

Dear Karen Humes:

I am writing regarding the continued practice of counting prison population at the place of incarceration rather than the home residence where they lived upon committing the crime that created their reason for temporary confinement at what is referred to as the "Grey-Bar Motel." This practice places an unbalanced voting power to districts containing prisons. Having served as District 28 Councilman for the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County, I have seen this impact first hand.

As Councilman, the "population" of the prison impacted the ability to keep neighborhoods together during redistricting. From a voting rights standpoint, in a district of only 16,000 to 18,000, when 2000 of those are incarcerated, temporary, and generally unable to participate in the community or voting, it give the actual residents an 11% to 12.5% voting advantage over other district. This should be corrected.

I ask that future Census efforts avoid this practice.

Respectfully,
Duane Dominy

District 28 Councilman: RETIRED