

George W. Bush Presidential Library

Collection: Faith-Based and Community
Initiatives, Office of (OFBCI)

Series: Willett, Don R. – General Files

Folder Title: [Copy of Frank Wolf Letter]

BANK ONE

11/6	745.69	[elec. 29-	11/6
		" 145-	"
		" 44.51	11/5
		" 1100-	11/5
		" 220-	11/2
		#1212 231.80	10/30
		1718 700 -	11/5
		1718	10/26

GAMMON & GRANGE, P.C.

RICHARD M. CAMPANELLI
STEPHEN M. CLARKE
A. WRAY FITCH III
THADDEUS FURLONG
JAMES A. GAMMON*†
GEORGE R. GRANGE II
STEPHEN S. KAO*
STEPHEN H. KING
NANCY OLIVER LeSOURD
KENNETH E. LIU
TIMOTHY R. OBITTS
H. ROBERT SHOWERS
SCOTT J. WARD
MICHAEL J. WOODRUFF
REBECCA D. ZACHRITZ

ATTORNEYS AT LAW
SEVENTH FLOOR
8280 GREENSBORO DRIVE
McLEAN, VA 22102-3807

TELEPHONE
(703) 761-5000
FACSIMILE
(703) 761-5023

WEB SITE
WWW.GANDGLAW.COM
E-MAIL
GG@GANDGLAW.COM

* NOT ADMITTED IN VIRGINIA
† OF COUNSEL

COVER SHEET FACSIMILE MESSAGE

**** WARNING ** WARNING ** WARNING ** WARNING ** WARNING ** WARNING ****

© Copyright 2001 Gammon & Grange, P.C. This facsimile contains information that is privileged, confidential and copyrighted, which is intended only for the addressed individual or entity. Any unintended recipient of this transmission is hereby notified that any review, disclosure, reproduction or dissemination of this information is strictly prohibited. If you have received this transmission in error, please notify us immediately by telephone, and return the original document(s) to us by mail.

Date: November 6, 2001

Client No. 0642-004

To: Mr. Don Willett

Fax No. (202) 456-7018 or 19

From: Michael J. Woodruff

Fax No.: (703) 761-5023

RE: Attached please find a copy of Frank Wolf letter.

No. of Pages: 3 (Including this cover sheet)

GAMMON & GRANGE, P.C.
ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELORS AT LAW

RICHARD M. CAMPANELLI
STEPHEN M. CLARKE
A. WRAY FITCH III
THADDEUS C. FURLONG
JAMES A. GAMMON*†
GEORGE R. GRANGE II
STEPHEN S. KAO*
STEPHEN H. KING*
NANCY OLIVER LeSOURD
KENNETH E. LIU
TIMOTHY R. OBITTS
H. ROBERT SHOWERS
SCOTT J. WARD
MICHAEL J. WOODRUFF
REBECCA D. ZACHRITZ

* NOT ADMITTED IN VIRGINIA
† OF COUNSEL

SEVENTH FLOOR
8280 GREENSBORO DRIVE
MCLEAN, VA 22102-3807

TELEPHONE
(703) 761-5000

FACSIMILE
(703) 761-5023

www.GandGLaw.com

October 11, 2001

The Hon. Frank R. Wolf
U.S. House of Representatives
241 Cannon Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

– VIA FACSIMILE –
(202) 225-1808
AND FIRST CLASS MAIL

ATTENTION: Leslie Albright

Re: Bureau of Prisons Pre-Release Programs and House Report 107-139

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Thank you for speaking with me today about the statements in House Report 107-139 regarding the program design of new federal Bureau of Prisons' ("BOP") pre-release pilot programs that Congress intends to fund under its pending Appropriations bill. I found our conversation most helpful, and hope that it clarified the desire of Prison Fellowship Ministries ("PFM") that pre-release pilot programs proceed in a manner that reinforces appropriate governmental neutrality. As you know, PFM's InnerChange Freedom Initiative ("IFI") historically, in its implementation in several states, has competed under a secular "Request for Proposal" as one alternative voluntary pre-release program among others, where state corrections is as neutral as to IFI's faith-based viewpoint and values approach as it is toward the viewpoint of secular or other providers.

As we discussed today, the current language in House Report 107-139 regarding such BOP pre-release programs would benefit from modest revisions to clarify Congress' intent to provide such programs on a truly neutral basis. In particular, the key language is the second sentence of the last full paragraph on page 35 of the Report, which currently states (*italics added*):

The Committee also supports the expansion of the drug treatment program as requested, as studies have shown that increases in treatment and other such rehabilitative programs can reduce recidivism rates. *In addition, the Committee supports the request to establish a multi-faith based prison pre-release pilot program.* The Committee directs that a fifth pilot be added, and that it be located at the Petersburg, VA facility. The Committee directs that the Bureau of Prisons, in

conjunction with the Attorney General and the Office of Justice Programs, submit a report by April 1, 2002, assessing the implementation of this program. The BOP, in establishing these pilots, should build in baseline measures so as to enable the Department to assess the impact of this program on future recidivism rates.

The reference, in the singular, to "a multi-faith based prison pre-release pilot program" could be interpreted to require that there must be a single religion-specific program. Such a requirement would be inconsistent with Congress' concern to maintain appropriate government neutrality with regard to religion and non-religion. As a corollary, it would also increase the susceptibility of such a program to legal attack on Establishment Clause grounds.

To address these concerns, the second sentence of this paragraph should be revised to read as follows:

In addition, the Committee supports the request to establish multi-faith-based and other prison pre-release pilot programs.

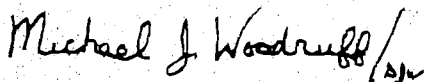
The following redlined version of this sentence shows the deletions in bolded strike-through text and the insertions in double-underlined italicized text.

In addition, the Committee supports the request to establish ~~a~~ multi-faith-based and other prison pre-release pilot programs.

These revisions would serve several purposes. First, the revised sentence reinforces Congress' concern for appropriate government neutrality between religion and non-religion (even as Congress appropriately seeks to ensure that there is no unnecessary discrimination against faith-based organizations where they can help advance important governmental objectives). Second, the revised sentence is more consistent with the latter section of the paragraph, which suggests that Congress' primary purpose in authorizing such pre-release pilot programs is the appropriate and compelling secular objective of reducing recidivism among federal prisoners. Third, the revised sentence is less susceptible to legal challenge on Establishment Clause grounds, as it is, both on its face and in effect, neutral with regard to religion, avoiding the appearance of exclusively favoring religion at the expense of non-religious pre-release programs. Finally, the revised sentence does not diminish BOP's operational discretion to select the program(s) and provider(s) that best meets the government's neutral secular objectives.

I hope that these suggestions will be helpful and that, by accommodating a wider variety of views as to pre-release programs, they may be conducive to achieving agreement among the members of Congress. Thank you for your careful consideration of these matters.

Cordially,



Michael J. Woodruff

JK:06420642-4(Fed)Wol02.wpd



Terry Bahrami <TTB@gandglaw.com>

11/06/2001 01:11:08 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Don R. Willett/WHO/EOP

cc:

Subject: Copy of F. Wolf letter

Dear Mr. Willett:

Attached please find in PDF format, the above mentioned letter.
You will also received a copy of it by facsimile transmission.

Please let us know whether you have any trouble opening the document.

Thank you.

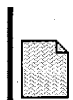
Terry

Terry Bahrami
Executive Assistant
Gammon & Grange, P.C.
8280 Greensboro Dr., 7th Floor
McLean, VA 22102

Tel: (703) 761-5000, ext. 124

Fax: (703) 761-5023

email: ttb@gandglaw.com



- 1Wolf.PDF



Terry Bahrami <TTB@gandglaw.com>

11/06/2001 02:49:38 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Don R. Willett/WHO/EOP@EOP

cc:

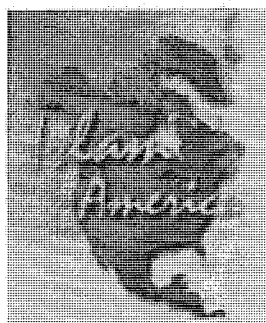
Subject: F. Wolf letter, re: language passed by the House Committee.

Mr. Willett:

The latest information listed on the thomas.loc.gov web site regarding House Report 107-139, which is the report discussed in our letter to Congressman Frank Wolf, dates back to September 24, 2001. It indicates that "Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection."

The report itself, in the version currently available through thomas.loc.gov, appears to be unchanged from the form in which it was submitted on July 13, 2001.

Terry Bahrami
for Michael J. Woodruff



A Service of Dar al Islam

Inside the Competitive New World of Prison Ministries

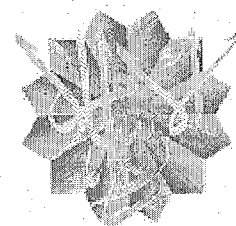
By: Lisa Miller, The Wall Street Journal,
9/07/1999, Page B1

Excerpts:

"...No longer simply the avocation of big-hearted church volunteers, prison ministry has become a sophisticated and competitive business. The new generation of ministers has moved beyond Bible study to recognize the seductive power of electric bands, celebrities, videotapes and glossy posters to lure captive men and women to God. In prison, religious volunteers 'do things like any advertiser' to win new converts, says Warith-Deen Umar, the Islamic-affairs specialist for the New York State Department of Correctional Services..."

"...And it's not only Christians who are stepping up their efforts. As Islam increasingly becomes part of mainstream America, Muslim organizations have grown more ambitious and organized about prison outreach. The Saudi Arabian embassy in Washington, D.C., now sends about 100 Korans a month to prisons, and prominent imams, or spiritual leaders, in New York and Atlanta are making videos they send to prison. Associations of immigrant Muslims are sending volunteers to prisons to teach Arabic, and on feast days they're providing prison kitchens with ceremonial foods, like dates for breaking fasts..."

"...Muslims are using video, too. Fed up with the quality of educational materials available in the U.S. about Islam, most of which were decades old and translated badly from Arabic, an Annandale, Va., businessman named Muhammad Quadir several years ago began to produce 'Discover Islam' packets. They included easy-to-read pamphlets, glossy posters and a teaching



Search Islam America

Search For:

Match:

- ☒ Any word
- ☐ All words
- ☐ Exact phrase

LINKS

video that stars Houston Rockets center Hakeem Olajuwon. He sent the packets to most of the county's 94 federal prisons. 'We really encouraged the chaplains to get them,' says Susan Van Baalen, chaplain administrator for the Federal Bureau of Prisons..."

"...The growth of Islam in U.S. prisons is creating anxiety among some Christian ministers. While the vast majority of inmates in the federal prison system are still Christian, the number of Muslim inmates has nearly tripled over the last six years to 6,500. During that time, the ranks of federal prisoners grew 50% to 112,000. And in some states, such as Maryland, New York and Pennsylvania, Muslims make up about 20% of the incarcerated population, according to the American Correctional Association. The Graterford maximum-security prison in Pennsylvania has a separate worship space for its 1,000 Muslims -- fully one-third of its population -- complete with sinks for ritual washing. "So Christian ministers are expanding their efforts in prison. Islam in prison is 'a threat to Christianity as it stands,' says Carl Ellis, who has a Christian ministry in Chattanooga, Tenn., that works with prisoners..."

If you subscribe, read the entire article on to the [Wall Street Journal Interactive Edition](#),

For more information about IslamAmerica, please contact [IslamAmerica Webmaster](#).