

Friday, December 22, 2006

**Beware snitches.**

This follows up on my previous railings against the legalized snitch bribery system. Grits for Breakfast has discussed the topic many times, as well. Here is a disturbingly sobering video about 15% of Hearne, Texas's young black males arrested in 2000 on drug charges made on reliance of the snitch evidence of a "schizophrenic, cocaine-addicted, criminal-turned-informant" who later confirmed he provided fabricated information. Sadly, although the prosecutor dismissed then-pending charges that relied on the informant's information, it refused to help reverse convictions of people who had already entered guilty pleas from such fabricated evidence. These were guilty pleas entered under the real risk of much harsher sentences if wrongfully convicted at trial upon such lies from the informant. Jon Katz.

Posted by Jon Katz in Criminal Defense at 00:00