

# **IF YOU WERE STRIP SEARCHED AT A MIAMI-DADE JAIL BETWEEN MARCH 5, 2000, AND FEBRUARY 28, 2005 YOU MAY BE ENTITLED TO MONEY UNDER A CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT**

There is a proposed Settlement of a Class Action lawsuit, *Haney, et al. v. Miami-Dade County, et al.*, Case No. 04-205, pending in the U.S. District Court, S.D. Florida, Miami. The lawsuit concerns the strip search policy and practices of the Miami-Dade County Corrections and Rehabilitations Department.

## **What is the Litigation About?**

Plaintiffs alleged that Defendants violated various federal and state laws by strip searching certain persons at the Miami-Dade Pre-Trial Detention Center and the Women's Detention Center between March 5, 2000, and February 28, 2005.

## **Who is Involved?**

You may be a member of the Settlement Class if you were strip searched at the Pre-Trial Detention Center or the Women's Detention Center prior to first appearance between March 5, 2000, and February 28, 2005. To see if you qualify for a payment you should check the website or call the toll free number below.

## **What are the Terms?**

If you are a female who was arrested on a charge relating to prostitution or a misdemeanor charge not involving violence, drugs, or weapons, you will be entitled to a minimum payment of \$1,000 (One Thousand Dollars), and as much as \$3,000 (Three Thousand Dollars) depending on your age and other factors, for each illegal strip search subject to your payment being reduced by 50% if you had previously served a term in a state prison.

If you were arrested on a felony or a non-felony charge involving violence, drugs or weapons and were strip searched prior to first appearance you will be entitled to receive a payment of \$10 (Ten Dollars).

Up to \$4.55 Million will be available to satisfy claims under this settlement subject to payments being proportionately reduced if the total value of verified claims exceeds \$4.55 million. Class Counsel will apply to the Court for an agreed fee of \$1 Million plus up to \$100,000 (One Hundred Thousand Dollars) for reimbursement for actual expenses. Representative plaintiffs will collectively share \$300,000 (Three Hundred Thousand Dollars), and \$300,000 (Three Hundred Thousand Dollars) will be reserved for Claim Administrator expenses, for a possible total of \$6.25 Million.

For more information or to receive a claim form, consult the website or call the toll free number below.

## **What are My Legal Rights?**

If you wish to share in the Settlement Fund you must file a claim as discussed below. If the Court approves the Proposed Settlement, you will receive a payment if you qualify. You will also be bound by all of the Court's orders. This means you will drop any claims you may have against the Defendants covered by this Settlement.

If you wish to file a claim you must complete a Claim Form. You can get a Claim Form by contacting the Claims Administrators, in writing, at the address or website given below, or by calling the toll free number. Claim Forms must be signed and post-marked no later than September 1, 2005.

If you do not wish to be a member of the Settlement Class, you must sign a Request for Exclusion letter as outlined in the Stipulation of Settlement and Notice which you can download from the website or get from the Claims Administrator. Your Request for Exclusion must be filed with the Court no later than September 1, 2005.

## **When Will the Settlement be Approved?**

The U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Florida will hold a Fairness Hearing to decide if the proposed settlement is fair, reasonable and adequate at 10:00 a.m. on September 23, 2005, at the U.S. District Court, 301 North Miami Avenue, 8th Floor Courtroom, Miami, Florida 33128. At the hearing the Court will also consider whether Class Counsel's request for attorneys' fees and costs are fair, reasonable, and adequate.

If you remain a member of the Settlement Class you or your counsel have the right to appear before the Court and to object to the Settlement. However, in order to object, you must file a written objection, as outlined in the Stipulation of Settlement. Objections must be filed with the Court by September 1, 2005.

**FOR INFORMATION ON THE PROPOSED SETTLEMENT, YOUR RIGHTS, AND A COPY OF THE NOTICE: Visit: [www.MiamiStripSearch.com](http://www.MiamiStripSearch.com) or Call Toll Free: 1-877-43-STRIP (877-437-8747) or Write: Haney, et al. Strip Search Class Action, c/o Claims Administrator, P.O. Box 11190, Tallahassee, Florida 32302-3190.**

**PLEASE DO NOT CALL THE COURT**