

Melinda Pharris Upton
130 Crestmont Drive
Gaffney, SC 29340
(864) 316-2302
mcpharris@gmail.com

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The Honorable Nikki R. Haley:

As you may know, the Cherokee County Detention Center in Gaffney, South Carolina, has been under investigation for some time, as well as battling multiple lawsuits, one of which pertains to a wrongful death against the county, the jail, and the county's medical provider. Anthony "Tony" Gregory mysteriously died while in custody of the Cherokee County Police in June of 2013. There is also a previous pending lawsuit stating that the death of inmate Rickey Lanier Gay Sr. could have also been prevented in May of 2012. I fear that there will be many more situations similar in nature due to the staff of the Detention Center refusing medical care. There is currently an inmate housed in a certain cell block that contains Hepatitis C and is allowed to use the same clippers and other utensils as the other inmates. If he barely cuts himself in those conditions, he will spread the disease like the plague. He should be quarantined and protected just as his fellow inmates have the right to be housed in a safe and sanitary environment. There is also another inmate suffering from colon cancer that passes blood during each and every bowel movement. This facility is extremely overpopulated, so much so that in the same cell block described above, over 16 inmates are sleeping on the floor, half of which are suffering from colds. Previous accounts state that as many as 35 inmates were sleeping on the floor at one time. Many of these inmates are refused medical care. My father, incarcerated on March 11, 2015, is currently an inmate and

suffers from asthma, arthritis, insomnia, depression, bipolar disorder, and has bad eyesight. He has no medical insurance, therefore, I am unable to provide him eyeglasses or even an inhaler because he has no doctor's note. I understand these people are not on a luxurious vacation, however, I feel it is cruel and unusual that he cannot even be allowed to see his surroundings well, yet alone read his letters. He is also one of the inmate's currently sleeping on the floor at 47 years of age. My father and other inmates have recently been threatened to be stabbed by another inmate, yet nothing has been done in respect to their safety, nor to investigate the other inmate.

According to the CCDC website, this establishment is made to house only 200 inmates, yet all the inmates are not listed online. There is currently a man housed at CCDC that caught his wife cheating, shot her, turned and shot her lover, and the bullet traveled through the man and hit the husband's young daughter, also resulting in her death. He has three counts of murder. However, he isn't listed on CCDC's website; it is stated online that he is in a state penitentiary. His family members have no idea where he is located, he has nobody to add money to his account to make phone calls. This man is lost in the system, and there are many, many more just like him, some of which are in Cherokee County Detention Center. These individuals at least deserve to be off of the floor and not sleeping elbow to elbow with other prisoners that are infected with contagious diseases. These individuals are criminals, yes, but they do not deserve to be treated like animals. They have rights, too.

Under Amendment I, I am exercising my right to petition the Government and address these grievances on behalf of my father, Clinton Lewis Pharris. Anyone that knows my father has known that he has used marijuana since he was an adolescent, now of which is legal in many states in our country. However, there was an anonymous tip that he was selling drugs. He was awakened by a knock on the door and was met by a mailman on his porch. Unbeknownst of what this package contained, he accepted it and shut the

door. Immediately thereafter, the police busted through his door, seized the package, put the unopened package into a box, and charged my father with trafficking cocaine. My father was never shown a warrant, nor would he have stepped outside of his residence or invited them in to search for themselves. He was never shown what was inside of the box, either, all of which violate "illegal search and seizures" in his fourth amendment. If the package that was delivered by the police themselves, in which, in my opinion, was entrapment, was never opened in front of my father. He has absolutely no idea what was inside of this package. It could have contained dog feces for all he knows. He was transported to the police department where he sat in a police vehicle longer than an hour, kept in a holding cell for over 48 hours, was never offered his one free phone call, he was denied the option to call a bondsman because that particular page was not provided in their phonebook, and has yet to be offered a public defender after 13 days. This violates his right sixth amendment and the Miranda rights, themselves. According to the eighth amendment, he has a right to a bond, or at least an explanation of why one has not been set. My father's bond was denied on his second day of incarceration with no explanation. Furthermore, according to the Fifth Amendment, "No person shall be held...to put in jeopardy of his life or limb; nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation." There was no warrant left posted at his residence, and when my mother-in-law called a bondsman, Debra McCluney, on the first night of incarceration, she could not find an arrest warrant for him. Mrs. McCluney stated an arrest warrant could not be found, and she could not be told why he was even being held. The warrant did not post until two days after his arrest. When a copy of said warrant was brought to my father in jail, it has been signed in purple ink. When he questioned the legality of the ink not being of a blue or black nature, he was told, "This paper does not have to be signed as a legally binding document." There have been no detectives to meet with my father to inform him of how the investigation is going; he knows nothing. The investigators that have been assigned to my father's case are going through his phone and calling every one of his contacts. If they were to call the wrong person and the word gets out, he may be accused of snitching and he will be in extreme danger when and if he is released. The investigators that have called my father's girlfriend even went as far to describe to

her pictures of sexual nature that she exchanged with my father. She is a female, and they have no right to question pictures of such nature, especially since it has absolutely nothing to do with this case or investigation. That is sexual harassment. Their names were something to the effect of Daniel Ward and a one Francesco, I am not completely sure, however, I know for a fact that these calls were recorded because they advised so. My father has the right to know what he is accused of, as well as to see the evidence, and he also has the right to be informed on his case, the right to an attorney, and the right to face his accuser. He is entitled to a phone call, and he is entitled to be released from the holding cell within 48 hours.

This grievance letter is not only on behalf of my father, but on behalf of all inmates that are now, or have ever, been incarcerated in Cherokee County Detention Center. I have many eyewitness testimonies from previous inmates. This facility has been under investigation before, but somehow the employees are made aware and they are able to cover up before any outsiders come in. Yes, the idea of incarceration is to teach them a lesson and strip them of their freedom, but it is not to strip them of their rights. Even the worst of criminals have rights. If they're stripped of their rights that they are born with, that makes the superiors no better than the inmates. "No sin is greater than the next." I, and many others, feel as if police officials in this county are not interested in protecting us, but rather earning fame, recognition, plaques, and medals. The problem with this is that once an individual has helped them to do their job, the police and detectives forget about this person. And as they are celebrating and basking in their 15 seconds in the spotlight, the individual that helped them is being labeled a snitch. They are being abused or killed, and their families are being raped and beaten. This is why many people in Cherokee County have no respect for our superior police personnel; we feel our protection is irrelevant and unimportant. I have started a petition on Facebook that is growing rather rapidly, and I plan on sending copies of this letter to the Honorable Governor Nikki Hailey, Senator Lindsey Graham, Cherokee County's government officials, SLED, News Channel 7, and the FBI because they are supposedly supposed to investigate such matters. Please help me

to end this inmate cruelty and to expand the size, as well as the staff and medical resources, of the Cherokee County Detention Center.

Thank you for your time and patience,

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