



U.S. Department of Justice

Civil Rights Division

Office of the Assistant Attorney General

Washington, D.C. 20530

CRIPA Investigation



JI-LA-001-004

April 25, 1996

The Honorable Mike Foster  
Governor of Louisiana  
State Capitol  
P. O. Box 94004  
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9004

Re: Investigation of Secure Correctional Facilities for  
Children in Louisiana

Dear Governor Foster:

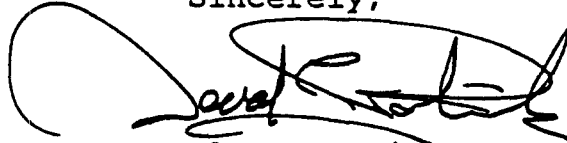
I am writing to inform you of our intention to investigate conditions at the Secure Correctional Facilities for Children in Louisiana. This investigation is authorized by, and will be conducted pursuant to, the Civil Rights of Institutionalized Persons Act, 42 U.S.C. § 1997, et seq.

The purpose of the investigation will be to determine whether there exist any violations of the statutory and federal constitutional rights of children confined in the facilities. The investigation will focus on, but not necessarily be limited to, allegations related to abuse, undue restraint, inadequate educational services and treatment, and failure to provide adequate food.

We would like to initiate this investigation as soon as possible. In that regard, staff attorneys from my office will contact your staff within the next week to arrange a meeting between attorneys and representatives of your office, followed by a tour of the facilities by our consultants and personnel from the United States Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division.

The attorney assigned to this matter is Judy Preston, (202) 514-6258. I appreciate your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,



Deval L. Patrick  
Assistant Attorney General  
Civil Rights Division

cc: The Honorable Richard Ieyoub  
Attorney General of Louisiana

Mr. Richard Stalder  
Secretary for the Department of  
Public Safety and Corrections

Mr. Elijah Lewis  
Superintendent  
Jetson Correctional Center for Youth

Mr. Robert Dunavant  
Superintendent  
Louisiana Training Institute at Monroe

Mr. Benny G. Harris  
Superintendent  
Louisiana Training Institute at Bridge City

Mr. Jerry Goodwin  
Superintendent  
Tallulah Correctional Center for Youth

The Honorable Frank J. Polozola  
United States District Judge for the  
Middle District of Louisiana

The Honorable Eddie J. Jordan, Jr.  
United States Attorney  
Eastern District of Louisiana

The Honorable L. J. Hymel, Jr.  
United States Attorney  
Middle District of Louisiana

The Honorable Michael D. Skinner  
United States Attorney  
Western District of Louisiana