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Ex-SC executioners: Prisons director defamed them

The Associated Press

Two former state employees have sued the director of South Carolina's prisons department, saying he defamed them in a letter about their disability benefits.

WLTX-TV reported Saturday that Ira Baxley and Terry Bracey are seeking up to \$10 million in damages against Corrections Director Jon Ozmint.

Baxley and Bracey accuse Ozmint of telling the director of the state's retirement system in a letter that their claims for disability were false.

The lawsuit says the letter was also sent to Gov. Mark Sanford and two state lawmakers.

In 2007, Baxley and Bracey filed a federal lawsuit against Ozmint, saying they were forced to perform executions in order to keep leadership positions. That case is ongoing.

Information from: WLTX-TV, <http://www.wltx.com>

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