March 7, 2008

The Honorable Patrick Leahy, Chairman
Senate Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
224 Dirksen Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, DC 20510

RE: Statement from Estelle Richardson's Sister – Puryear Nomination

Dear Senator Leahy:

On behalf of Ms. Diane Buie, sister-by-adoption of Estelle Richardson, the female prisoner who was killed at a CCA-operated jail in Nashville in July 2004, whose death has become an issue of concern in Mr. Puryear's nomination, I am forwarding the attached personal statement.

Mr. Puryear has repeatedly expressed his opinion, and cited the opinion of paid medical experts, in relation to Estelle Richardson's death and the injuries she sustained. In the attached letter Ms. Buie sets forth her own opinions and beliefs concerning her sister's death and the conduct of Corrections Corp. of America, Mr. Puryear's employer.

Thank you for your time and attention in this regard;

Sincerely,

Alex Friedmann
Vice President, PCI

cc: Senator Arlen Specter, Ranking Member
Ken Kopczynski, PCI Director
Paul Wright, PLN Editor
March 7, 2008

Dear Mr. Friedmann, Vice President, P.C.

My name is Diane Ruz, I am Estelle Ann Richardson's sister. I live in Lansing, MI.

I am sure my sister Estelle Richardson's death resulted from being beat up every day that she was in CCA.

She was not around other inmates. CCA moved her to a one person's cell, and she only came out may be once hour a day four showers.

So how do they explain her having a busted eardrum that bleed for days without medical attention? She was pepper-sprayed while she was in a caged shower. The Guard's then handcuffed, blindfolded, leg ironed and officers put substantial or significant pressure on my sister Estelle Richardson's back while face down and prone position after being subdued and incapacitated. (This episode was videotaped).

I know for a fact the four guards are guilty and charges should have never been dropped.
In regard to my sister Estelle Richardson having four broken Rib's, there is no way CPR being performed could have resulted from that. According to the Davidson County Medical Examiner, and I personally don't believe that at all. One of the guards there working was a Ro Beat, so he used my sister as a punching bag. Damaged Liver. It sure came from one of the guard. Punching, beating and pushing her in the wall. Estelle would never hurt herself because she thought she was coming home to her two kids who she dearly loved.

CCA never apologized to our family or Estelle's kids.

I'm very Angry inside for what CCA let happen to my sister Estelle Ann Richardson, while in their care. How could CCA allow a inmate to be beaten up every day, then die? I feel justice was not served. I was not a Party to the Settlement.
and thus not bound by
and any confidentiality provisions.
(please share with media)

Sincerely

Diane Bue

Estelle Ann Richardson sister

[Signature]