

September 6, 2022

To whom it may concern,

I am Sarah McAbee, the wife of Ronald Colton McAbee, DC Offender #378959, and writing on his behalf. It is my understanding that on September 5, 2022, at approximately 11:45 a.m. (ET), an incident occurred involving my husband. It has been reported while Colton was at the medication cart and receiving his medication, Lieutenant FNU Lancaster confronted Colton for not wearing a facemask. As mentioned, Colton was in the process of receiving his medication, which requires the removing of the facemask and him showing he has consumed the medication. It was at this time; Lancaster aggressively approached Colton and began yelling at him. Lancaster then deployed her handheld chemical munitions directing into Colton's face at close range. It has been reported Lancaster intentionally used these chemical agents, several times against Colton, without allowing any time for the agents to begin working and without any provocation by Colton. Since this incident Colton was moved to an area that conveniently had no CCTV monitoring.

It is my allegation Lancaster failed to follow policy in relation to Use of Force and the use of Chemical Munitions and my have violated Colton's Civil Rights Under the Color of Law. In a commonly used Use of Force Model used by nearly all correctional agencies, even if an inmate is passivity resistant and staff member would not be authorized to use chemical munitions. Such use is only authorized/reserved when in inmate is assaultive. From reports that I have received from several sources, this was not the case related to Colton. All indications are Lancaster violated her local policy and presumably violated criminal law by using excessive force against Colton. Lastly, it has been claimed by others, Lancaster has had numerous other allegations against her in relation to her treatment of the January 6<sup>th</sup> detainees and has been restricted by the local management from being in the area in question.

I respectfully request this incident be reviewed by your office. Although being housed within the DC Jail System, Colton is a federal detainee and under your purview. It is my hope that the facility account of the incident is not solely used as an accurate account of the incident. It is my hope the photographic evidence of Colton's injuries, interview of Colton, and CCTV footage of the area be reviewed and well as interviews of other offenders who witnessed the incident be considered.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Sarah McAbee

