

July 20th 2026

Joint Committee on Judiciary
Legislative Office Building, Room 2500
Hartford CT 06106

Dear Committee,

I feel compelled to write this letter for the upcoming hearing being held on July 30th 2026. My time in the D.O.C has been mixed with emotions. Overall my time at Brooklyn Correctional Institute was favorable, I worked in the kitchen. The conditions of the facility was favorable, The counselors there would address the needs of the inmates, We received 2 recs a day there up to the time I was transferred in the fall of 2025.

I was transferred to Carl Robinson to take a Key program that I needed on my OAP, I was reluctant to transfer from Brooklyn but I felt transferring to take this program would be in my best interest to returning back to my family & society, I completed a 6 month long program called Track 1 this past Spring. On my OAP I also have to take a program called "New Thoughts", I am eligible for parole this October & still on a wait list for this program, I have written staff all over Carl Robinson & receive the same reply, "You are on the wait list", I am used to facilities prioritizing those inmates

who are close to parole. From the stories I hear from countless inmates is that they are being denied parole for lack of programming & are prioritized only after being denied parole. I have been down roughly $3\frac{1}{2}$ years on a 8 years flat sentence on 50% charge. I have taken an elective Cognitive Behavior Therapy through Mental Health that I reached out for, along with taking ~~the~~ 6 month long Track 1 program that we met twice per week & had to read out loud our personal biography to the group, I have worked multiple jobs from Tier man, & Kitchen worker to Visiting Room janitor @ Carl Robinson & have remained Ticket free. I feel there is a lack of rehabilitation for multiple reasons, from a lack of staff, poor planning & too many inmates needing the same program. Also why can't we take programs on our tablets? Most inmates are in favor of having more opportunities, not less. So I am keeping my fingers crossed that when I go before the parole board this won't be held against me & delay me being reunited with my family.

Next I would like to voice my concerns about overall lack of treatment for medical. Over 2 years I have been waiting for an colonoscopy. I am 53 years old & never had one. I wrote for a physical & also a teeth cleaning & also on wait list. As well as with a eye appointment, I believe possibly I will be called but when? Will I still be here then?

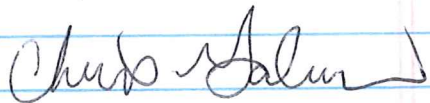
I also would like to talk about the lack of recreation sometimes, often times the

weight room will be cancelled because the COs who are scheduled to work there are used for ambulance trips. This happens a lot. An ambulance is called & now the weight room is cancelled. Other times we are put on modified lockdowns usually on weekends & holidays. This is due to insufficient staff & we lose out on our recreation time. There are studies that show working out & especially weight training is good for our mental health as well.

Lastly I would like to discuss the cafeteria. The portions are often small especially the main course. We are also not given all the items that are supposed to be on the tray. Since I have worked in the kitchen before I know what the proper portions should look like. We aren't being given the proper amount of time to eat before we are told to hurry up. I believe we are supposed to be given 20 minutes. Often times we are being told to hurry up after being seated for 5-6 minutes & only half the tray has been consumed.

I would like to say thank you for being given an opportunity to voice my concerns. I am hopeful that my letter will be ~~read~~ read & that real change can happen in the D.O.C regardless if I am still here or not.

Sincerely & God Bless,

Chris Galvin 
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