

March 20, 2012  
Ronald W. Clarke  
The Death of Sgt. [unclear]

# CORRECTIONAL OFFICER SAFETY

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Correctional Officer Safety... a Concern For all.  
A major tool for protecting them, training them and ensuring that they are following rule's regulations and procedures for their safety as well as others is having personalized audio and video devices as a mandatory part of the Correctional Officer's uniform.

These personalized A/V devices would protect staff in numerous different ways. For the prisoner would know that his behavior was being recorded and therefore any verbal or physical threat would be recorded. The staff member would then have to conduct his or her self in a professional manner, where the staff member is not verbally or physically abusing the prisoner, using the prisoner for pushing drugs and other illegal contraband or having sexual relations with the prisoner. Which all of the above does take place.

On Sunday March 18, 2012 at the Columbia Correctional Institution known as (CCI) a 24 year old Sgt. was stabbed and killed by a prisoner serving a life sentence. Another officer was wounded in the incident. These personalized A/V devices may have prevented that, and even if it didn't prevent it, it would have given the investigators a bird's eye view of the events that took place on March 18, 2012 leading up to the stabbing. I've been pushing for these devices to be implemented into the uniform for the past 8 months to no avail. Whether people want to admit it or not, most contraband enters the F.D.O.C. through staff who are for one reason or another willing to gamble with their future and sell drugs, cellular phones, weapons

escape paraphernalia or any other contraband that is financially beneficial to the sales of the staff.

This technology exist and therefore should be explored and implemented into the Dept of Corrections to ensure the safety of Correctional staff as well as the prisoner's and general public. The time for change is now. For the technology is here, and it's needed. It could very well prevent other deaths.

Please contact your local senator and push for these personal A.V. devices to be implemented into the F.D.O.C. Thank you for your time.

Respectfully  
Submitted

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The Death Row Post  
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