

January 7, 2011

Iberia Parish Sheriff Administrative Remedy Appeal 300 Iberia St., Ste. 120 New Iberia, LA 70560

Re: Reginald Peters- SECOND STEP EMERGENCY ARP

Dear Sheriff's Review Board,

On November 29, 2010, our office filed an emergency ARP on behalf of Reginald Peters, a physically handicapped inmate at Iberia Parish Jail. After receiving the complaint, Steve Elledge, the Sheriff's Office general counsel, informed me that Mr. Peters would be transferred to Elayn Hunt Correctional Center where he could receive the appropriate care and treatment. I have since called him three times to follow up on Mr. Peters' condition and has repeatedly advised me that Warden Hayes would contact me. He has not.

Mr. Peters remains housed at Iberia Parish Jail. The crux of our initial complaint was that Iberia Parish Jail is not adequately housing and treating Mr. Peters who suffers from muscular dystrophy. It has now been almost 40 calendar days since we notified you that a human being is sleeping on the floor in your jail and cannot clean himself or go to the restroom.

We wrote in an attempt to amicably resolve this matter without resorting to litigation. However, five weeks later, we still have not received confirmation from the jail that Mr. Peters is being housed humanely. We believe that you are exposing the parish to potential liability for a significant amount of damages.

According to the grievance procedures of Iberia Parish Jail, a response shall be made by the Warden within 20 calendar days of the date that the initial complaint has been logged and within three days if it is an emergency which threatens the immediate health or welfare of the immate. Even if it is argued that Mr. Peters' muscles wasting away is not an emergency, it has been well past 20 calendar days.

In light of your failure to respond, we will proceed to consider litigation. This letter is serving as an **EMERGENCY** appeal. Enclosed, you will find a copy of the November 29. 2010 first step ARP wherein you were notified of Mr. Peters' dire condition.

Sincerely,

Katie Schwartzmann

Legal Director

KS/db

Enclosures

Cc:

Louis Ackal Sheriff, Iberia Parish

Wesley Hayes Warden, Iberia Parish Jail

Steve Elledge General Counsel, Iberia Parish Sheriff's Office