

Date: 6/4/2021 1:54:29 PM

"FDOC and THE HISTORY OF ABUSE"

I was speaking with a couple of officer's just the other day. We were discussing staff shortage. I stated , " A lot of its because people hate working for people who have no leadership skills." One of them spoke up and said, " That's part of it, but a lot of its our fault, pointing at his self." I said , " What do you mean?" He said , " A lot of officer's have given the correctional officer position a bad name, by beating on inmates burning them in the shower etc etc. " He went on to say, ' So a lot of people don't want to be tied to a profession that has so much stigma of racism and abuse tied to it." I said, " That's true." And although officer's do get out of hand with that type of abuse, 9 times out of 10 its encouraged by the Wardens and those who are in authoritative positions. I know at Florida State Prison (FSP) in the late 90's when inmates were being beat and even killed on the notorious X - wing. Yes death row inmate Frank Valdes got beat and stomped to death by 9 correctional officers in what can only be described as a ruthlessly brutal homicide which you can read about in case law by Googling VALDES vs CROSBY, 450 F. 3d. 1231(Flat 2006) . Most of that abuse was supported and approved by then Warden James V. Crosby Jr. which you can read about in that case. And I'm pleading with you READ THE CASE! There's testimony from former Warden McAndrew who testified of how dangerous these officer's were and how he tried to fire them and warn Crosby that he had a potential killer working as a Lt. You'll see the testimony of officer Hanson who watched Captain Timothy Thornton and seven other officers beat and stomp this human being to death!!! Yes Crosby promoted Killers gave them special housing and privileges, and gave his officers the green light to beat the living shit out of inmates. And Mr Barry V. Reddish come out of that cesspool of an administration. So it was no wonder when Mr Reddish became Warden here at Union Correctional Institution (UCI) in 2009, that the officer on inmate assaults sky rocketed!!! I was assaulted twice by staff for writing about Warden Reddish, his unethical conduct and the abuse that was taking place here. Two months after I was assaulted in May 2012, staff here killed inmate Frank Smith. So can we put this on the officer? Well yes and no. Yes they should have had enough moral and ethical integrity to report the assaults, rather than join in. But look we're human, and thus fallible and fall in to peer pressure. We've all done it! On top of that some of these are third and forth generation correctional officers. And when the assaults are being not only approved but encouraged by the leadership, then how is some young inexperienced correctional officer suppose to stand up to the monsters who's calling the shot's?? Would you do it? Probably not. Would I do it? Yes but look how stupid I am! I mean I was in the hands of my "enemy Warden Reddish" and writing about him and what was going on here. I wrote about the alleged DUI's where local police officer's drove him home instead of taking him to jail. Most of his staff hated him enough, that they were telling us inmates about this. I was just the only one stupid enough to write about it and send him a copy telling him I was posting it on my blog. And for that I spent a year on disciplinary confinement. I got placed on strip cell, property destroyed mail thrown away and so much more. But all the staff abuse we see, its usually not one single officer, although sometimes it may be a rogue officer who just loses control and beats an inmate. But most of the time, when that's happening, its because the top administrators have given their stamp of approval. It was like that with Crosby, Reddish and other's. Yes the corrections profession has got a serious black eye especially with incidence like Darrin Rainy

who was burned to death in a scalding hot shower and all these other beating deaths that was reported in the Miami Herald News paper. I was talking with an officer the other day, who had said that one of our top administrators was saying he didn't know how to fix the problem. I said, "Its hard to fix a problem when your part of the problem and can't see that your part of the problem." He just laughed and said, " No comment." He knew what I was saying was true. I don't see it getting any better, until someone comes in and cleans house!! And I do mean cleans house!! Anyone with the ranking of a Lieutenant or above needs to be removed. Yes I'm talking a complete and total overhaul of the Florida Department of Corrections. Its drastic, but its needed. Because a lot of staff who have gotten promotion's aren't worth of leadership roles. Just like last year when they tried to promote Mr Barry V. Reddish to Assistant Regional Director. Yes and had it not leaked out to several of the Florida Senators and House Representatives Mr Reddish would have probably gotten a promotion that he surely was not worth of getting. If nothing else our Legislature should look at all the personnel files of those with the rank of Lt and higher viewing their history and where they came from and how and who promoted them. All I know for certain, is this current system is beyond repair. Its collapsing like a house of cards. And we are all suffering over the FDOC's history of abuse.

Sincerely Ronald W. Clark Jr. #812974

June 4 ,2021