



DLP:AEP:MHN:SYB:VR:drb
DJ 168-79-44

Request for Signature to Close
the Virginia Beach City Jail
CRIPA Investigation,
Virginia Beach, Virginia

June 6, 1996

Deval L. Patrick
Assistant Attorney General
Civil Rights Division

Arthur E. Peabody, Jr.
Chief
Special Litigation Section

We initiated an investigation of the Virginia Beach City Jail on February 8, 1995, pursuant to the Civil Rights of Institutionalized Persons Act, (CRIPA), 42 U.S.C. § 1997. We conducted on-site reviews of conditions at the jail with consultants in penology, medical care, fire safety and environmental health and safety. On April 16, 1996, we issued our findings detailing unconstitutional conditions in numerous areas including medical care, lack of protection from harm and unsafe environmental conditions. The Sheriff of Virginia Beach promptly responded indicating the remedial measures that had already been undertaken as a result of our tour and those remedial measures that would be undertaken immediately as a result of our findings.

We have subsequently worked very closely with the Sheriff and his staff, providing technical assistance, to ensure full implementation of the remedial measures. We have conducted retours with our consultants and believe that each and every one of the deficiencies we identified has been thoroughly addressed. Accordingly, we believe that the CRIPA investigation should be closed. Additionally, we would like to commend the Sheriff's prompt and cooperative response, and the dedication and hard work of his staff. We believe such recognition is not only appropriate but will demonstrate to the other 4 jails in the Tidewater area of Virginia for which we have CRIPA investigations that prompt resolution is in fact possible and probable.

cc: Records Peabody Nelson Brown Ryan Hold

RECOMMENDATION: We recommend that the Virginia Beach City Jail CRIPA investigation be closed and the attached letter be signed commending the Sheriff of Virginia Beach.

Attachment

Approved: _____

Disapproved: _____

Comments: