

July 20, 2005

The Hon. Truman Hobbs
251 South Lawrence Street
Montgomery, AL 36104

Re: Roberta Franklin

Dear Judge Hobbs,

I am the widow of a military officer who retired from the 82nd Airborne Division - America's Guard of Honor, and I have been working with women who are incarcerated.

Those of us who are interested in justice really appreciate the fact that you see through this seemingly phony charge against Roberta Franklin. The DHR had notified Ms Franklin that her payments would be decreased before making the overpayment, so it was not her fault for not notifying them - they already knew. Even if it was a genuine mistake on the part of the DHR, someone there is pushing a charge in order to hurt Roberta, when there are many cases involving real fraud that should be prosecuted instead.

On the first charge, Roberta was intimidated into taking a plea because they threatened to take her daughter from her. What kind of people are so cruel as to want to break up families when there is no wrongdoing? Ms Franklin now has a record because she loves her daughter and does not want her hurt.

I trust that you will dismiss this latest charge. Alabama needs more judges like you.

Thank you for being a fair judge.

Sincerely,

Margaret L. Crook

cc: Frank Riggs, Attorney for Ms Franklin
Troy King, Attorney General
Lucy Baxley, Lt. Governor