

## JOSEPH RODNEY DOLE II

Mr. Dole is currently serving a life-without-parole sentence after being wrongfully convicted. He continues to fight that conviction pro se. He has been continuously incarcerated since 1998. He spent nearly a decade of his life in the notorious Tamms Supermax Prison in complete isolation. Tamms was shuttered in 2012 after an intense campaign by human rights groups, and the families and friends of prisoners who were confined and tortured there. His first essay, which won him first place in a prison writing contest, was included in the book "Lockdown Prison Heart" (iUniverse, Inc., 2004). Since then he has written a number of articles, essays, poems, research papers, and proposals, two of the latter which were catalysts for Illinois legislation (a bill and a resolution). He has won four different PEN America Writing Awards for Prisoners; and is currently seeking outside assistance to publish a book-length essay and his prison journals via CreateSpace. He has been published in Stateville Speaks Newsletter, Prison Legal News, The Journal of Prisoners on Prisons (Vol. 20, No. 2, 2010), Graterfriends Newsletter, The Insider Magazine, The Mississippi Review, The Public I Newspaper, as well as numerous places on-line such as [www.realcostsofprisons.org](http://www.realcostsofprisons.org) and [SolitaryWatch.com](http://SolitaryWatch.com). Most recently an essay of his was included in the anthology "Too Cruel, Not Unusual Enough" ([www.theotherdeathpenalty.org](http://www.theotherdeathpenalty.org)).

Mr. Dole is both a jailhouse journalist and jailhouse lawyer, as well as a government watchdog concerning the Freedom of Information Act in Illinois. He has educated himself by taking dozens of correspondence courses and reading hundreds of books. Due to a deficiency in funding he has been unable to continue pursuing his degree at Ohio University.

You can contact Mr. Dole via snail mail at the following address, and he will respond to all letters he receives:

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