



## THE FLORIDA SENATE

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COMMITTEES:  
Health Care  
Domestic Security  
Environmental Preservation, Vice-Chair  
General Government Appropriations

**SENATOR GARY SIPLIN**  
19th District

February 15, 2006

Honorable Jeb Bush  
Office of the Governor  
PL 05, The Capitol  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

### **Re: The Murder of Martin Lee Anderson**

Dear Governor Bush:

Recently, it has been reported that this past January, five youths in Florida Juvenile Justice facilities, have died under very suspicious circumstances. Martin Lee Anderson, a 14-year-old boy was brutally beaten by employees at the Bay County Boot Camp, during the first two hours of his intake process. The 14-year-olds' body was swollen, bruised and bloody when his mother arrived at the hospital the day of the beating. The beating was obviously a part of the policy, as it occurred during the intake process.

None of the individuals who were responsible for the beatings at the boot camps have been charged for the crime. Currently, the FDLE has been investigating the crime. However, Director Guy Tunnel established the Bay County Boot Camp when *he* was sheriff. Consequently, how can an agency which Mr. Tunnel heads conduct an impartial investigation?

Senator's Tony Hill, Frederica Wilson, and I, also do not believe that the Bay County State Attorney will prosecute the employees of the Boot Camp. In fact, the Bay County State Attorney should not have charged Martin Lee Anderson with grand theft in the first place, as he is a victim and *not* the perpetrator. Thus, the State Attorney also has a conflict.

Governor Bush, it has been nearly two months since Mr. Anderson's death, and no one has been arrested. It is obvious that Mr. Anderson was murdered. Therefore, we request that the FDLE immediately arrest the perpetrators. We are also requesting that you appoint a Special Prosecutor to investigate the Anderson case, as well as other Boot Camps around Florida. Finally, since members of the House and the Governors' Office have seen the tape, you should have FDLE release it to the members of the Senate today.

Sincerely,

Senator Gary Siplin  
District 19

Senator Frederica Wilson  
District 33

Senator Tony Hill  
District 1