

PATRICIA Z. JONES
JIMMEY L. JONES, SR.

SUNSET COMMISSION:

WE MOVED HERE AFTER KATRINA AND RESIDE IN RICHMOND. WE MOVED OUR SON, JIMMEY L. JONES, JR., FROM NEW ORLEANS TO THE RICHMOND STATE SUPPORT LIVING CENTER IN NOVEMBER , 2006.. JIMMEY IS AUTISTIC ALONG WITH RETARDATION. HE DOES NOT READ NOR WRITE.

HE HAS BEEN DOING EXTREMELY WELL AT THIS FACILITY. AS PARENTS OF A MENTALLY CHALLENGED SON WHO NEEDS SUPERVISION TWENTY-FOUR HOURS A DAY, SEVEN DAYS A WEEK , WE FEEL THAT MOVING HIM FROM THE FACILITY IN RICHMOND TO A GROUP HOME IS INDEED NOT IN THE BEST INTEREST OF JIMMEY. TAKING JIMMEY FROM FAMILIAR SURROUNDINGS AND FAMILIAR FACES IS NOT GOOD FOR HIM.

HIS DAD HAS CANCER AND IS A PATIENT AT M.D. ANDERSON IN HOUSTON AND I AM HAVING A HIP REPLACEMENT SOON. AS WE AGE, WE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE THE SATISFACTION OF KNOWING THAT JIMMEY WILL BE TAKEN CARE OF IN FAMILIAR SURROUNDINGS. THE TIME WILL COME THAT WE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO PICK HIM UP FOR HOME VISITS AND HOLIDAYS.

EVEN THOUGH HE DOES NOT SPEAK, WE KNOW THAT HE RECOGNIZES THE STAFF AND THE OTHER RESIDENTS. ALSO, RSSLC HAS INSTITUTED A CATHOLIC SERVICE EVERY MONDAY AND JIMMEY IS ABLE TO RECEIVE THE HOLY EUCHARIST. THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT TO US.

IN NEW ORLEANS, WHILE AT MAGNOLIA STATE SCHOOL, JIMMEY HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO LIVE IN A GROUP HOME SETTING. WE DECIDED TO TRY IT BUT WERE VERY DISAPPOINTED IN THE CARE.

WHEN YOU CAST YOUR VOTE, PLEASE THINK OF THESE RESIDENTS AND PARENTS WHO HAVE TO DEAL WITH VERY DIFFICULT DECISIONS. IF YOU YOURSELF DO NOT HAVE A MENTALLY CHALLENGED AND/OR PHYSICALLY DISABLED CHILD, PLEASE SPEAK TO SOMEONE YOU KNOW PERSONALLY WHO HAS ONE AND LISTEN TO THEM. PLEASE PRAY ABOUT THIS MATTER BEFORE CASTING YOUR VOTE.

RESPECTFULLY,
JIMMEY AND PATRICIA JONES

Jimmeey Jones Sr.
Patricia Jones