



Chinyere Ezie <cezie@ccrjustice.org>

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## Diamond v. Ward: Additional PREA Incidents at Coastal State Prison

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Chinyere Ezie <cezie@ccrjustice.org>

Fri, Jan 28, 2022 at 6:42 PM

To: Roger Chalmers <rchalmers@law.ga.gov>

Cc: Scott McCoy <Scott.McCoy@splcenter.org>, Beth Littrell <beth.littrell@splcenter.org>, Maya Rajaratnam <maya.rajaratnam@splcenter.org>

Bcc: ltodd@ccrjustice.org

Hi Roger,

Just to follow up:

Unfortunately, Ms. Diamond was just approached by GDC staff about giving a PREA interview while in full view of everyone in her dormitory. This is the precise situation my email to you was intended to avoid. Such actions place her in danger and legitimate fear of retaliation because, as I pointed out to you in my email, it heightens the perception that Ms. Diamond is a "snitch." This was really an unforced error on the part of GDC.

Further, I did not anticipate that my request would result in placing Ms. Diamond in danger. I asked "Would it be possible for you to make arrangements for Ms. Diamond to make her report and be interviewed discreetly, outside of her dormitory--perhaps under the auspices of having an appointment with medical? And can a retaliation monitor be engaged at this time?" I am at a loss to understand why you could not provide me with the courtesy of answers to my questions before placing Ms. Diamond in harm's way.

I am equally as perplexed as to why your clients are unwilling to provide a safety plan for Ms. Diamond, engage a retaliation monitor, or otherwise take precautions that would allow Ms. Diamond an opportunity to participate in the PREA process without attracting additional scrutiny from the very people threatening her with harm.

As I expressed in my original email, Ms. Diamond simply requests the opportunity to report her PREAs in a confidential and safe manner. Please let me know what if any precautions your clients are willing to take upfront to prevent further harm and whether a retaliation monitor can be engaged at this time to address her legitimate safety concerns.

Thanks and best,

**Chinyere Ezie**

Senior Staff Attorney

**Center for Constitutional Rights** | Justice takes a fight.

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**From:** Roger Chalmers

**Sent:** Friday, January 28, 2022 4:39 PM

PLAINTIFF'S  
EXHIBIT

**280**

**To:** Chinyere Ezie

**Subject:** Re: Diamond v. Ward: Additional PREA Incidents at Coastal State Prison

I have been told this is being addressed to allow your client to make the report discreetly. Staff will also monitor to make sure there is no retaliation.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 28, 2022, at 3:15 PM, Chinyere Ezie <cezie@ccrjustice.org> wrote:

**CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.**

Thanks Roger.

But please relay to the Warden Ms. Diamond's retaliation concerns.

Given Ms. Diamond's recent labeling as a snitch and the safety threats that ensued, we cannot proceed until we have clarity on the anti-retaliation measures that will be put in place.

Thanks,

Chinyere

**Chinyere Ezie**

Senior Staff Attorney

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**From:** Roger Chalmers

**Sent:** Friday, January 28, 2022 3:00 PM

**To:** Chinyere Ezie

**Subject:** Re: Diamond v. Ward: Additional PREA Incidents at Coastal State Prison

Chinyere, I forwarded your email for follow up by the Warden.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 28, 2022, at 2:24 PM, Chinyere Ezie <cezie@ccrjustice.org> wrote:

**CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.**

Hi Roger,

I write to let you know that unfortunately, our client Ashley Diamond has suffered additional PREA incidents in her dormitory at Coastal State Prison.

Ms. Diamond has spoken to MH personnel at Coastal about these incidents and attempted to make a companion PREA report in writing; however, she was observed while trying to complete her written report and is now being threatened by inmates who have labeled her a snitch.

Ms. Diamond would like the opportunity to complete her PREA report, but her safety remains a paramount concern.

Would it be possible for you to make arrangements for Ms. Diamond to make her report and be interviewed discreetly, outside of her dormitory--perhaps under the auspices of having an appointment with medical? And can a retaliation monitor be engaged at this time?

Thanks and if it would be easier to discuss these matters by telephone, feel free to dial me at the number below.

Best,

Chinyere

**Chinyere Ezie**

Senior Staff Attorney

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