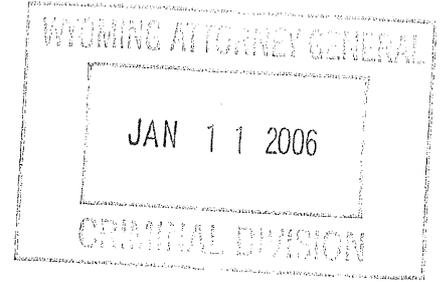
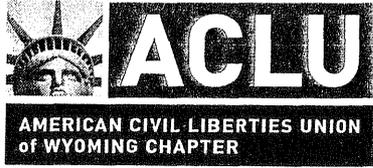


██████████
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



██████████
Senior Assistant Attorney General
Criminal Division
123 Capitol Building
Cheyenne, Wyoming
82002

AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES
UNION OF WYOMING CHAPTER
PO BOX 20706
CHEYENNE, WYOMING 82003
T/307.637.4565
F/307.637.4565
WYOACLU@AOL.COM
WWW.ACLU.ORG
January 10, 2006

Dear ██████████

I have enclosed a copy of my November 15, 2005 letter regarding medical records for inmate ██████████. To date I have received no response.

I also have some grave concerns regarding the recent decision to discontinue providing grievance receipts for inmate grievances. There has been a historical problem with the non-receipt of inmate grievances. This recent change in process seems to be designed to facilitate WDOC officials in their "losing" of grievances as opposed to protecting the rights of inmates to a viable grievance process. I would like you to discuss the rationale for this change and how inmate's rights will be protected. In contested cases how will an inmate prove his submission of a grievance? Please include a copy of the most recent inmate grievance procedure for our review. Thank-you for your attention to these matters.

Thank-you,
██████████
██████████



RECEIVED JAN 30 2006

Office of the Attorney General

Governor
[REDACTED]

Criminal Division
123 Capitol Building
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002
307-777-7977
307-777-5034 Fax

Chief Deputy Attorney General
[REDACTED]

Attorney General
[REDACTED]

Deputy Attorney General
[REDACTED]

January 26, 2006

[REDACTED]
Wyoming Chapter of the ACLU
P.O. Box 20706
Cheyenne, WY 82003

Re: [REDACTED], Wyoming Department of Corrections (WDOC) Grievance
Process [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

I am writing in response to your letter dated January 10, 2006. With regard to your request for the medical records pertaining to [REDACTED], I informed you in my letter of December 5, 2005, that his medical records number forty-eight (48) pages. At the WDOC rate, your bill for these records is \$24.00. Again, please mail the payment to the Department as outlined in that letter, and the records will be forwarded to you.

Concerning your questions regarding the WDOC grievance process, it is true that the WDOC is not currently providing written receipts for inmate grievances at the Wyoming State Penitentiary (WSP). Discontinuing that practice, however, has had little effect on the WDOC's receipt of inmate grievances. The receipts that were previously utilized by staff at the WSP were nothing more than the pod officer signing a document indicating that they received the inmate's grievance, and subsequently furnishing that inmate with a copy of the document. This was only done for informal grievances. There was no number assigned to the document, no acknowledgment of the date of issuance, nor did the document contain a

description of the grievance or any other tracking information. In effect, it was not useful in tracking inmate grievances.

Under the current practice, inmates are to submit their informal grievances by depositing them in a bin provided by staff. There is no information that indicates that any inmate has been unable to file a grievance as a result of discontinuing the practice of providing receipts for grievances. Further, should an informal grievance become lost for whatever reason, that particular inmate would still have the formal grievance process available to them.

I have, however, discussed the current grievance process with Warden [REDACTED] and Deputy Director [REDACTED]. Warden [REDACTED] has informed me that he will permit inmates to refile a grievance if the inmate claims that it was lost by WDOC staff. Deputy [REDACTED] has also indicated that the WDOC is considering implementing a new grievance form, in triplicate, which would provide the inmate with a copy/receipt of their grievance. At the present time, the WDOC will make every effort to provide the inmates with unfettered access to the grievance system. As you requested, I have enclosed the current WDOC grievance policy. You will note that it does not address grievance receipts.

On a different topic, the provision of medical and mental health care was again audited, during the week of January 9, 2006. I anticipate that the written report will be completed in the next several weeks. I will, of course, provide you with a copy, and I will also provide you with information pertaining to the auditors.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Senior Assistant Attorney General

pc: [REDACTED]