afraid to tell us what's going on, which I notice is a large difference.

The code of silence in Massachusetts, it's taking a long time. I think that is improving. In the cases that I was involved with, we were forced to have some of the staff members testify. They did. They did willingly. And I would say that ten years ago when I first started doing internal investigations that would not have occurred.

Thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you also very much.

You mentioned the code of silence. Do you think that internal investigative bodies can be adversely affected in that same regard?

MR. SAUCIER: I would say they could be, yes.

THE CHAIRMAN: Well, I'm going to briefly interrupt the questioning of you since we are fortunate to have Congressman Conyers here. This is his district and we, obviously, welcome his presence. He's a long-term member of Congress.

And, Congressman, would you like to come forward
and make a statement?

As you know, we are investigating, looking at the problem of prison rape both at the federal, state and local level. And I know as a long-term civil rights advocate that you would have a profound concern about this issue also. So, if you'd like to make a statement, we'd be happy to hear from you.

CONGRESSMAN CONYERS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I've asked the apologies of the witnesses that are in front of you to proceed for just a few moments. I first of all just wanted to welcome you all to the Federal Court for the Eastern District of Michigan. The irony of a member of Congress being able to have his office here is an honor that I have always valued very much. And as a result of the riots that burned down my building, I was allowed to come here. And then I was allowed to stay up until now and it's on the condition of good behavior. And I think so far it's working out very fine.