

**PRISONERS
ARE PEOPLE TOO!**

To deny their humanity,
is to deny our own.

Karima Amin
Founder/Executive Director

George Baba Eng
Director of Programs

04-02-12

Dear County Legislators:

This letter is being written to ask that you consider **Rev. Eugene L. Pierce** for reappointment to the Erie County Community Corrections Advisory Board. I feel that Rev. Pierce is ideally suited for this position as he has:

- done an exceptional job as the Advisory Board's Co-Chair;
- served as a valued member of Prisoners Are People Too, Inc.
and the Erie County Prisoners Rights Coalition for several
years;
- developed tremendous insight, as the Erie County Correctional
Facility's Deputy Superintendent.

Additionally, as Executive Director of WNY Outreach Ministries, Inc., he is viewed as a respected and able community member. Rev. Pierce has been recognized by the ECCAB for his experience and expertise. He can be reached at: 68 West Toulon Dr., Cheektowaga, NY 14227; (h) 716-668-6824 and (c) 716-361-6845; eugenepierce@verizon.net.

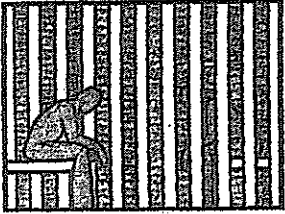
Sincerely,

Karima Amin

Prisoners Are People Too!
P. O. Box 273
Buffalo, NY 14212
716-834-8438

PS

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Director of Programs

04-02-12

Dear County Legislators:

Please accept this two-page document as an addendum to my letter requesting that Rev. Eugene L. Pierce be reappointed to the Erie County Community Corrections Advisory Board.

Rev. Pierce has an extensive resume (8 pages!) so I have elected to share some of the highlights. He has provided fifty-six years of community service in support of civil rights, human rights, and social justice.

- Reverend Pierce was drafted into the US Army in 1958 and served honorably for six years. After discharge from active duty he joined the New York National Guard and Army Reserve where he served for fifteen years as a Senior Military Police Confinement Sergeant.
- He earned a Bachelor of Science Degree from Buffalo State College in Criminal Justice and a Master's of Arts Degree from the University of Buffalo in American Studies.
- Reverend Pierce founded the B.U.I.L.D. Halfway House in 1974, with assistance from the B.U.I.L.D. Organization. He served as Director from the time of its establishment until 1977, when he resigned as Director, to return from a leave of absence to the Bethlehem Steel Company, where he was employed as a Patrolman in the Plant Protection Department. He was the first African American to be elected President of DALU 2332, AFL-CIO. The new Board of Directors for the B.U.I.L.D. Halfway House was formed in 1979 and Reverend Pierce was elected President/Treasurer of the Board. He served in this capacity until 2004.
- Reverend Pierce was employed as the Deputy Superintendent of the Erie County Correctional Facility from 1984 until 1997. He was the first African American to be appointed Commissioner of the Erie County Conditional Release Commission. There are those who still refer to his tenure as a time when just, fair, professional, and humane

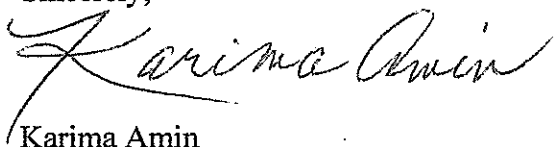
treatment were the order of the day.

- Reverend Pierce's memberships include: Buffalo State Alumni Association, University of Buffalo Alumni Association, Saint John Lodge-Free and Accepted Mason, Disabled American Veterans Association, Black Leadership Forum, United States Coast Guard Auxiliary, Prisoners Are People Too, Inc., and Erie County Prisoners Rights Coalition.

- His awards include: Unsung Hero, Stop The Violence Coalition, Inc.; Outstanding Community Service, Back to Basics Outreach Ministries, Inc.; Award of Excellence, GROUP Ministries, Inc.; Outstanding Community Service, Southern Christian Leadership Conference Western New York Chapter; Black Achiever In Industry, 1490 Jefferson, Inc.; Labor Unionist of the Year, AFL-CIO; Community Service, NAACP, Buffalo Branch; Martin Luther King, Jr. Award, Inner City, Martin Luther King Foundation; Boy Scout Leader of the Year, Cub Scout Pack 618, Cheektowaga, New York; Public Servant of the Week, Buffalo Courier Express Newspaper; Community Service Award, B.U.I.L.D. of Buffalo, Inc.; Special Achievement Award, Buffalo Club of the National Negro Business and Professional Women's Club; Civil Rights, NAACP, Buffalo Branch.

- Reverend Pierce is Director of the Western New York Outreach Ministries; Chaplain of the Disabled American veterans, Chapter #203; and the Publications Staff Officer of Flotilla 33, U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, Department of Homeland Security.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Karima Amin". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Karima Amin