

# STATEMENT

**Figures Was A Top Advisor To A Program That Allowed All Federal Prisoners, No Matter How Heinous Their Crime, To Apply To Be Released Early From Prison. It Was Blasted For Being Poorly Planned And Implemented.**

## *Verification*

### **Figures Was Involved With Obama's Clemency Initiative Program**

**Figures Was Tasked With Updating Leadership Of The Clemency Initiative Program.**

"The position also comes with compelling responsibilities. Figures has been tasked with updating senior leadership about the status of the Clemency Initiative, a program announced in 2014 by former Deputy Attorney General James M. Cole that prioritizes the clemency applications of non-violent, low-level offenders with no significant criminal history or ties to large scale criminal organizations, and who have served at least 10 years in federal prison and who, by virtue of changes in law, would have likely received a substantially lower sentence today if convicted of the same crime." ("Shomari Figures: Serving the Nation," [Alabama Law](#), 12/9/16)

### **The Clemency Program Worked To Lower Sentences For Criminals, 33 Recipients Also Had Illegal Gun Charges**

**Figures "Helps Implement" "Eradicating The Effects Of Harsh Sentencing Laws Of The War On Drugs."**

"Figures communicates with the Office of the Pardon Attorney and helps implement one of President Barack Obama's primary goals: eradicating the effects of the harsh sentencing laws of the 'war on drugs.'" ("Shomari Figures: Serving the Nation," [Alabama Law](#), 12/9/16)

**In 2016, After A Round Of Commutations, Senator Shelby's Office Found 33 Recipients Of Clemency Also Had Illegal Gun Charges.**

"Senator Richard Shelby's office (R-AL) researched the list of criminals Obama has released thus far, they found a surprising statistic: 33 of them were convicted on at least one gun related offense. Despite calling for increased gun control during the course of his administration, the President's actions will put two felons convicted of gun related drug crime back on the streets of Alabama." (Jordan LaPorta, "Check out the rap sheet on the two Alabama crack dealers Obama just let out of prison," [Yellow Hammer](#), 4/1/16)

### **The Clemency Program Was Blasted In A IG Report For Being "Poorly Planned And Not Implemented Properly"**

**The Clemency Program Was "Riddled With Poor Planning, "Including Possibly Not Reviewing All Petitions Consistently."**

"A clemency initiative that was begun by President Barack Obama and aimed at commuting or reducing sentences for federal inmates who do not pose a threat to public safety was riddled with poor planning, including possibly not reviewing all petitions consistently, a government watchdog has found.

**A Inspector General Report Of The Program Found It Was "Poorly Planned And Not Implemented Properly."**

"A report from the Justice Department inspector general, released on Wednesday, found that the initiative was poorly planned and not implemented properly because of a "philosophical difference" between the Office of the Deputy Attorney General and the Office of the Pardon Attorney, in addition to what it said was a lack of communication."

**A Survey For Potential Clemency Petitioners Was Supposed To Be Sent To Inmates Who Met Six Necessary Criteria But Was Instead Sent To Every Inmate.**

"A survey for potential clemency petitioners also wasn't implemented correctly, the report said. The survey was for inmates who met all six of the necessary criteria, but instead the survey was sent to every federal inmate. The criteria involved currently serving a federal sentence in prison; being a nonviolent, low-level offender without ties to gangs or cartels; having served at least 10 years of the original sentence; not having a significant criminal history; demonstrating good conduct in prison; and having no

history of violence before the sentence.” (Rebecca Morin, “DOJ finds ‘several shortcomings’ in Obama-era clemency program,” [Politico](#), 8/2/18)

**The Mistake Allowed For Inmates Who Did Not Meet The Specifications To Be Considered.** “The Office of the Deputy Attorney General and the Office of the Pardon Attorney did not see eye to eye on the criteria, causing inmates who did not meet the specifications to be considered, the report found. The pardon attorney viewed the criteria “as subjective even after being advised” that the deputy attorney general “was applying the criteria strictly,” the report said.” (Rebecca Morin, “DOJ finds ‘several shortcomings’ in Obama-era clemency program,” [Politico](#), 8/2/18)