
Correspondence

United States Circuit Judge for the Second
Circuit Court of Appeals

6-20-2008

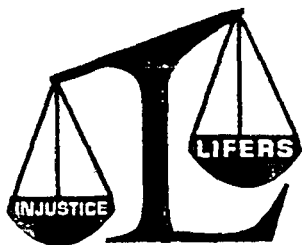
Letter from LIFERS Committee

Roger J. Miner '56

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LIFERS Committee

Living Individuals for Equitable Return to Society

Judge Roger J. Miner
414 James T. Foley U.S. Courthouse
445 Broadway
Albany, N.Y. 12207

Dear Honor:

I would like to start off by introducing myself. My name is Jamar Ogletree. I am currently an inmate at Auburn Correctional Facility, here in New York State. As such, I am a member of the Outreach Committee involved with the Lifers Organization.

The Lifers Organization is a group of members here that strive to better ourselves, our surroundings here in prison, and the communities outside that we pray to return to someday. We would like to, and believe we can, help ourselves and our communities by reaching out to existing programs. We wish to break the cycle that is causing our youths to enter these prisons at such an alarming rate.

~~The reason that I am writing you is because our organ-~~
ization would truly appreciate an opportunity to correspond with you and other individuals that share our goals for these communities. We wish to open a forum to discuss ways to improve conditions inside and outside of prisons and implement these plans. We would like and appreciate if you were involved in some form of fashion. Even if it's just advice and words of wisdom. If not you, personally, then hopefully a representative of your office will have the time to share ideas with us.

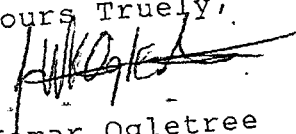
As I've stated, the Lifers is formed by our members to impart a positive change within ourselves and others. One way to do so is by reaching out to people to create a forum to come up with programs here inside of prison and also outside of them. One idea for such a program is something to improve community & police officer relations, in which officers and members of the community can get together to discuss ways to build better communications between one another. Pinic with the Police was a program during the summer in Syracuse, N.Y. that took place annually during the 90's. It would be great to start that type of program once again in neighborhoods across New York State. Another program that we envision could be some type of youth apprenticeship in law firms, Judge's offices, police stations, colleges, and other places to inspire youths to look into these areas as options for a career. It would also be something creative and constructive for teens & young adults to do instead of being out in the streets with nothing but time on their hands. Those are just a couple of ideas and we invite more ideas that you may wish to share.

we would also like to form programs inside prisons where we can get together with you, your office, and others to promote the betterment of us inside. Such as motivational speaking and creating committees in which we discuss ways to keep our children from coming to prison in the future. Also committees where we form ways to slow the tide of recidivism because it is a sad thing to see someone released with good intentions but no knowledge of how to break the habits they have which caused them to enter the penal system in the first place. We need ways to change our way of living because, for some of us, we only know one way to live where we're from. As I've said, these are just a few ideas but we would love to hear more. These ideas mean nothing though if we as a whole do not come together and put them into action.

Honestly, all of us in Lifers hope to one day return home But we realize that that dream does us no good if we do not improve

ourselves and the neighborhoods that we wish to return to. We are a sincere group and wish to help better all around us. It all begins with one. Thank you for your time and consideration. We hope to hear back from you or a representative. May God bless you all.

Yours Truly,


Jamar Ogletree
Auburn Correctional Facility
P.O. Box 618
Auburn, N.Y. 13024

cc; file
secretary file

AUBURN CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

P.O. BOX 618

AUBURN, NEW YORK 13024

AUBURN CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

NAME: JAMAR Ogletree DIN: 00B2400



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Judge Roger J. MINER
414 JAMES T. Foley U.S. Courthouse
445 Broadway
Albany, N. Y. 12207

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