

Amber Nickerson
March 19, 2025

Opposition to the Appointment of Daniel Caruthers to the Alaska Police Standards Council

Dear Members of the Alaska State Legislature Senate Judiciary,

I am writing to formally **oppose** the appointment of Daniel Caruthers to the Alaska Police Standards Council. My opposition is based on my personal experience with Mr. Caruthers during my incarceration at Lemon Creek Correctional Center (LCCC) in Juneau, Alaska from 1996 to 1997, where I suffered serious harm under his authority. Mr. Caruthers was the superintendent at LCCC.

While incarcerated at LCCC, I was subjected to sexual abuse by a correctional officer, Officer Ackerman. When I reported this abuse to Mr. Caruthers and Mr. Kidd, the assistant superintendent, rather than ensuring my safety or investigating my claims, I was retaliated against. Caruthers chose to place me in segregation and transferred me to Wildwood Correctional Center. This was because, during this time, another inmate, Jamie Huff, and I sought legal representation from an attorney in Anchorage to pursue a lawsuit regarding the sexual abuse we endured. In response, both Jamie and I were transferred to different facilities, further isolating us and obstructing our efforts for justice.

The emotional distress I suffered from being silenced and punished for speaking out against sexual abuse was severe and lasting. Instead of fulfilling his duty to protect incarcerated individuals, Mr. Caruthers facilitated retaliation against those who reported misconduct, reinforcing a culture of fear and impunity within the correctional system. His actions demonstrated a clear disregard for ethical standards and the well-being of those in custody.

Given my firsthand experience, I strongly urge you to reconsider his appointment to the Alaska Police Standards Council. A person who fails to uphold fundamental principles of justice and accountability within the correctional system should not be entrusted with oversight of police standards in Alaska.

I appreciate your time and consideration in this matter. Please do not hesitate to contact me for further details regarding my experience.

Sincerely,

Amber Nickerson