



U.S. Department of Justice

Civil Rights Division

SYC:DHW:AA:PC:db  
DJ 168-68-0

*Special Litigation Section - PHB  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20530*

March 9, 2009

John Taylor Kent, Ph.D.  
933 West Azalea Place  
Chandler, AZ 85248-3811

Dear Dr. Kent:

The United States Attorney's Office for the District of Arizona has referred your letter of August 15, 2008, to us for a reply. In your letter and accompanying documents you allege that the Arizona Department of Corrections has engaged in corrupt personnel practices and improper medical practices.

Under the Civil Rights of Institutionalized Persons Act (CRIPA), 42 U.S.C. § 1997, the Special Litigation Section of the United States Department of Justice has authority to investigate conditions in state or locally-operated correctional facilities where it is alleged that inmates are being deprived of constitutional rights pursuant to a pattern or practice of resistance to the full enjoyment of those rights. We will consider the information you have provided, along with other information we may receive, to determine whether a pattern or practice investigation is warranted.

The Section's authority does not, however, extend to investigating the personal grievances of a single individual. Moreover, the Section is not authorized to represent individual citizens in legal matters or to give them legal advice. You might consider contacting a private legal representative for possible assistance with your individual concerns.

Thank you for bringing this information to our attention. Please do not hesitate to contact this office if we may be of assistance with this, or any other matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Amin Aminfar".

Amin Aminfar  
Trial Attorney  
Special Litigation Section