U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Prisons

Office of the Director *Washington, DC 20534*

January 27, 2012

MEMORANDUM FOR ALL BUREAU INMATES

FROM: Charles E. Samuels, Jr., Director

SUBJECT: Expectations

As Director of the Federal Bureau of Prisons, it is my responsibility to ensure the safety, security and good order of all 117 prisons, 38,000 staff, and 217,000 inmates. It is also my responsibility to provide you opportunities for self-improvement. In this message, I will explain some of the ways I intend to carry out my duties and also explain my expectations for how you carry out your responsibilities. Over the past few weeks, I have reminded all staff of the BOP's core values: respect, integrity and correctional excellence. This means that everyone is to be treated with dignity and respect: staff, inmates, visitors, and members of the public. You are expected to demonstrate respect as well, to staff, to your fellow inmates and to the rules in place at the prison. You may want to reread the inmate rights and responsibilities information to be sure you are familiar with the expectations we have for you. Inmates who disrespect the rules by engaging in prohibited activities (especially the most serious prohibited acts including possession of intoxicants, weapons, or other contraband) pose a serious threat to the safety and security of the institution and will be subjected to disciplinary action. Participation in any type of gang activity will not be tolerated. In an attempt to ensure the environment is safe for all, inmates who participate in behavior which disrupts the orderly running of the institution may be considered for institutions with greater controls, such as higher security facilities or special management units. You are expected to behave responsibly and to live peacefully with other inmates, regardless of their background or culture.

Nearly all of you will release from prison one day and return to the community. We want you to be prepared to be a productive, law-abiding member of society. Accordingly, we will help you make the best possible use of your time in prison to learn skills, get treatment, build a resume, etc. Regardless of how many days, months, or years you may have time to serve, it is critical that you begin your preparation for reentry today! Ideally, preparation for reentry begins on the first day of incarceration. The Bureau of Prisons has developed tools to identify your needs and programs to address these needs, in the areas of education, work, recreation, health services, psychology, religious services, and more. The career resource centers at every institution can help you in many ways, and the full-time Mentor Coordinators can connect you with mentors while incarcerated who can continue to assist you after release. Staff can and will assist you to get on the path to a successful community reentry, but you must accept responsibility for your own future; you must work hard at the programs recommended for you and make every effort to prepare for release.

The staff of the BOP understand that incarceration can be a difficult experience and that some inmates are overwhelmed by feelings of hopelessness. If you or someone you know is feeling or talking about a sense of hopelessness or suicide, please bring this to the attention of a staff member as soon as possible; the staff are there to help you. Seeking help is a sign of your strength and determination to prevail. Helping yourself or a fellow inmate in a time of crisis is the right thing to do.

Another area of concern to me is sexual assault. If you are being threatened or pressured to engage in sexual behaviors, or are fearful about being sexually assaulted, please discuss your concerns with staff as soon as possible. We take all allegations of sexual abuse or sexual assault very seriously, and are committed to providing assistance to any victims. Please help us prevent this type of incident from occurring by identifying problematic circumstances or perpetrators so we can take appropriate action.

It is my hope that you use your term of incarceration to acquire the skills needed to live successfully in the community. We are here to help you prepare to successfully release from prison and become a productive citizen. Take advantage of the many programs that are available; get help in overcoming problems you have faced; improve skills you have acquired previously; strengthen your spiritual or religious connection. I challenge each of you to use each day to make a positive difference, whether it be for one another, the staff who work with you, your families, or communities.