



M. J. "MIKE" FOSTER, JR.
GOVERNOR

State of Louisiana

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

CHENEY C. JOSEPH, JR.
EXECUTIVE COUNSEL

January 28, 1998

Mr. W.B. Haensel, Jr.
3901 N. Hullen Street
Metairie, LA 70002

Dear Mr. Haensel:

Governor Foster has asked that I respond to your November 28, 1997 letter concerning the presentations given by Christopher C. Nabors, an inmate, to the students of Mandeville Junior High School pursuant to a Department of Correction program which provides convicts to institutions for educational presentations on drug and alcohol abuse.

The situation you described in your complaint presents a substantial cause for concern. Accordingly, Governor Foster has instructed Richard Stalder, Secretary, Department of Correction, to remove Mr. Nabors from the list of inmates who actively participate in making the educational presentations. Furthermore, a copy of your letter (with attachments) has been forwarded to Secretary Stalder for his consideration and review so that the department can make those policy changes it deems necessary to prevent inmates from taking advantage of the presentations to further their own interests in obtaining early release. As you correctly note, the purpose of these presentations is to make children aware of the dangers of drug and alcohol abuse, not to elicit sympathy for the incarcerated speakers.

Thank you for bringing this matter to the Governor's attention. Please do not hesitate to contact our office in the future if we may be of service to you in any other way.

Sincerely,

Cheney C. Joseph, Jr.
Executive Counsel to the Governor

gsk

c: Honorable Richard Stalder, Secretary, Department of Correction
w/ enclosures