

Governor Ron DeSantis  
State of Florida - The Capitol  
400 S. Monroe St.  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

Dear Governor DeSantis,

Congratulations on your election as Florida's governor! I wish you every success, and I'm confident that under your leadership that Florida will continue to grow and prosper.

However there is one issue of great importance that I would like to bring to your attention: the case of Terry Trussell, the 75-year old Vietnam War veteran who is being held in a Florida prison for what I consider to be false and excessive charges. I'd like to request commutation of sentence, clemency, restoration of all civil rights, and his immediate release.

Terry Trussell (D.O.C. #115405) was convicted of five third-degree felonies; 2 counts "impersonating a public official," himself a Grand Jury foreman; 2 counts "Simulating Legal Process"; and 1 count "Harassment of a public official."

Trussell's verdict was issued by a "Packed Jury." His direct appeal resulted in a very strong dissenting opinion which is currently in review before the Florida Supreme Court. Mr. Trussell's "crimes" were non-violent, over-broadly construed by the state and not supported by evidence or testimony. The facts of the case are that Terry Trussell, a duly-seated and court appointed Statutory Grand Jury Foreman, attempted to present allegations of official misconduct to his Grand Jury, (§905.20). His effort was thwarted by the State Attorney, and his request for advice from the court was ignored. (§905.18).

Terry Trussell's conviction and his 8-3/4 years sentence is a manifest injustice, especially considering his lifelong record of community service and his having never had any negative involvement with the law or courts. He simply tried to honor his oath to God and fulfill his duty.

Governor DeSantis, Terry's ordeal began in 2014. Terry Trussell and his wife (of almost 53 years), have only sought justice in this matter. He has five more years to serve, if justice is not to be had in his case. The Trussells are committed to fight this travesty until justice prevails.

Governor DeSantis, I respectfully request that you, and the State of Florida Board of Clemency, take immediate action to review this case and these charges against Mister Terry Trussell and issue an immediate commutation of sentence and complete clemency, and the immediate release of this US Vietnam War veteran.

Subject Contact Data: Terry George Trussell, 115405; Union Correctional Institute; PO Box 1000; Raiford, FL. 32083; Executive Board case number, 415412

Sincerely,