

CLERK OF SUPERIOR, STATE
AND JUVENILE COURT
FILED FOR RECORD

2010 NOV 12 AM 9:49

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF RICHMOND COUNTY
CLAUDE C. JOHNSON, CLERK
RICHMOND COUNTY, GA.

STATE OF GEORGIA


IN RE: GRAND JURY PRESENTMENT FOR THE SEPTEMBER TERM 2010

The Grand Jury having returned the attached general presentment for the September Term 2010, and the same having been reviewed and accepted by the Court on November 12, 2010, it is now,

ORDERED that the said presentment shall be filed in the Office of the Clerk of Superior Court for Richmond County, and that it shall be published once in the *Augusta Chronicle*, the legal gazette for said County; and

FURTHER ORDERED that the said general presentment shall be posted by the Director of Information Technology on the Augusta-Richmond County website for public access through the Internet (World Wide Web).

It is so ORDERED this 12th day of November 2010.


James G. Blanchard, Jr.
Superior Court Judge
Augusta Judicial Circuit

TO: The Honorable James G. Blanchard, Jr.
Judge, Superior Court

FROM: Richmond County Grand Jury
September Term 2010

DATE: November 12, 2010

RE: Grand Jury Presentment

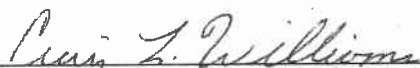
We, the members of the Augusta-Richmond County Grand Jury for the September Term 2010, having been duly sworn by the Honorable James G. Blanchard, Jr. on the 20th day of September 2010, submit our presentment on the 12th day of November 2010, our last day as an official body of the Grand Jury.


To discharge our sworn duties, as prescribed by the laws of the State of Georgia, we met on eight (8) dates during our term and acted upon Bills of Indictments presented to us by the District Attorney's Office.


Two Sub-Committees were formed; one to inspect the Law Enforcement Center and the second to attend a Drug Court session; applicable reports are attached.

In addition to our assigned duties, this Grand Jury appointed six individuals as members and alternates to the Board of Equalization. The report is also attached.

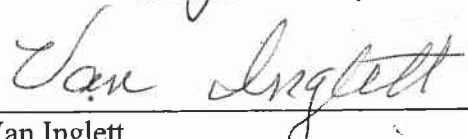
The Grand Jury respectfully submits this presentment on the 12th day of November 2010 and requests that it is published.

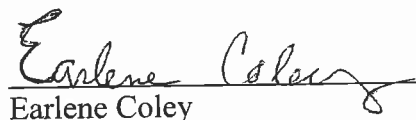

Craig L. Williams, Foreperson

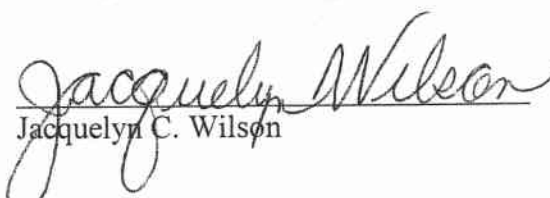

Rosalyn Panton, Assistant Foreperson

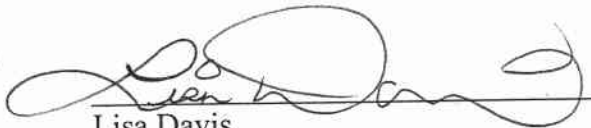

Toni Seals-Johnson, Secretary


Henry Myrick


Van Inglett


Earlene Coley


Jacquelyn C. Wilson


Lisa Davis

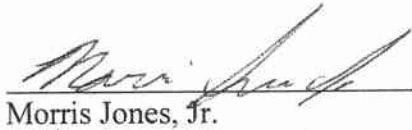
Cherylece Wiggins



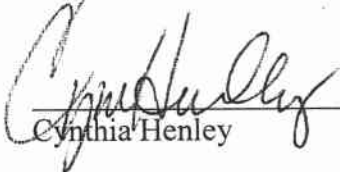
Amber Armour



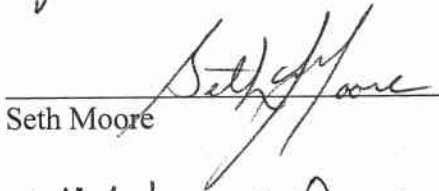
Jean P. Farver



Morris Jones, Jr.




Cynthia Henley



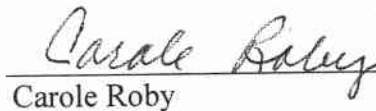
Seth Moore



William F. Davis



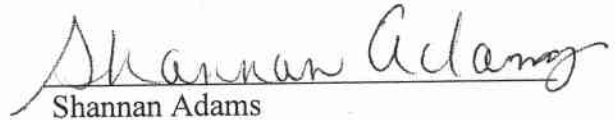
Felix E. Robinson



Carole Roby



Liduvina Alverio



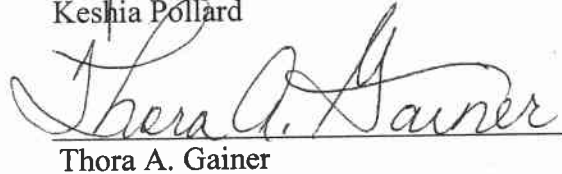
Shannan Adams



Earl Ewing



Keshia Pollard



Thora A. Gainer



Tonia C. Barksdale

SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE SEPTEMBER TERM 2010 GRAND JURY
REPORT OF THE AUGUSTA JUDICIAL CIRCUIT DRUG COURT

On October 28, 2010, a Sub-Committee from the Richmond County Grand Jury September Term 2010 attended the 11:00 a.m. session of the Augusta Judicial Circuit Drug Court (AJCDC) with Judge James G. Blanchard presiding. The AJCDC is a partnership among Judiciary, District Attorney, Law Enforcement, Drug Court Office, Treatment Providers, Defense Attorneys and Probation Service Representatives. Drug Court represents a coordinated approach with the District Attorney providing leadership as the gatekeeper.

The Mission of the AJCDC is to reduce the impact of drug-related crime by providing comprehensive treatment to substance abusers with the goal of improving public safety and decreasing the financial burden of drug addiction to the entire community. Felony offenders progress through a two-year, five-phase program which requires: (1) Accountability and Responsibility; (2) Rehabilitation and Recovery; (3) Employment and Productivity; and (4) Community Service. Offenders must have steady employment, pay child support, restitution and taxes before they can graduate from Drug Court.

During the Drug Court Session on October 28, 2010, the Sub-Committee observed the team of professionals demonstrating tremendous teamwork and respect for each other and all mankind. It was evident the sanctions given to the offenders were to correct behavior and teach and guide life-long paths of success. Judge Blanchard challenged the new participants with the fact that they had three choices – prison, death or The Program. The Drug Court Program is structured to allow a new life – from crime and imprisonment to freedom and responsibility – for those who demonstrate they have potential and the partnership is willing to open the door for them.

The Sub-Committee is appreciative of the opportunity to observe the proceedings and applaud the enthusiasm of all the participants. We support the expansion of this program. Currently, there has been 44,000 days out of jail with 2,090 days in jail for those in the program.

There are plans underway for additional programs for Veterans and Mental Health Offenders.

Respectfully submitted by the following Sub-Committee Members:

Shannan Adams
Earlene Coley
Joan P. ~~Farmer~~ FARNER
Van Inglett
Rosalynt Pantan

SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE SEPTEMBER TERM 2010 GRAND JURY
REPORT ON THE RICHMOND COUNTY LAW ENFORCEMENT CENTER

On October 26, 2010, a Sub-Committee from the Richmond County Grand Jury, September Term 2010, toured the Law Enforcement Center on Walton Way in Augusta, Georgia.

Upon our arrival, we were greeted by Captain William Reeves who oversees the daily operation of the Law Enforcement Center. Captain Reeves escorted us to the cafeteria, designated for officers and staff, where we were served lunch. Meals are prepared by the inmates. Captain Reeves explained the special circumstances involved in being allowed to work in the cafeteria. First, only non-violent offenders who are interviewed and hand-selected by Captain Reeves can work on staff. Secondly, the inmates have to pass a full physical exam which includes blood work and numerous other tests. Captain Reeves likes to boast that his cafeteria staff is the safest around because no restaurant tests its new employees in this manner. Cafeteria staff has a special pod on the ground floor to separate them from the general jail population. During lunch, Captain Reeves shared some of the jail's history and future plans for the jail with the Sub-Committee. The Law Enforcement Center houses a mix of violent and non-violent inmates, separated by floor.

After lunch, we observed the female and medical pods; both are on the ground floor. Next, we were taken to the booking area where we got to meet some of the officers. The medical area is also on the ground level.

It was well illustrated how the inmates are treated; free to take a shower and walk around their pods with discretion. The Sub-Committee was allowed to view inmates on the fifth floor during free time. Each floor is divided into two pods with a recreation area in between. Inmates are fed three nutritious meals a day – almost identical to staff meals with only a few modifications. For safety concerns, bones are removed as they could be used for weapons.

The physical condition of the pod-style building is old but in good condition. The current population is in the mid-500 range. Overcrowding often requires inmates to sleep on four-inch thick mattresses on the floor. Additions are currently under construction at the Charles B. Webster Detention Center which will allow the Law Enforcement Center to close in the near future.

Respectfully submitted by the following Sub-Committee Members:

Shannan Adams
Tonia C. Barksdale
Erlene Coley
William F. Davis

Earl Ewing
Joan P. Farver
Cynthia Henley
Morris Jones, Jr.

Henry Myrick
Felix E. Robinson
Toni Seals-Johnson
Jacquelyn C. Wilson