

Chief Officer Liburd,  
HMP, Basseterre,  
St Kitts, WI.

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> August 2015

Dear Chief Officer Liburd,

As you are aware, I made respectful verbal complaint to you on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> July, regarding inappropriate events on that day and again after a separate incident on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> August.

I hereby make written record of my words to you and reiterate my formal complaint to you as chief officer of this prison.

On Sunday morning 2<sup>nd</sup> August the male prisoners were called into the prison yard by your prison staff, whilst a routine search was made of the cells. Around the yard were standing, at least two dozen heavily armed non prison personnel, being police and army individuals, half of them female. They carried loaded weapons including assault rifles and pump action shot guns, as well as side arms.

Each man was made to strip, one by one, and to take down his underpants in front of the assembled ladies. During this time photographs were taken by the police personnel, of the naked prisoners, including photo's of the private parts of male prisoners.

The prisoners were then made to sit in the middle of the jail yard in the hot sun for 2½ hours, whilst the cells were searched. Then each man was made to strip naked

again, in front of the ladies, including taking down his underpants. More photographs were taken.

Mr Liburd, I am an innocent man on remand, this assault on my person violates human rights, and is an affront to decency. I feel sexually abused and I am traumatized by this event.

The amount of weapons deployed was totally unwarranted for such a routine search and was solely to intimidate the prisoners being made to strip for the gratification of non prison staff. Normally, as you are aware, on a daily basis, with the same prisoners out side of the cells (for recreation for example) there would be two to four male prison staff present, with wooden battens only.

The forced nudity of male prisoners in front of lady police staff is an abuse of authority, as well as indecent. The second strip was totally gratuitous as the prisoners had been sat in front of the police and army personel the whole time, so the only motivation for removing clothing and under pants again was evidently to view male private parts and take photo's in a gratuitous and degrading peep show.

I especially single out PC Green (who was taking close up photographs with a digital camera of prisoners private parts from only 4ft away) and other police personel (including inspector Rodgers) who were taking photographs on their cell phones.

Given previous improprieties by the St Kitts and Nevis police force, I fully expect these photographs to arrive in the public domain.

The foregoing events amount to sexual abuse and indecent assault on prisoners. I seek an assurance that no forced nudity in front of lady staff will happen again and that no more gratuitous photographs of naked prisoners will be taken.

I reserve my right to bring legal proceedings against the perpetrators of this indecent assault.

Sincerely and respectfully,

Kevin Horstwood