



JAMES W. KYNES
ATTORNEY GENERAL

STATE OF FLORIDA
OFFICE OF THE
ATTORNEY GENERAL
TALLAHASSEE

July 17, 1964

20th DAY OF
July 64
Mussel Carmen
DISTRICT JUDGE
GERALD MAGER
ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL

Judge Harold Carswell
U. S. District Court
Northern District
Post Office Building
Tallahassee, Florida

Re: Willie Carl Singleton et al.,
vs. Board of Commissioners of
State Institutions

Dear Judge Carswell:

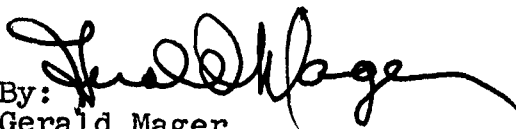
Pursuant to the hearing held July 2, 1964,
pertaining to the above-styled cause enclosed please
find a letter received from Charles C. Mathis, Jr.,
Juvenile Judge for St. Johns County.

As the Court will note from the first paragraph
of Judge Mathis' letter, no conditions were ever fixed
by the Juvenile Court so that the release by the Board
amounted to a full and complete release. Attached for your
convenience is a copy of the Minutes of the Board reflecting
its action in connection therewith.

Thank you for your courtesy in this matter. With
kindest personal regards, I remain

Sincerely,

JAMES W. KYNES
ATTORNEY GENERAL

By: 
Gerald Mager
Assistant Attorney General

JWK/GM/fcp
cc: Hon. Earl Johnson
Enclosures

Singleton v. Board of Commissioners



J1-FL-0001-0046

CHAS. C. MATHIS, JR.
COUNTY JUDGE
ST. JOHNS COUNTY
ST. AUGUSTINE, FLORIDA

PATRICIA AMONETTE
CLERK

LINDA CROSBY
DEPUTY CLERK

July 6th, 1964

Mayer

RECEIVED

JUL 7 1964

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S
OFFICE

Hon. James W. Kynes
Attorney General
State of Florida
Tallahassee, Florida

Re: Willie Carl Singleton, Audrey Nell Edwards,
JoAnn Anderson and Samuel White vs. Board
of Commissioners of State Institutions

Dear General Kynes:

Your letter of July 2nd has been received.

The Juvenile Court of St. Johns County was not a party to the proceeding before the Board of Commissioners of State Institutions for the release of the Juveniles nor was the Juvenile Court ever officially notified of the action by the Board. We were never informed as to why the juveniles were released nor the terms and conditions thereof. Neither the juveniles, their parents or the Attorneys for the juveniles have ever appeared before the Juvenile Court or turned these Juveniles over to us and therefore no terms of probation have ever been issued by the Juvenile Court in relation to these particular children.

It is true that Audrey Nell Edwards was charged in the County Judge's Court with "Trespass" and other charges growing out of an incident which occurred on June 11th. We understand that Audrey Nell Edwards is now more than seventeen years of age and the Juvenile Court waived jurisdiction in this case on these particular incidents. Joann Anderson was also charged with a violation of the State Law in the County Judge's Court, her case having been transferred to the criminal court at her request. The incident was alleged to have occurred on June 12th.

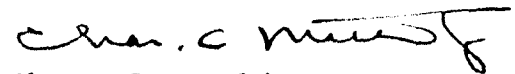
Hon. James W. Kynes

Page 2

July 6th, 1964

I am not sure as to whether Willie Carl Singleton or Samuel White have been charged with delinquency or other charges growing out of recent incidents in St. Johns County, inasmuch as quite a few of the juveniles have been taken into custody but no action has been taken so far in regard to their cases.

Yours truly,



Chas. C. Mathis, Jr.
County Judge

CCMJr/pa

STATE OF FLORIDA

FARRIS BRYANT, GOVERNOR, CHAIRMAN
TOM ADAMS, SECRETARY OF STATE
RICHARD W. ERVIN, ATTORNEY GENERAL
RAY E. GREEN, COMPTROLLER



J. EDWIN LARSON, STATE TREASURER
THOMAS D. BAILEY, STATE SUPT. PUBLIC INSTRUCTION
DOYLE CONNER, COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE
MRS. LULA L. MULLIKIN, SECRETARY

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF
STATE INSTITUTIONS
TALLAHASSEE

MINUTE BOOK "4"
Page 188
Dated January 14, 1964

"PETITION FOR RELEASE OF JUVENILES WILLIE CARL
SINGLETON, SAMUEL WHITE, AUDREY NELL EDWARDS
AND JOANN ANDERSON

The Board, at its meeting today, considered a Petition filed by Earl M. Johnson, Attorney, on behalf of Willie Carl Singleton and Samuel White, minors, who are detained in Florida School for Boys at Marianna, and Audrey Nell Edwards and JoAnn Anderson, minors, who are detained in Florida School for Girls at Forest Hill, pursuant to the judgment and order of the Judge of St. Johns County Juvenile Court. On August 2, 1963, the parents of said juveniles declined to accept custody under certain conditions set by the Court. However, at a hearing on December 12, 1963, the parents acquiesced in the conditions for probation previously set by the Court. Without objection of the Board, authorized release of the said minors into the custody of their parents under the terms and conditions set by the Court".

A TRUE COPY:

Lula L. Mullikin
Secretary, Board of
Commissioners of
State Institutions

Earl M. Johnson
Attorney and Counsellor At Law
625 W. Union Street
(between Broad & Jefferson)
Jacksonville, Florida 32202

2014
July 64
Gerald Mager

Earl M. Johnson

EL 5-5196

July 21, 1964

Honorable Harold Carswell
U. S. District Court
Northern District
Post Office Building
Tallahassee, Florida

Re: Willie Carl Singleton et al., vs. Board
of Commissioners of State Institutions 70-463

Dear Judge Carswell:

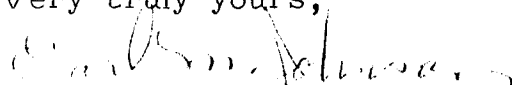
I am in receipt of a copy of the letter dated July 17, 1964 pertaining to the above style cause which was given to you by the office of the Attorney General of the State of Florida. Attached to my copy of said letter was a copy of a letter signed by the Honorable Charles C. Mathis, Jr., County Judge of St. Johns County.

Judge Mathis' letter is interpreted by Mr. Mager, Assistant Attorney General, as saying that no probationary terms or conditions were ever fixed by the Juvenile Court as prerequisite to the release from custody of Singleton and the other juveniles. However, Judge Mathis said only that, since the release of the juveniles from custody, his office has imposed no conditions. The probationary terms and conditions under which the Board of Commissioners released the juveniles were those which Judge Mathis proposed in the summer of 1963. As the court will recall, it was the failure to accept these terms and conditions that resulted in the juveniles incarceration in the first place.

Significantly, the court has not been furnished with a copy of any order cancelling and rescinding the conditional release of the juveniles.

With kindest personal regards, I am

Very truly yours,


Earl M. Johnson

EMJ/ma

cc: Gerald Mager, Assistant Attorney General

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