nationwide fingerprint database containing some 40 million prints of known offenders. Detectives assigned to the 1957 case ran its composite of the prints from the Ford through the database, then waited expectantly to see what would come back.

"I'll never forget the moment when I got the phone call from the crime lab analyst who said we had a match," recalls Lt. Craig Cleary, head of El Segundo's detective unit. "I thought he was kidding. 'Are you sure?' I asked."

"I'm certain," the analyst said.

The print belonged to a man named Gerald F. Mason who lived in Columbia, South Carolina. In 1956, a year before the officers' killings, a then-22-year-old Mason had been arrested in South Carolina for commercial burglary (the only other crime on his record), so his fingerprints were on file in that state. But those prints did not make their way to the national database until many years later.

Detectives began tracking Mason and soon learned more details about him. He was 68, weighed 195 pounds, had been married for 40 years, and had two grown children and several grandchildren. After working in gas stations in his youth, he had eventually bought a service station chain, an investment that made him a wealthy man. In fact, he was well known and respected in Columbia. Upon retiring a few years earlier, he had begun spending much of his time bowling and playing golf.

The first call Cleary made after identifying Mason was to the family of Officer Milton Curtis. "I was intrigued but wary," says Keith Curtis, who today works for a heavy equipment company, is married and has a 19-year-old daughter. Cleary also phoned Richard Phillips's family. By then, his widow was in her 70s, and his three children were middle-aged. "I talked to her son, and he almost hung up on me," Cleary says. "He thought it was a prank call. But the more I talked, the more he realized this might be true."

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that forensic evidence to work with later on.

Justice Is Finally Served

"I'm not a religious guy," explains Deputy DA Levine, "but this

... was one

of those cases where you feel someone above is watching over you. All the stars aligned to make it work."

Still, Levine wanted more evidence. "I wanted to make sure, 46 years later, before arresting someone who is a successful businessman and a pillar of his community, that we had a rock-solid case that would go to trial and end with a conviction." Investigators tracked down as many witnesses as they could, but several, including the 16-year-old boy who had owned the Ford, had died.

One witness -- the Sears clerk with the excellent memory -- was not only still alive, but he had risen through the ranks to become a VP of the retail chain. All those years later, the man still remembered Mason, his Southern accent and that he appeared in a hurry. Having learned that Mason had been living at a YMCA in Columbia when he was arrested in 1956, detectives began checking other YMCAs to see if they could place him near the Sears in Shreveport, where the murder weapon had been purchased.

Sure enough, on the registry of a YMCA right across from the store, they spotted the signature of one "George D. Wilson." Detectives compared the signature with the one on the gun sales form and with Mason's signature on a recent business document. All three matched.

"We knew we had him then," Levine says. Detectives are still not exactly sure why Mason had come west to California, but his journey across the United States, possibly to deal with a legal matter involving his mother, fit the time period of the crimes.

It was daybreak on January 29, 2003, when a group of eager officials, including Deputy DA Levine and Lieutenant Cleary, came to Mason's front door. "He had the deer-in-the-headlights look," Cleary recalls.

"We want to talk to you about the murder of two El Segundo police officers," one of the detectives said.

"He didn't deny it," Cleary says, "but we could tell he was shocked we'd solved the case after all these years."

At the local jail, officials searched Mason and found a circular scar, the size of a dime, on his back. In a later admission, Mason finally provided the answer to a question that had baffled investigators for decades. Phillips's third bullet, which police could find no evidence of at the scene of the crime, had struck Mason just below the right shoulder blade, and he still had the scar to prove it.

In March 2003, after waiving extradition, Mason was brought to Los Angeles, where he pleaded guilty to two counts of first-degree murder. He was not charged with rape and robbery because the victims didn't want to go through the ordeal of a trial. Sentenced to two life terms, Mason, as part of his plea agreement, is serving out his days in a

South Carolina prison.

**Mason**

declined to be interviewed for this story, but during his plea hearing he offered officials some insight, however credible, into his motive for the killings. "It wasn't premeditated at all," Mason told the officials. "[One of the officers] started pressing me...I was scared they came. I was really fearful."

As for robbing the teenagers and raping the 15-year-old girl, alcohol appears to have had an influence. "I really don't have an explanation for why this happened to them. I wish I did," Mason said. "I'm still trying to just figure out how I got there [in the oil field]. I do recall being in Vegas. I feel like I have a memory of a liquor bottle in that field somewhere, [which] I left empty." What Mason seemed to imply was that the deadly events of that night in 1957 had occurred while he was in some kind of alcohol-induced haze.

In contrast, Keith Curtis's memory of his father has always been crystal clear. "I never gave up hope," he says. "I missed not having my dad around, and he missed a lot too. I just could never accept that someone had simply gotten away with his murder."

From Reader's Digest - September 2005

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# **SPARTACUS PROJECT OF NEVADA**

**DONALD HINTON, DIRECTOR**

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All Members: Advisory commission on the Administration of Justice.

(Please, place into record.)

Enclosed are letters from Nevada's prisoners, concerning their health and the medical conditions they are forced to endure, at the hands of the Department of Corrections in Nevada. In addition, there are letters, and grievances concerning: clothing, laundry, medical transport, showers and a host of other things that could be corrected by demanding, by one of you committee members—to make the necessary changes immediately. Nevada's Department of Correction's Director sits along side all you committee members. He is, if you don't know, Howard Skolnik-prison director, a disgrace to Nevada and the man that appointed him.

How hard would it be to tell this director to do the right thing, and correctly do his job as director of prisons? People are suffering today, and will continue to do so—until someone in a position to make changes does something about it. Are there no men in this state that knows the difference between abuse and humanity?"

While this committee is concerning itself mainly with the abuses of larger priorities, courts, sentencing, parole etc., you are overlooking abuses that cannot be tolerated forever, unless this committee has closed eyes and is embracing the tactics of Iran, Iraq & Russia, as their behavior model towards their prisoners. One man, John Leone, died as the result of a High Desert State Prison officer—refusing to answer the call of a man trying to get medical attention. The man was found dead in the morning by another shift officer. How honorable is that? (Ask me to prove the officer never left his office/bubble to call medical for this dying man! And, taunted the other prisoners to "shut up" trying to get attention for Mr. Leone. How much effort is it to make a phone call for medical staff assistance?) Attorney General—anyone? (Yeah, sure!)

Medical & Dental problems need to be addressed NOW! Not years from now, when whatever changes this committee recommends—if any, are applied. Committee members would not permit their children & loved ones to endure this pain Nevada's director of prisons permits everyday. Does he allow this type abuse to continue—because he is too cowardly to put a stop to his employee's blatant abuses? Or, is he playing politics with human lives? "Save money in this tight economy and get reappointed—maybe?"

Is it possible, that a committee member could put the word in the governor's ear to erase the abuse in Nevada's prisons? Just a thought... "Money Vs Humanity!" (Remember: Prisoner's families vote!)

I'd like to see this committee's humanity come to the fore and put restraints on how long a prison can keep prisoners in the hole? Yeah, yeah, I know, it is called administration segregation, but never-the-less it is still an inhumanity to man & a disgrace to Nevada. Some prisoners have been in the "hole" for years without a break & never see the sun. That's another health issue—Vitamin D denied=possible heart failure.

I know some of you think of administrative segregation as a joke, but I've asked some members to spend three days on a prison yard and get the true facts of prison living and to see what changes can be recommended. Couldn't find one person to consider this suggestion! "In 1970, Assemblyman Leo Ryan did it in California's Folsom Prison. He lived to see change. He made the changes—with first hand knowledge."

I'm still wondering, why this committee at their April 2008 meeting at High Desert State Prison didn't take advantage while there, and speak with some of the prisoners to get some valid information--instead of fluff from Nevada's parasites—that have a pay check to protect, and will do so at any cost? "Just a thought..."

Have a nice day! Respectfully submitted.

9-7-08

MR. HINTON,

As you are undoubtedly a busy man, I'm sure you don't remember my initial correspondence asking for your help. I am in a desperate situation here being denied vital life saving health care, for no other reason than my political beliefs and activism. And while I appreciate your response and the update on your recent submission to the NCJIS Advisory Committee, these things will not help me get the med-care I need now. Understand I do not need a heart transplant or anything. I am suffering from (very painful) kidney dysfunction, caused by a urinary blockage. Remove the blockage and I'll be able to recover. But by denying me med-care not only am I suffering very painful symptoms, it is causing damage to my kidneys, and will kill me. In fact I am not at my best right now as my kidneys are being flooded with waste, causing my blood and tissues to retain this waste, which is affecting my entire body, even my brain. I'm detailing this for you to understand exactly what I'm dealing with. And it's not about \$, as I've tried to get the administration to give me med-care if I'd pay my own bill. Still they refuse.

Look, you need resources to continue your activism, I need your activism to ~~continue~~ continue to live. I will pay you to advocate on my behalf. It's not my intention to offend you. I just don't have the patience to



(2)

color my words. And when I have my health back not only can we work together, I believe we can make some significant changes. The current political situation is very revealing to me. That an African American is the Democratic Presidential Nominee, tells me that many people out there, especially young people, want to put an end to the disparities between class and race. They understand that the promise and potential we have as a nation has been held hostage for too long, in the hands of avarice and corruption, the capitalist elitists who have been controlling things from the start. Young people carry the hope we've lost. We can win prison and judicial reform. We just have to get our message out to the people. They need to know what's really going on inside these prisons. I read the "blogs?" you sent with the thoughts people expressed about prisons and prisoners. And these were obviously people filled with the cynicism and rage from constantly being beat down and victimized by a corrupt social / government structure. People who are ignorant to the fact that they themselves are and lost paycheck from being forced to decide between watching their children go hungry or committing a crime. And we never met anyone who forced to decide between starvation and stealing a loaf of bread, would not choose the latter. Further I don't know any intelligent person who would call that a crime. Just as I don't know

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any caring person would say a society in which these 'corporate blood suckers' are allowed to profit off the illness and disease of its citizens, a just society. Those people who were so angry about us having access to T.V.<sup>3</sup> radios, and canteen. They are first ignorant to the fact that these are tools of oppression/control more than they are a privilege. It takes a certain level of sadism and apathy for a person to work in a prison for any extended period of time. These are graveyards full of ~~misery~~ misery, pain, and anger. These are schools of oppression. Soon as we arrive here the #1 objective is to break our spirit. To take away our independence, our humanity. When you make it illegal to share food with someone who is hungry, a book with someone thirsting for knowledge, or to even show concern for someone being brutalized by a corrupt guard. Then you are attacking the very essence of what it is to be a human being. When you set up a level system that encourages rats to lie on the next man for more time out of his cell etc and that discriminates not based on behavior but political and religious beliefs. Then you're going beyond a loss of freedom, you are attacking a person's intellectual and spiritual being. Without these T.V.<sup>3</sup> etc. The guards would have nothing to take away should we question their authority, should we look them in the eye rather than down at our feet.

(turn)

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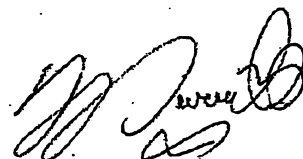
Should we rebel against their brutality. They want us to have these ~~bookends~~ idiot boxes, not only for the threat of taking something away. But because they know ~~enough to keep us from~~ there would be nothing to divert us from the realities and truth of our immediate situation, and society overall. There would be no distractions keeping us from taking this shit seriously and organizing our own programs and education. Oh, but that is illegal too. See I say cut and take these T.V.'s and the internet. Maybe then ~~so~~ many of us in these grave yards will stop sleep walking through life. Second these people on these blogs are ignorant to the fact that the great majority of the "crimes" people are in prison for are "social" crimes. People trying to feed their families, escape from the poverty and misery they were born into. From an early age we are told we are worthless, that our worth in this world will be determined by the material. But in our schools we are ~~even~~ taught just barely enough to do the mental jobs relegated for people like us. The poor and people of color. ~~But~~ we learn from the movies and programs on T.V., "Scarface" "The Godfather", "American Gangster". And so we do what is there for us to do. We do you know, the student or the teacher. We kill and we are called monsters. But the same things that push many of us to kill are the same things

(NEXT)

(5)

That lead many of us to die on the battlefields of Iraq and Afghanistan. We are not monsters. Bottom line, if you wanna make prison something about punishment, without giving us access to education, job training, better social skills. Without addressing the social ills that lead us here to ~~begin~~ begin with. If you just want to lock us in a cage and fill us with rage. Then you can't cry when we become the monsters you created.

MR. HINTON, I AM NOT AN EDUCATED MAN. I WROTE THIS LETTER ~~FROM~~ AT A DISADVANTAGE, IN A GREAT DEAL OF PAIN AND DEALING WITH THE EFFECTS OF BEING LOCKED IN A CELL 24/7 MOST OF MY ADULT LIFE. I AM 37 Y.O. I'VE BEEN IN PRISON SINCE I WAS 19. AND I'D RATHER DIE THAN LIVE ANOTHER DAY LIKE THIS. BUT I PUSH ON TO LIVE BECAUSE I HAVE WORK TO DO. WITH GREAT WISDOM COMES GREAT RESPONSIBILITY. AND WHILE I AM NO ~~ANYWHERE NEAR~~ BETTER THAN THE NEXT MAN, I KNOW THE TRUTH. AND I'VE MADE IT MY LIFE'S WORK TO SHARE THAT TRUTH WITH AS MANY PEOPLE AS I CAN FOR AS LONG AS I DRAW BREATH. TO MAKE WHAT MEAGER CONTRIBUTION I CAN TO FULFILLING THE POTENTIAL AND PROMISE OF OUR HOPES AS HUMAN BEINGS, AND AS A PEOPLE. SO IF YOU WANT TO WORK TOGETHER WITH ME, LET ME KNOW. I'M WILLING TO GIVE ALL I HAVE TOWARDS THIS EFFORT.



September 12, 2008

Mr. Donald Hinton  
Spartacus Project  
1919 Hallwood Drive  
Las Vegas, NV 89119

Dear Don:

I am writing to make you aware of what is happening at Southern Desert Correctional Center with the hope that you can confront the appropriate authorities and politicians to improve our situation. You may already be aware of some of these things, and some are specific to SDCC where our living conditions have steadily deteriorated at the direction of Warden Brian Williams and his assistants.

1. **Parole hearings** are now being conducted in absentia and almost no one is being paroled, and certainly not one year prior to expiration as directed by legislature. The system is clogged up as ever and they are just perpetuating the problem by not paroling people, as they will just have to see them again in a year or two. The absentia hearings are taking place many months after the eligibility dates, but the dumps are effective from the late hearing date, not the original eligibility date.
2. **Good time credit** is still not being given day for day. They are giving 6 credits per month instead of 10 days, or 12 credits instead of 20 days, depending on the circumstances.
3. **Overcrowding** has become a real problem at SDCC since they built two new housing units, adding 500 more inmates to the yard with no additional support services, resulting in:
  - a. **Culinary** being so busy trying to keep up that it takes hours to feed all the inmates. They have even resorted to handing out sack lunches at breakfast to try to keep up. The quality and quantity of food has been cut, I guess to try to save on food costs, leaving hungry inmates.
  - b. An overwhelmed **Medical** department with one doctor, one dentist, and an eye doctor that comes in one or two days a month, to service 2,300 inmates. They were already besieged before adding the extra inmates, now it is completely out-of-hand having to wait months on end for an appointment.
  - c. The **Education** department was not large enough to handle the amount of inmates before the new housing units were added, now it too is completely overwhelmed with people having to wait forever to get into a class. Vocational students who have their high school diploma but need additional training, such as computers, have no hope of getting a class.

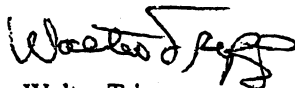
- d. **Visiting times** have been cut substantially because they don't have enough room to accommodate everyone. Someone wanting to visit has to make an appointment a week in advance and can only visit for a morning or afternoon, not the entire day. People are not allowed to use the visiting patio anymore, further diminishing the amount of visitors that can be accommodated. People are being denied visits because there is not enough room.
- e. **Yard Time** has been reduced significantly since Brian Williams took over. The yard used to be open to each unit as they were released for chow. Now the yard is not opened until all units have been fed, and considering the extra time it now takes to feed all these inmates, we get less than half the yard time we used to get. They have also reduced the number of days that each unit gets yard time to cut down on the amount of inmates on the yard at any one time, again a result of the overpopulation. Inmates are also being made late to class and their programming activities because the yard does not open on time.
4. **Convenience Bed Moves** are no longer allowed, so if cellmates are not getting along, the only alternative is to go to the hole. This policy results in violence and makes living conditions unbearable in certain conditions. Convenience bed moves were accommodated until Brian Williams got here.
5. **Outcounts** so that inmates can remain at their job during the 11:15 a.m. count time instead of having to return to their unit has been eliminated, wasting valuable work time and putting a strain on free staff and the inmate workers because they can't keep up with their workload. 1 to 1-1/2 hours a day is being wasted.
6. **Door calls** have been instituted where inmates can only enter or leave their housing unit during a ten minute time span on the hour and half hour. Inmates are being made late for appointments and other obligations, and if they have to leave work to get their laundry or store purchases, they have to wait to get in and out of their unit to put their things in their cell, making them lose more work/programming time. To make matters more difficult, some guards are not keeping to the established door call schedule and only open them when and if they feel like it.
7. **The Package Program** where inmate's families could order clothing and food items for them twice a year has been eliminated. Clothing items have also been eliminated from the inmate store, so no clothing can be purchased at all. This is only going to cost the state more money having to provide clothing that most inmates used to buy. There are also rumors that they are going to put all inmates in jumpsuits, which will cause a rebellion as many will not tolerate this humiliation.
8. **The Inmate Store and Coffee Shop** have both been forced to substantially cut down the food items available for purchase. Inmates that can afford it buy most of their food from the stores because the culinary food is so horrible. Now that is being restricted which will make the prison food costs increase unnecessarily.
9. **Inmate jobs** are very hard to get because there are not enough of them, and more are being eliminated, instead of trying to create them. This results in longer prison sentences because inmates have no way of earning the good time credit. All nighttime porter jobs were recently eliminated, putting dozens of inmates out of work.



10. A new camp is under construction outside the fence of SDCC, at the same time as the state is having budget problems and supposedly were to cut out all new construction. I wonder if the taxpayers are aware of this.

I hope that you can find an opportunity to address these subjects at the appropriate level so that our quality of living and parole issues can improve. Thank you for your efforts on our behalf.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Walter Tripp', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Walter Tripp

P.O. Box 208

Indian Springs, NV 89070

9/16/08


Dad,

I know you're going to that meeting on the 20th. So, there are some things going on at High Desert that people may be blind to. Such as; There is Absolutely Zero medical treatment for segregation units. And I mean NONE. Even when medical appointments are made, the officers won't escort us to the infirmary. Next, our toilets had recently been set to only flush every 20 minutes. I don't think I need to explain why that's a problem. Normally, we showered every 3rd day. But that is routinely overlooked but only in lockdown / segregation units. The result is I shower a week, at times. The food is absolutely shameful & now, we can't even get our clothing exchanged from laundry.

Next, since Jean prison closed  
H. D. S. P. inherited ALOT on new  
officers. If that's what you want  
to call them. They are nothing  
more than glorified gang bangers.  
I actually witnessed 2 officers  
throw food, & insults to an  
inmate because he was from a  
rival gang. Then there are c/o's  
like Ferguson, who refuse to  
pass out supplies like toilet paper,  
toothpaste & other stuff. Both  
of which can't even be purchased  
from the canteen. Should I  
even mention his blatant destruction  
of personal & religious stuff?

OK, have fun on the 2nd

Love,

  
(DON HINTON)

## INMATE REQUEST FORM

1.) INMATE NAME	DOC #	2.) HOUSING UNIT	3.) DATE
Donald Hinton	95639	3-D-2	8-11-08

4.) REQUEST FORM TO: (CHECK BOX)

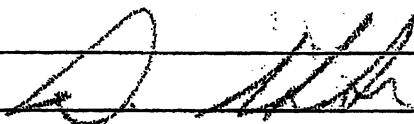
<input type="checkbox"/> CASEWORKER	<input type="checkbox"/> MEDICAL	<input type="checkbox"/> MENTAL HEALTH	<input type="checkbox"/> CANTEEN
<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> VISITING	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW LIBRARY	<input type="checkbox"/> DENTAL
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LAUNDRY	<input type="checkbox"/> PROPERTY ROOM	<input type="checkbox"/> SHIFT COMMAND	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

5.) NAME OF INDIVIDUAL TO CONTACT: Palmer

6.) REQUEST: (PRINT BELOW)

I Need @ to exchange  
2 pair of 3XL boxers.

7.) INMATE SIGNATURE



DOC #

95639

8.) RECEIVING STAFF SIGNATURE

DATE

## 9.) RESPONSE TO INMATE

Exchanges will be postponed until further notice.  
Out of stock.

10.) RESPONDING STAFF SIGNATURE

Palmer

DATE

AUG 12 2008



**INMATE REQUEST FORM**

1.) INMATE NAME	DOC #	2.) HOUSING UNIT	3.) DATE
Donald Wilson	95639	3-B-28	9/16/08

4.) REQUEST FORM TO: (CHECK BOX)

<input type="checkbox"/> CASEWORKER	<input type="checkbox"/> MEDICAL	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW LIBRARY	<input type="checkbox"/> CANTEEN
<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> VISITING	<input type="checkbox"/> SHIFT COMMAND	<input type="checkbox"/> DENTAL
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LAUNDRY	<input type="checkbox"/> PROPERTY ROOM	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER	

5.) NAME OF INDIVIDUAL TO CONTACT: Chambers

6.) REQUEST (PRINT BELOW) Before I left H.D.S.P. all  
of my state issue clothing was taken.  
Therefore I need a completely new  
issue of clothes.

Thank You

7.) INMATE SIGNATURE [Signature] DOC# 95639

8.) RECEIVING STAFF SIGNATURE [Signature] DATE 9-15-08

9.) RESPONSE TO INMATE

10.) RESPONDING STAFF SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_



## NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

**EMERGENCY****GRIEVANCE FORM**NAME: Donald Histon I.D. NUMBER: 95639INSTITUTION: L.C.C. UNIT: 3-B-28

GRIEVANT'S STATEMENT: Today 9/15/08 at approximately  
3pm % Buck came over my intercom &  
told me to turn off my television. I  
complied & minutes later asked her why  
my t.v. had to be off if I wanted to  
talk to someone in my cell. Further the  
day before, % Buck, by herself & without  
a camera, searched my cell including

**SWORN DECLARATION UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY**INMATE SIGNATURE: [Signature] DATE: 9/15/08 TIME: 5:30 pmRECEIVING STAFF SIGNATURE: [Signature] DATE: 9/15/08 TIME: 6:40

SUPERVISOR COMMENT/ACTION TAKEN ON EMERGENCY GRIEVANCE: \_\_\_\_\_

SUPERVISOR SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ TIME: \_\_\_\_\_

INMATE AGREES: \_\_\_\_\_ INMATE DISAGREES: \_\_\_\_\_

INMATE SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ TIME: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

FAILURE TO SIGN CONSTITUTES ABANDONMENT OF THE CLAIM. A FORMAL GRIEVANCE MAY BE  
PURSUED IN THE EVENT THE INMATE DISAGREES.

Original: To inmate when complete, or attached to formal grievance  
Canary: To Grievance coordinator when complete  
Pink: Inmate's initial receipt



NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS  
GRIEVANT'S STATEMENT CONTINUATION FORM

NAME Donald Hinton ID NUMBER 95639

INSTITUTION L.C.C. UNIT # 3-B-88

GRIEVANCE #                      GRIEVANCE LEVEL Emergency

GRIEVANT'S STATEMENT CONTINUATION PG. 2 OF 2

looking through my legal work, mail  
& pictures. I have no problem with  
compliance of cell searches when done  
properly. However, this is a daily  
recurrence & daily violation.

Also yesterday, C/O Buck brought  
inmate Hall to my cell & told me  
that he told her my cell was not  
in compliance. I feel that this was  
intentionally done to cause a fight  
between me & Hall.

D. Hinton

#95639

3-B-88

Original  
Pink

Attached to Grievance  
Inmate's Copy



**INMATE REQUEST FORM**

1.) INMATE NAME	DOC #	2.) HOUSING UNIT	3.) DATE
Abraham Hinton	95639	3-B-58	9/16/08

4.) REQUEST FORM TO: (CHECK BOX)

<input type="checkbox"/> CASEWORKER	<input type="checkbox"/> MEDICAL	<input type="checkbox"/> MENTAL HEALTH	<input type="checkbox"/> CANTEEN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> VISITING	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW LIBRARY	<input type="checkbox"/> DENTAL
<input type="checkbox"/> LAUNDRY	<input type="checkbox"/> PROPERTY ROOM	<input type="checkbox"/> SHIFT COMMAND	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER _____

5.) NAME OF INDIVIDUAL TO CONTACT \_\_\_\_\_

6.) REQUEST (PRINT BELOW)

I need to enroll into school to get my G.E.D.

Just so you know that I actually did it.

↓ OK, KID. "I BELIEVE YOU!"  
DAD

7.) INMATE SIGNATURE



DOC #

95639

8.) RECEIVING STAFF SIGNATURE



DATE

9-15-08

9.) RESPONSE TO INMATE

10.) RESPONDING STAFF SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_