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Kenneth L Jones, Warden
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G M LARKIN MD

Forensic Pathology • Legal Medicine

August 20, 2005

Kenneth L Jones, Warden
Donaldson Correctional Institute
100 Warrior Lane
Bessemer AL 35023

RE: Inmate Ronald Patrick Swiney, DOC #154406 —lack of appropriate medical care

Dear: Warden Jones:

I call your attention to Ronald Patrick Swiney, and the claim by him and his wife that he is being denied adequate medical care, as well as undergoing harassment by sadistic guards because of his condition. This is an ongoing problem with Swiney, and his file has quite a bit of correspondence on this issue.

With three prior documented heart attacks, Swiney is at risk for sudden death at any time. He was evaluated at an outside hospital, and a treatment plan established until more testing to determine if he is a candidate for balloon angioplasty or coronary bypass surgery.

However, his life sustaining medication has been denied him and he appears to his wife that he is deteriorating quickly. He needs his medication and perhaps oxygen, not the guards making fun of him.

Swiney has clear and convincing proof of his innocence, and his appeals are winding their way through the courts now. It would be a pity for Swiney if he died before his case was in front of the court. Further, the malicious denial of his medical needs can lead to a civil suit under the provisions of § 1983 of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as well as criminal charges of neglect. There is a moral imperative to treat Swiney as well as a legal one, as you are no doubt aware. Patrick needs his medication now, and failure to deliver them

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in an appropriate manner will kill him for sure. There is no reason for PHS to deny him the appointment with the cardiovascular surgeon as ordered by the cardiologist in April 2005 and absolutely no reason to make him suffer more than a life sentence. He was not sentenced to pain and suffering by the Shelby County Court. Nothing extenuates.

I therefore ask you to strongly advocate (a) that Swiney gets his medication in an appropriate manner; (b) that his treatment plan is honored with appropriate testing, and (c) that the guards who mocked his difficulty in breathing are terminated. It is the moral and legally correct thing to do, and I count on your cooperation to keep Swiney alive for his appeals.

Sincerely

G M Larkin MD

G M Larkin MD DABFM FACFE

CC: Sherry Swiney

Patrick Swiney