

THE UNTOLD STORY OF A POLITICAL PRISONER

My name is, Tirenzy Wilson, Reg. No. 00240-748, I am a federal inmate currently at the United States Penitentiary in Lewisburg, Pa. The prison is now designated as the “SPECIAL MANAGEMENT UNIT” which houses the worst of the worst prisoners in the Federal Bureau of Prisons. Inmates are locked down 23 hours a day Monday thru Friday and 24 hours Saturday thru Sunday.

I am currently serving a life sentence. Armed federal and state officers ringed the federal Dirksen building located downtown Chicago on May 9, 1997 as jurors convicted Larry Hoover, me, and five other co-defendants. Once the juror’s verdicts were read to each defendant, we were taken back to our holding cells. While waiting in our holding cells one of the supervising federal marshals in charge of our care brought us two large pizzas and sodas for everyone, at this time the Marshal Jimmy said we are not going back to the Metropolitan Correction Center (MCC), but to a prison for holdover until sentencing, located in Terre Haute, IN. After waiting for several more hours we were taken from the federal Dirksen building surrounded and escorted by the National Guard, State Troopers, a Swat Team, Federal Marshals and the Chicago Police to a private airport 15 minutes away, called Miagsfield near Lake Shore Drive, right off downtown. Soon we arrived there, and then we were immediately placed on a huge green military cargo helicopter and flown to United States Penitentiary – Terre Haute, IN. The entire prison was locked down for our arrival, due to the helicopter landing us on the prison compound. We were then met by a special elite prison forces unit, dressed all in black uniforms, and armed with long, black metal sticks called, “rib splitter,” whom escorted us (Larry Hoover, Gregory Shells, Andrew Howard, Darrel Branch, Jerry Strawhorn and Tirenzy Wilson) to our 6 x 9 prison cells, which were to be our temporary living quarters, within a Cuban lock down unit. Mind you we were not even sentenced yet, but they had us locked down in a prison. We stayed at U.S.P. Terre Haute for about 6 months, and then we were removed from there and taken to a maximum security prison called “Marion” which we stayed till our sentencing date.

I, Tirenzy Wilson, was designated, after sentencing, to U.S.P. Lompoc, in California. Mr. Hoover was designated after being sentenced to the maximum security federal prison known as A.D.X. Florence, in Florence, Colorado. Where he still reside this present day, he too is a political prisoner.

In the beginning of the early 90’s when the Gangster Disciples evolved into a political social movement “Growth & Development” and created a political structure called “21st Century V.O.T.E.” (Voices of Total Empowerment). 21st Century V.O.T.E was a political action committee of active young black males and females in the minority neighborhoods of Chicago, under the influence and direction of Larry Hoover. During that time, Mr. Hoover was incarcerated at the Vienna Correctional Center, a minimum security state prison in Southern

Illinois. In 1993, Mr. Hoover was going for his annual parole hearing with dozens of Chicago civic leaders and politicians ready to support his release after serving the required 20 years, under the old Illinois parole law, on a 150 year sentence. This is when the government began to focus its investigation on Mr. Hoover and all those who associated with him became a potential target; in order to cripple and neutralize Mr. Hoover's political structure of Growth and Development, and to diminish his political influence in the minority neighborhoods amongst the disadvantaged youths.

As 21st Century V.O.T.E. was gaining national attention and reaching its peak. A federal task force in 1993 obtained a wiretap court authorization, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. 2511 et. seq., from Chief Judge James B. Moran, of the Northern District of Illinois to monitor and record Mr. Hoover's conversation with visitors. Vienna was open like a college campus. Inmates received visitors in an outdoor picnic area, so the monitoring was accomplished by concealing a transmitter in the visitor's badge, that a visitor was required to wear while in the institution. The transmitter transmitted the intercepted conversation to a receiver on the premises connected to a phone line to Chicago, where agents taped the conversation, which were recorded from October 30, 1993 thru December 19, 1993 when a visitor discovered the transmitter.

According to news articles the tiny electronic listening device idea, happen to come about one day as a federal agent fuming about a prosecutor in an unrelated case burst into the Chicago office of a D.E.A. supervisor named Rick Barrett. Barrett told him, "you know, that badge is transmitting everything you say back to the U.S. Attorney office." Barrett supposedly had stated, what if we could perfect microphones and transmitters thin enough to fit in a Vienna prison visitor's badge? Then we could hear Hoover and Shell no matter where they walk around the prison. Supposedly Barrett found a firm that could produce the badges for a mere \$1,500 a piece. At that time, no one on earth had yet manufactured gear that miniature.

THE GOVERNMENT'S VERSION OF THE STORY:

Mr. Hoover made publicly known that he resigned as the leader of the Gangster Disciples in 1987. He claimed to head a different G.D. group, Growth and Development, devoted to uplifting and empowering the minority neighborhoods as well as being a positive guiding force to disadvantaged urban youth. The federal authorities did not believe that Mr. Hoover had gone straight. So the government began investigating the Gangster Disciples in 1989. In 1993 the government obtained a court order pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 2518(3) authorizing wiretap surveillance of conversations at the Vienna Correctional between Hoover and his visitors who unwittingly wore hidden transmitters inside their visitors badges. The government recorded 136 tapes (the "Vienna Tapes") of Hoover conversations with visitors. The tapes of these intercepted

communications became the “linchpin” of the government’s case against Mr. Hoover and his indicted high ranking members.

In April of 95, I.R.S. agents seized 16 drawers of financial records from Chicago concert promoter “Save the Children” (which was owned by Hoover’s wife). Inside a folder marked “L.H. Sr. Personal,” was a detailed typed computer list that allegedly laid bare one of the nation’s super gangs, Gangster Disciples. Allegedly listed were its leaders, their territories and rival gangs (labeled “opposition forces”).

The Vienna wiretapping and the typed computer list produced on August 31, 1995, the indictment of Mr. Hoover and 38 other defendants of the alleged Gangster Disciples, a street gang operating in Southwestern Chicago and the Southern Chicago suburbs, on federal narcotics charges. The indicted defendants were culled from the typed computer list – an alleged drug conspiracy that made as much as 300 million a year. Some 250 federal and state officers rounded up the 38 defendants while a D.E.A. plane brought Mr. Hoover from Vienna to Chicago to face stiff federal charges.

The government claimed that the typed computer list described the territorial and hierarchical organization of the entire G.D. operation, it was known simply as “the list” at the trial. Hoover had allegedly mentioned his desires to Gregory Shell to develop such a document in some of the taped conversations which he wanted to use to keep track of gang members and their payments to the G.D.’s

Also, the government claimed that the G.D. organization began its drug operations in Chicago in the early 1970’s. Its chairman Larry Hoover, for years an inmate of the Vienna Correctional Center in Vienna, Illinois. By the early 1990’s the gang had revenues of some 300 million a year, it had an elaborate structure. Hoover was assisted by a board of directors, and below the board were governors and regents having territorial jurisdictions, along with assistant governors, treasurers, security chief, and other officials, all with defined responsibilities. The six defendants that went to trial with Mr. Hoover were drawn mainly from the leadership ranks (and include Board of Directors, Governors and assistants to the leaders). (95-CR-508).

In the second G.D. trial 12 defendants were drawn mainly from the leadership ranks and included governors, assistant governors and regents, some of them merely assisted the leaders. This trial was known as the hundreds. (95-CR-510).

Finally, the third G.D. trial of the seven defendants were also drawn from the leadership ranks (and included governors, regents, assistant regents and money collectors). (95-CR-508).

Some of the governments’ strongest evidence was obtained by electronic surveillance of Hoover. Also, the government’s investigation relied heavily on tape recordings of conversations of Hoover and high ranking G.D. members. In addition, the government wiretapped June’s

Shrimp on the Nine, A Southside restaurant purchased for Shell by a former gang crimes police officer allegedly, G.D. members occasionally used June's Shrimp as a meeting place.

The government also alleged the G.D.'s sold drugs throughout Chicago and the surrounding areas. They allegedly organized their sales both by territory and through the coordinating efforts of the Governors and the higher gang leadership. The Governors allegedly supervised their own territories, ensured that members did not interfere with one another sales and kept tabs on rival drug sellers. Also, the government claimed the Governors and Regents often served as drug suppliers for their territories. The principal drug involved was cocaine.

A NEW POLITICAL FORCE WHICH WAS DESTROYED BY THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT'S DECEIT, LIES AND CORRUPTION

The first government misconduct occurred, when the government violated the Fourth Amendment rights of Mr. Hoover's visitors, by subversively making his visitors including Gregory Shell, Johnny Jackson, William Edwards, Darrell Branch and Adrian Bradd (Tirenzy Williams was not included), "wear" a hidden microphone, without their consent, to aid the government in its investigation. The government clearly violated the visitors (defendants that were indicted along with Mr. Hoover) privacy expectation as guaranteed under the 4th Amendment. The wearing of hidden microphones was not a common practice or requirement by the prison officials where Larry Hoover was incarcerated. Furthermore, the prison officials are required to give notice to inmates and visitors of any monitoring of their communications.

The special agent in charge of the investigation in the Gangster Disciples case, David C. Tibbetts could not direct its own cooperating informants to wear a concealed listening device while visiting with Hoover without their consent; instead the government placed a hidden listening device on Mr. Hoover's visitors person without their knowledge or consent, when they were neither informants nor cooperating with the government.

In 1993 the government's court order application to intercept oral communications between Hoover and his visitors, and the court order permitting, did not sufficiently specify where the communication would be intercepted to satisfy Fourth Amendment and statutory particularity requirements. This is because the government described the place to be searched as the visiting room area in the Vienna Correctional Center, not the bodies of the visitors. Thus, the government never sought, nor did the court ever grant the government authorization to intercept conversation by placing a hidden listening device on a particular part of visitor's body their neck.

Gregory Shell a defendant in the case argued in his 28 U.S.C. Section 2255 on post-conviction in the district court, that placing those "concealed" microphones on the body of Mr. Shell, without his knowledge or consent was in clear violation of the Fourth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution and several statutory provision governing Title (III federal wiretap statue)

interceptions, 18 U.S.C. Section 2511(2) (C) (where one of the parties of the communication has given prior consent to such interception), and 18 U.S.C. Section 2518(i)(b)(ii) (requires that the application and the order to interception oral communication state a particular description of the nature and location to the facilities from which or place where the communication is to be intercepted. The district court denied Mr. Shell's 28 U.S.C. Section 2255 motion.

Mr. Shell appealed the district court's decision and raised the same argument, "the method used by the government for the Vienna interception was in violation of the parties to the conversations right to privacy under the Fourth Amendment and in violation of the Fourth Amendment particularity requirement because the affidavit and application for the interceptions stated that the interceptions would take place in the 'visitor's room' area which is a significant difference from placing the devices on the bodies of the visitors without their knowledge or consent. The Fourth Amendment right to privacy has been grossly violated in Shell's case."

In May of 2006 the Federal Appeals Court in the 7th Circuit denied Shell's argument that bugging a visitors badge was not unconstitutional, the federal appellate panel essentially said, "while we cannot say that Shell had no expectation of privacy when visiting Hoover in prison, he did have a greatly diminished expectation of privacy while communicating with a prison inmate," the judges go on to say, "Shell voluntarily wore the badge as part of visitor protocol and the bugs only function was authorized by the warrant. In this case the D.E.A. simply did an effective job of precisely what they were allowed to do; intercept conversation between G.D.'s in the visitor area." **United States v. Shell**, No. 04-3890.

The second act of misconduct by the government occurred when they distorted portions of taped conversations between Mr. Hoover and Mr. Shell. The discussion was allegedly about a "drug list" that needed to be typed in order to track gang members and their payments to the G.D.'s. The government claimed at trial the typed computer list was discovered in the files of concert promoter "Save the Children" (which was owned by Hoover's wife). The same list Hoover desired and mentioned to develop in the taped conversations with Shell.

Mr. Hoover and defendant prior to trial hired a lawyer named David Trout licensed to practice law in the State of Illinois. David Trout transcribed what the government had selectively edited in the Vienna tapes. This information was considered non-pertinent conversations between Hoover and Shell regarding the rest of the conversation about a list being typed as a roster of Growth and Development members and a political count of opposite street organizations (Black Peace Stones, Black Disciple, Vice Lords, etc.) for an upcoming political march. Part of this conversation was deliberately omitted. **United States v. Parks**, No. 95-CR-510, 1997 WL 136761 (N.D. Illinois March 24, 1997).

The licensed lawyer, David Trout and defendants at the Hoover trial introduced transcribed conversations (labeled N430, 310-5C) as evidence to show, that the omitted fragments of conversation between Hoover and Shell were taken out of context and that the

government intentionally omitted the part of conversation where Hoover wanted Shell to have a list typed with all the leadership of Growth and Development and its membership count as well as a count of the opposite street organizations leadership and its membership for an upcoming political march consisting of 100,000 people. Mr. Hoover was expressing his desire to Shell how he wanted all the street organizations behind him so they could support his political movement and his peace efforts with the opposite organizations. (Defense labeled as N430, 310-5C).

The list discovered by the government in the files of “Save the Children” was presented as evidence to confirm the taped conversation between Hoover and Shell in which the list was mentioned (government transcription of conversation labeled N430, 310 – 2.2A). The defendants proved at trial the list presented by the government was not a typed list of drug territories or a hierarchy organizational chart of the entire Gangster Disciple operation.

The third act of misconduct by the government amounted to malfeasance when they deliberately mislead the jury. The government claimed that Mr. Hoover devised a plan to obtain a share of the narcotics profits generated by the Gangster Disciples organization. Every G.D. member selling drugs would be required to turn in to leadership all gross receipts from drug sales for a one-day-a-week program, \$300,000 dollars a day. Through this plan the prosecution team (A.U.S.A. Ronald Safer; and A.U.S.A. Reedy) led the jury to believe the G.D. organization was operating a \$300 million dollar a year drug operation.

Once the government’s case was closed in the trial process, Assistant United States Attorney Styler disclosed to the court on the record at co-defendant, Darrell Branch’s, sentencing hearing that the, one day a week program never got off the ground.

“...this one day a week program that Mr. Hoover was initially expressing never got off the ground. But one of the reasons it didn’t is because Mr. Branch himself.” (United States v. Darrell Branch Docket No. 95-CR-508-8 sentencing Tr. at pg. 14).

The Honorable Harry D. Leinenweber, the sentencing Judge, stated in response to A.U.S.A. Styler’s admission on the record:

“...Granted, the one day a week program was not a success because of the government.” (United States v. Darrell Branch, Docket No. 95-CR-508-8, sentencing Tr. at pg.15).

At the sentencing hearing of another co-defendant, Adrion Bradd, the government stated the following:

“The concept of collecting the proceeds from one day a week drug sales was unworkable.” (United States v. Adrion Bradd, Docket No. 95-CR-508-7 sentencing Tr. at pg.72-73).

In addition, at another subsequent related G.D. Trial, A.U.S.A. Reedy stated on the record to the court that:

“The one-day-a-week program never happened at the time and this was a program that Mr. Hoover only tried to put in. But it didn’t go anywhere.” (United States v. Jimmie Gholson, Docket No. 96-CR-553, Trial Tr. at pg. 2778).

Furthermore, one of the government’s chief witnesses, Delano Finch a.k.a “Trouble,” a former Governor of the G.D.’s and an indicted co-conspirator testified at 3 subsequent trial involving G.D. members whose convictions were sustained on his testimony and on cross examination in a related G.D. trial he testified that:

“To his knowledge the one-day-a-week program never existed.” (United States v. Gholson, Docket No. 96-CR-553, Trial Tr. pg 579-80).

The facts are very clear that A.U.S.A. Ronald Safer and his prosecution team led the courts, the jury and most of the country, to believe the “one day a week” program existed during the investigation of the Gangster Disciples and right up until they were indicted earning \$300,000 every week. A.U.S.A. Safers deliberately and intentionally misled the trial court and jury to believe Mr. Hoover operated a \$100,000,000 million a year drug Criminal Continuing Enterprise. When the entire prosecution team knew that the “one-day-a-week” program “**never happened!**”

The government’s case was based upon a theory that was derived from the Hoover conversations wherein Hoover allegedly wanted to implement a “one day a week” program. A program that the government erroneously extrapolated and then alleged, it generated \$300,000 per week and over \$100,000,000 million per year.

The greatest constitutional violations and miscarriage of justice in the Hoover case took place when the 7th Court of Appeals abused judicial power.

This judicial misconduct occurred in **U.S. v. Jackson**, 207 F.3d 910, 915-918 (7th Cir. 2000), a companion related case to the Hoover case. The Jackson case was one of the first cases to address the late sealing of the Vienna wiretaps, that had expired 32 days later after the expiration of the wiretap authorization, 18 U.S.C. 2518(8) (a), intercepted during the “Gangster Disciple” investigation.

One of the most influential judges in the country, Judge Richard Posner, writing for the majority as a member of the panel of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 7th Circuit, in **U.S. v. Jackson**, concluded that none of the documented reasons that the government gave to the district for waiting 32 days to have the tapes sealed constituted the “satisfactory explanation” for the delay that section 2518 (8) (a) demands. 207 F.3d at 915-16. Rather than ordering the Vienna Tapes (Hoover’s conversations) suppressed (thrown out). Judge Posner, embraced a third and final explanation (the court said) in which the government argued in its brief, the delay in sealing which was not presented or raised at the trial court. That argument should have been waived, the

documented reasons offered at trial were already held to be unsatisfactory and the tapes should have been suppressed.

Judge Richard Posner and his colleagues violated their judicial oath, when these federal appeals judges took it upon themselves to fabricate evidence and make false factual statements on the record on appeal in the **U.S. v Jackson**, case. Judge Richard Posner violated the law by claiming on the record in its opinion that the government raised an argument in its appellate brief, when the court at the time knew the government never raised such an argument. Judge Posner and his colleagues made up the argument for the government, as a last resort to rescue the government's case, denying defendants in the Hoover case their constitutional rights and a fair and impartial appeal. In all actuality, Mr. Hoover and his co-defendants raised a lawful defense concerning the Vienna Tapes not being properly sealed under section 2518 (8) (a).

This argument raised by Hoover and his co-defendants was denied by the Court of Appeals causing a miscarriage of justice. Had it not been for the unlawful act and decisions, all of the defendants would have been freed.

A NEW POLITICAL FORCE WAS DESTROYED BY THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT DECEIT, LIES AND CORRUPTION!!!!

All the charges against Larry Hoover and the 34 political prisoners indicted along with him were motivated by the local government and federal authorities because of fear. Mr. Hoover was perceived as a political threat in Chicago and within the state of Illinois. This was the force behind the government's determination to neutralize the rise of a "New Political Force" evolving into the 21st Century.

The government's intentions were well demonstrated during a pretrial hearing around the year '96. At that time, the then presiding Judge Barnett Duff, instructed A.U.S.A. Ronald safer **not to go and see former President Clinton about the case or disclose any material evidence regarding the Vienna tapes.** Despite Judge Duff's warning, the A.U.S.A. Ronald Safer went to Washington, D.C.

Weeks later A.U.S.A. Ronald Safer was seen on national television with President Clinton. That same day a terrible tragedy took place and the Secretary of Commerce, Ron Brown, died in a plane crash en route to the White House. All this took place, while Mr. Hoover and some of the 34 political prisoners were being detained at the Metropolitan Correctional Center (M.C.C.) awaiting disposition of our case. As this historical moment was taking place, A.U.S.A. Ronald Safer appears on television handing over a "visitor pass" badge to President Bill Clinton. One of the same badges the government used to intercept the oral communications of Mr. Hoover and his visitors along with the transcripts transcribed from the wiretaps.

At the next following pretrial hearing Judge Duff reprimanded A.U.S.A. Ronald Safer for disregarding his instructions, by traveling to Washington and discussing the Hoover wiretapping with President Clinton.

Judge Brian Barnett Duff emphasized to the government, that the defendants would receive a fair trial in his courtroom and that he was aware of “how they were trying to remove him from the case.” Within a few months time Judge Duff was mysteriously removed off the case and replaced by ultra conservative Judge Harry D. Leinenweber. President Bill Clinton declared Mr. Hoover and the indicted 38 (5 defendants of the 38 later cooperated with the government) as “Public Enemy Number One.” From that point on all of the rules were completely disregarded by the government, throughout the trial process. Judge Leinenweber conveyed nothing but bias to Mr. Hoover and his co-defendants during trial. Every single motion filed by Mr. Hoover and his co-defendants were denied. On many occasions Judge Leinenweber permitted the government to circumvent Federal Rules of Evidence and the law throughout the trial in order to win a conviction by any means against Mr. Hoover and his co-defendants (Gregory Shell, Dee Dee Howard, Darrell Branch, Adrian Bradd, Jerry Strawhorn and Tirenzy Wilson; both Johnny Jackson and William Edward were alleged fugitive at time of trial); all political prisoners!!!

This interference by the then President Clinton in a criminal prosecution was a clear abuse of power. The President as part of the executive branch should have exercised restraint out of concern for the separation of power; especially, since the President of America lacked the authority, jurisdiction and scope to interfere in the judicial process.

THE UNTOLD STORY OF A TRUE POLITICAL PRISONER:

I, Tirenzy Wilson, was one of the 34 political prisoners indicted along with Mr. Hoover. In order to discredit Mr. Hoover and Growth and Development’s political legitimacy, the government had to create a conspiracy that would dismantle and cripple the leadership responsible for the success of 21st Century V.O.T.E. Larry Hoover and the other 34 political prisoners were painted as a drug cartel. The government did not seize any businesses or properties from Hoover (homes, cars, boats, etc.) nor any bank accounts or money on hand entrusted to family members. Moreover, the government did not find, confiscate or seize any revenue or illegal proceeds over the amount of \$20,000 in cash from the seven defendants on trial with Mr. Hoover (including Gregory Shell, Dee Dee Howard, Darrell Branch, Adrian Bradd and Tirenzy Wilson). *U.S. v. Hoover*, Docket No. 95-CR-508. However, when it was all said and done, the investigations, indictments and trials ultimately brought about a conviction against all defendants.

The government claimed during the trial and to this very day that Hoover and the Gangster Disciples by the early 1990's had revenues of some \$100 million a year. If that was so, where is the money? In Americas office of agencies (I.R.S., D.E.A., F.B.I., etc.), it would be virtually impossible for money and assets to go unnoticed because of the trail of documents left behind. These government agencies are experts and highly trained to uncover hidden assets. Even an educated investment guru like "Bernard Madoff" infamous for the multibillion dollar Ponzi scheme was unable to escape the intelligence of these agencies.

In our case the government repeatedly broke the law and replaced the "Rule of Law" with politics all in the name of "American Justice." This is why we are reaching to the world to make known the fact we are political prisoners because of the political activities revolving around us.

I, Tirenzy Wilson, would like to give you a glimpse of my political involvement and participation with Growth and Development as well as 21st Century V.O.T.E.

I grew up on the south side of Chicago in the Englewood area. I attended Paul Robeson High School. I later attended Kennedy King Community College where I completed several general education courses.

In my late teens I joined the Brothers of the Struggles (intellectual thinkers) in 1987, a group related to the Gangster Disciples. In the early 90's, I became a member of Growth and Development, a civic improvement organization that evolved from the Gangster Disciples.

I was one of the pioneers of 21st Century V.O.T.E. because it was initially implemented and instituted in the Englewood area where I resided. I was responsible for the political activities in which Growth and Development were involved with in the Englewood district. 21st Century V.O.T.E. (Voices of Total Empowerment) was a coalition of organizations that worked with street organizations such as the Vice Lords, Micky Cobra, Stones, Black Disciples, Black Peace Stones, etc. All these groups were brought into this political and social movement in order to stop the violence in the minority communities of Chicago, IL. 21st Century V.O.T.E. acted as an advocate for the ghetto's disadvantaged youth, so their voices could be heard in the halls of justice. The goal of 21st Century V.O.T.E. was to improve the political and economical conditions of the Black and Hispanic communities in the Chicago land area.

As a Political Action Coordinator (P.A.C.) member for 21st Century V.O.T.E., I helped organize and mobilize members of Growth and Development for the task of becoming voter deputy registrar's campaign workers by teaching them how to organize politically and canvass their respective communities and set up a political structure.

I helped potential political candidates who sought the help of 21st Century V.O.T.E. gain visibility by promoting and publicizing the candidates within the minority community. I participated in helping 21st Century V.O.T.E. organize a rally in 1992 for Senator Carol Mosley-Braun. Senator Braun needed thousands of participants to participate in a rally for then

Presidential nominee Bill Clinton. In 1994, I did community organizing for Hal Baskins in his run for aldermen of the 16th ward (Englewood district located on the southwest side of Chicago). During the 94' mayor election, I assisted Senator Rolland Burris through 21st Century V.O.T.E. by organizing the community. There were many other political campaigns I was involved in.

In addition, 21st Century V.O.T.E. catered not only to the political aspects of the minority community but they did lots of outreach work as well. Under the direction and guidance of Larry Hoover, Growth & Development, assisted 21st Century V.O.T.E in food give a ways, disseminating emergency information to the elderly, alternative educational programs, gang deactivation programs, neighborhood clean ups, youth basketball leagues, etc.

I was heavily involved with organizing and mobilizing Growth & Development members for several 21st Century V.O.T.E. political marches. One march consisted of about 8,000 to 10,000 people that wanted to keep public-health clinics open and make sure those clinics within the low-income neighborhoods had adequate technicians and technology. In another political endeavor, Growth & Development organized some 10,000 people including grassroots organizations and civic leaders to march on City Hall in support of funding public schools and reopening some Chicago public schools. That day we marched for over an hour in sweltering heat from 35th street and Wabash all the way to downtown Chicago. On another occasion we had a march that consisted of about 1,000 Growth and Development members along with other protestors in front of City Hall and Daley Plaza to speak out against the city for removing the affirmative action clause out of the police and firemen's contract. There were many grassroots organizations that worked with Growth & Development to help make these marches successful such as CIN FRONTEAS, THE PEACE ORGANIZATION, CBAC, INNER CITY YOUTH FOUNDATION, NO DOPE EXPRESS, etc.

In the year of 1994, I was very instrumental in helping 21st Century V.O.T.E. and the Peace Organization implement the "Gang Deactivation Monitoring Program" established at Englewood High School as a pilot program and later instituted at various other public high schools within the Englewood District. The purpose of the program was to deactivate the mind set of anti-social behavior associated with gang culture. The unique program gave the gangs a new direction for lifestyle management based off positive goals and objectives (alternative education, job training, etc.). Former gang leaders were designated as monitors at the most troubled public high schools within the Englewood district. These monitors acted as mediators defusing gang disputes and as mentors to the youth who were involved in gangs by showing them a positive way of living.

The individuals who were responsible for the "Gang Deactivation Monitoring Program" were Mr. Hoover, Dr. Nehemiah Russell (who was the assistant principal at Englewood High School) and Hal Baskins (Co-founder of the Peace Organization and People Educated against Crime in Englewood).

THE VISION

In the beginning of the early 1990's, Mr. Hoover reached out to the streets from his prison cell and shared his vision to the prisoners of the ghetto. His vision was spoken through a book called "The Blueprint of a New Concept – From Gangster Disciple to Growth and Development" by Roderick L. Emery, Sr. The Blue Print of a New Concept was written and completed by 1990, but was later revised in 1996 for the people to view. Here's a brief synopsis of Mr. Hoover's vision from those who were looking for positive Growth and Development.

THE BLUEPRINT OF A NEW CONCEPT

"...The vision is for us to acquire marketable skills that will provide us with a legal avenue of financial support. The Vision dictates that we learn the political process of our community and become involved to the extent of having a voice in our destiny; that we conduct ourselves in a manner that is compatible to our community; that we frown upon the senseless rape, robbery, burglary, theft and murder that is rampant in our community; that we establish ourselves in business that is an asset to ourselves as well as to our community that we set examples that will make it safe for our youth to be part of us; and ultimately, that we eliminate the awesome rate of recidivism that is the experience of a large portion of our youth."

"The Vision is that we dedicate ourselves to a war on illiteracy; that we pursue professional business careers such as accounting, drafting, computer science, business management, etc; that we master the trades of industry such as brick masonry, building and road construction, textiles, machine shop, surveying, welding, etc., that we acquire knowledge and expertise in areas that are needed in our community, such as plumbing, carpentry, building management and maintenance, auto body repairs, auto mechanic, etc., that we prepare ourselves to become small business administrators in areas such as grocery stores, clothing stores, hardware's, entertainment (lounges and dance halls), distributors of general household merchandise, etc., that we amass credentials such as certificates, diplomas and degrees as a statement to our desire to excel positively; that we expand our views to include the educational, economical, political and social realities of society; that we began to value the positive implications of righteous endeavors."

Mr. Hoover's vision was to reverse the negative trend of premature death, incarceration and recidivism that was wrapped around the African-American disadvantaged youth, also known as "ghetto prisoners," like a hungry serpent. Our transition was from a lifestyle of ill repute (Gangster Disciples) to one of respectable and productive people (Growth and Development).

I am reaching out to the American people because of the injustice and government misconduct that occurred throughout my case. I was investigated, indicted, convicted and sentenced to life imprisonment because of my association with Larry Hoover, my affiliation with

Growth and Development and my participation in the political endeavors of 21st Century V.O.T.E. This is why the government portrayed our activities to be criminal.

In all actuality, we are “Political Prisoners,” who made a political move without the assistance of the government to bring about change in the low-income communities. I have never been incarcerated in my life. I am a first time offender, yet, I am told I will be released when I am deceased.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND ATTENTION!!!

“Truth is not only violated by falsehood; it may be equally outraged by Silence”

Henri Frederic Amiel – Swiss Philosopher Amiel’s Journal 1883

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Note: I am seeking legal professionals, civil experts of civil law (Habeas Corpus or filing complaints on judicial misconduct), legal assistance and answers, i.e., or advice in this out cry of injustice!!!