

**Name:** Thomas Rogers

**Title:**

**Organization or Agency:**

**Topic:** Meeting Date Not Listed

NA

**Testimony:**

My name is Thomas Rogers #200260. I've been incarcerated for over (31) years. Today I would like to address an issue I believe is important and necessary to address. That is the Inmate Legal Assistance Program called ILAP! This program was put in place over (29) years ago to help inmates. It was designed to help inmates not with legal representation or appearances in court, rather to assist with drafting papers, help with typing legal forms or motions, divorce, copies and other things which are important to inmates at the time of need.

The problem is in the 29 years this program been in place it's been a waste of money! The state pay a large sum of dollars and this program has become a subsidies for these law firms who get the contract! They take the money and do little to know work. Example: I needed a copy of a case law to quote in some legal matters. I asked for a copy, which we are entitled to three free copies a month. I was outsourced to Torrington Public Library and charged. Another example, my cellmate had an appeal and asked this office to type it up because they are supposed to assist with drafting legal documents. They said yes then a week before his Appellate hearing they returned his papers and said they were not assisting him. I haven't in all my time being incarcerated seen this office do anything good or positive for any inmates!

My solution to that is eliminate this service and provide inmates with West Law on our Tablets due to the fact CT do not have law libraries. This service would benefit inmates more and get more value of the State dollar at a less price .....Thank you and appreciate anyone who hears my words! I also have my receipt from the library to prove they are outsourcing!