

# ERIK A. COOPER

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July 30, 2009

Honorable President Barack Obama  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, North West  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Obama:

Would you like to have a beer?

Today, you hosted Harvard University professor Henry Gates, Jr. and Cambridge Police Department sergeant James Crowley at the White House for beers to settle a dispute regarding Gates' false arrest and your comment stating that the "Cambridge police acted stupidly."

On December 20, 2002, my civil rights were violated when my home was raided by Gwinnett County (Georgia) police officers who seized my two foster children and arrested me on false allegations of calling one of my children "stupid". There was never any instance of calling a child "stupid", but rather, the police responded to the instructions of Gwinnett County District Attorney Danny Porter who, together with other state officials, sought to destroy my litigation efforts pending in superior court to adopt four brothers so they could be kept together. My challenge of the state's authority governing the adoption of foster children risked millions of dollars states receive annually in federal subsidies. As a result, the state went to extreme lengths to stop my adoption, ultimately accusing me of nine counts of child molestation. I was brought to trial and acquitted on all counts.

Mr. Porter continues his reign of terror violating the civil rights of citizens and destroying families. Perhaps we could meet with you over a couple of beers and finally make amends.

Respectfully, I am

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Erik A. Cooper', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Erik A. Cooper