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Title: Community Outreach Fellow
Organization or Agency: The Coalition
Topic: Meeting Date Not Listed
NA

Testimony:

Testimonial for Advisory Committee Hearing

Given the anticipated time limitations I provide bullet points of factual events and the reality of incarceration in Conn under the officials of the Conn DOC:

----- CELL CONFINEMENT -----

1. I have been permanently confined in solitary on Special Needs status in the Walker RHU since my return to Conn from an out of state placement in June 2025, (and previously so confined since 2019). I am denied all human contact and out of cell time and rec. I have been confined to the cell 23 and a half hrs per day every day since June 2025 and am allowed out of the cell only for a 15-30 minute shower daily. This is even more egregious as I have significant mental illness and also receive no treatment;
2. There is no meaningful review of this treatment and the DOC Administration intend to confine me this way permanently;

----- LOCKDOWNS -----

3. Facility personnel continue to subject us to lockdowns constantly for weekly training twice a week or claiming (falsely) that they are understaffed. This occurs every weekend and every holiday or major sporting event. Interestingly, when these lockdowns for understaffing occurs, groups of dozens of officers roam the building engaging in socializing with their coworkers or having food parties and cook outs. I have personally preserved dozens of video footage of such incidents;

----- MEDICAL CARE -----

4. I have been diagnosed with Spondylosis/Degenerative Disc Disease of the C-5 and C-6, and have been "on the list" to see a doctor for over a year and never seen anyone. I have never received a physical in 20 years of confinement. I have not been seen by a dentist since 2014, despite AD requiring annual dental checks. I have other conditions that constitute disabilities under the ADA and receive no treatment or accommodations. All treatment I request is denied to me by DOC staff intentionally and wilfully;
5. Medical and Mental Health DOC personnel at Walker believe their only job is administer medication and to tour daily so a camera observes them walking about. They make no meaningful interaction or wellness checks, ignore inmates complaints and requests for treatment and refuse to provide any meaningful treatment. I have personally preserved dozens of video footage of mental health staff touring without any interaction or wellness check, and several audio recorded phone calls of mental health and medical ignoring pleas for treatment, or mocking those pleas;

PROTECT ACT VIOLATIONS

6. Officials at MWCI have completely disregarded the PROTECT ACT and violate it daily. There is no consideration for any alternative to segregation placements for inmates. Inmates remain in Seg longer than ever and past their sentenced seg time with no legitimate purpose or cause. There is no objective reasoning for disciplinary seg sentences, inmates are sentenced to 5 days regardless of the infraction and spend 7-10 days in seg. There is next to no reading material provided. There is no writing utensils or envelopes provided at all. Any audit of the MWCI seg housing will demonstrate severe and egregious violations. Additionally, conditions in the RHU are not the least restrictive necessary, gen.pop. inmates in seg are improperly subjected to strip searches and pat searches prior to exiting their cells and full restraints (cuffed behind, shackled and tethered), these are level 5 Admin.Seg. restrictions being imposed arbitrarily and excessively in direct violation of DOCs own policies;

CONDITIONS OF CONFINEMENT

7. My personal conditions include, but are not limited to: 24 hr cell confinement and complete solitary confinement: being subjected to demeaning and dehumanizing strip searches every single time I exit the cell; full restraints when I exit the cell; a filthy inhumane and unsafe shower filled with lead paint and black mold with the roof falling in (I note all showers in Walker were refurbished except the RHU showers which Administrators intentionally kept inhumane to torture inmates); lack of any hot water in the unit as Admin had maintenance turn off hot water to the RHU; lack of ventilation; Administrators have modified my cell door with rubber stripping to deny air flow and ability to communicate; Administrators have issued orders to staff via memo that they are not allowed to speak to me; denial of all religious services and freedoms; denial of any ability or opportunity for exercise; denial of any activity of any kind. Additionally, these conditions have been imposed on me without due process, I am not Admin.Seg. and have been incident free and free of major disciplinary issue since June 2025;

RETALIATIONS

8. Retaliation for any grievance, complaint or report are pandemic. Further, Grievance staff are charged by administrators to obstruct the grievance process to impede inmates ability to seek meaningful relief or exhaust to pursue litigation. These officials are routinely promoted as reward for their obstructive conducts;

OFFICIAL NOTICE and INACTIONS

9. The Correctional Ombudsman's Office has not made any meaningful impact on these egregious conducts. Instead he turns a blind eye to these issues, intentionally refuses to enter these RHU's and permits the DOC continue in their systemic torture and abuse through solitary. Instead he continues to use his time to appear on TV and tout himself as a hero while he and his office ignore these issues they have been notified of;

10. Every DOC official and admin. is fully aware of all these issues and intentionally encourages them.