



POST OFFICE BOX 110034 BROOKLYN, NEW YORK 11211

Updates for September 29th

15 Sept - Update regarding Eric King's mail being rejected!

The CCA Leavenworth mailroom has been blocking some of Eric's incoming mail, censoring publications for ridiculous reasons (or for no stated reason at all), and even blocking some of his outgoing mail.

MORE:

Recently, a book about the Black Panthers was rejected because the prison evidently considers them a "hate group." Around that same time, right-wing Christian literature with homophobic rhetoric made it through to another prisoner. Eric is clearly being targeted for his political beliefs and interests.

If you have been writing to Eric and have not heard back from him, it is very possible that he has not received your letters or you have not received his. The prison (and the state apparatus of which it is a part) is trying to isolate Eric from his supporters. We can't let them do this.

Please help by:

***Writing Eric so many letters! Please flood the prison with mail/letters/cards/love. This can serve the dual purpose of overwhelming the prison mailroom and helping Eric remember that he's not alone. Keep track of what you sent to Eric and when you sent it so you can check with him later or call the prison to inquire about why your mail was blocked.

You can write to him at:

Eric King 27090045

CCA Leavenworth

100 Highway Terrace

Leavenworth, Kansas 66048

***Checking the support site <<https://supportericking.wordpress.com>> often. If this harassment continues, we will be taking other measures to ensure this censorship stops immediately. CCA has been sued in the past for censoring mail and violating prisoners' constitutional rights, so they know as well as we do that what they're doing is wrong.

Please spread the word and help put the spotlight on CCA's draconian mailroom practices. Prisons greatly prefer to function outside the public eye where they can torture, abuse, neglect and isolate prisoners without consequences. Don't let them get away with that this time. Send Eric a letter or card today!

September 19th - Midwest banner drops for imprisoned anarchist Eric King

On September 16, 2014, Eric G. King, was arrested and charged with an attempted firebombing of a government official's office in Kansas City, Missouri. Eric allegedly threw a hammer through a window of the building and then two lit bottles, though both failed to ignite. Eric faces a federal life sentence if found guilty at his trial on October 28 2015.

On the eve of Eric's first year in pre-trial state captivity, his support group got word about the prison censoring and rejecting his mail.

To mark the year since Eric was stolen by the state, the Kansas City, Missouri Anarchist Black Cross and the Omaha, Nebraska Anarchist Black Cross dropped banners in solidarity.

September 23rd - Action Needed Now: Don't Let CCA Censor Eric King's Mail!

As folks know, Eric's mail is being censored and political letters and literature are being rejected. It is important to keep the pressure on CCA Leavenworth to stop censoring Eric's mail.

According to Warden Isaac Johnston, it is up to the guards to use discretion in deciding which groups can be labeled as hate groups and have their correspondence rejected. This means that mailroom employees can use their own political ideology to decide what mail to allow and what to block.

Unfortunately, due to CCA being a for-profit contractor, they are not held by the same rules as state and federal prisons. Yet there is a very short list of regulations that CCA has to follow in regards to mail and one is that both incoming and outgoing mail must be held for no longer than 24 hours.

Since being incarcerated, Eric has had both incoming and outgoing mail held for way longer than is dictated according to the "Performance-Based Detention Standards." On September 15th, for example, the mailroom gave Eric a large batch of mail that had been held for well over 24 hours.

If you write Eric, you can help by taking action in the following ways:

1) When you get mail from Eric, please check both the date the letter was written and the postmark on the letter. If there is more than a 24-hour difference, please email us at erickingsupportcrew@riseup.net with either a photo or quick note of the date on the letter and the postmark date. This can help Eric document these violations and allow him to file grievances for them as they occur.

2) Next, please take a second to let the staff at CCA Leavenworth and CCA corporate know that they are violating the "Performance-Based Detention Standards."

- a. Warden Isaac Johnston: 913.680.6801
- b. Assistant to the Warden: 913.680.6804
- c. Mailroom (ask for the manager of the mailroom): 913.680.6808
- d. Call CCA Corporate and let them know what CCA Leavenworth is up to:
1.800.624.2931

Feel free to leave a message if they do not answer. If you feel comfortable and want to have a conversation, you can even leave a call-back number.

In your message, state how long Eric's outgoing letter was held before being sent to you. Inform them that "Performance-Based Detention Standard" number (G.3.5) says, "Excluding weekends and holidays or emergency situations, incoming and outgoing letters are held for no more than 24-hour hold."

Help us tell CCA that we won't stand for Eric's incoming mail being censored based on his political ideology or for him to be targeted by his mail being held for more than 24 hours.

Lastly, we want to remind folks that Eric being pre-trial puts him in an especially sensitive position. Any piece of literature he receives, whether it is rejected or not, may be used against him come sentencing.

15 Sept - Court Update For Joseph and Nicole

On Monday, September 14th Nicole and Joseph's court appearance lasted about 10 minutes. They finally entered their not guilty pleas, and were given their next court appearance that is scheduled for December 14th at 2pm, again at the San Diego federal courthouse in front of Judge Burns.

MORE:

If you're in the Los Angeles, or San Diego area please pass the word that court support is very much appreciated, and to please make it to the next court appearance if you can.

Thank you to everyone who has donated, organized a fundraiser, ordered something from Joseph's wish list, handed out Support Nicole and Joseph flyers, and have spread the word.

15 Sept - New Poetry From Marius Mason

Below are the latest poems from Marius Mason.

MORE:

Give Me One Of Them

A dentist and his luggage arrive in Zimbabwe
Cash and carry-on, pushing the buttons of privilege and pardon
That his class feels heir to, a legacy
Of helmeted conquistadors in search of gold or something shiny
Those Roman envoys come for tribute from the territories
Legions come to kill, conquer or consume..like tourists
Greasing the palms of hired-hands – the Future's traitors
Handing off their nation's treasures to the clamoring idiots
"Give me one of them", he roars, gesticulating wildly
The ugly American who can buy anything
It's practically online shopping and no safari
When the trophy's guaranteed (or your money back)
Swindled and stolen by subterfuge
An empty stomach so often a trap full of entanglements
And so another African will make a Middle Passage
As a corpse
The deed is done, and life converts to property
The ebony-tipped lion dubbed 'Cecil'
Like an immigrant at Ellis Island changing names and nations all at once,
By bureaucrats who needed a familiar name in their own tongue
Unbecomes, falls into history
Ends his story and his line in blood
The collaborator, Honore`, will pay the price before the law,
But surely honor suffers even more
As the greedy foreign butcher slinks
Behind a sturdy Minnesota door
And we, the wild tribal Diaspora dispersed by birth
From Mother Africa, generations gone and
Scattered loose across the globe, like seeds
Will know ourselves one less

Honeybees/Expendability

What's more political than the question of expendability?" Barry Schwabsky
With clouds on the horizon spotted,
Have we decided yet?
Who will ride the ark with us,
Protected from our floods and pestilences
In valuable concubinage-
And who will sail instead into Eternity? These honeybees, so small
Among the lilies of the field,
That we might miss them altogether,
Especially the rushing bipeds travelling through
A plastic, frantic world

Lives lived indoors, cramped and strangers to the sun.
But the bees make music working
through their quiet summer days, even if there is no one to hear
In fields and orchards, lawns and meadows
Tending their life's work
And our own as well.
The tiny fuzzy fairies falling
Prey to a darker pall
That spreads a shadow everywhere
The approaching silent spring soon
Minus singing bees
Who, as it turns out,
Are much less expendable than we

Barbed-Wire

One day in the prison yard, the resident grey cat chased heedlessly
A bird, who'd landed on the roof, all enclosed with steely swirls
And slipping through the curling razor wire, stalked
Until it caught her leg and stopping
Shaking as it sliced her paw..open..raw
The sharp barbs cutting fur and muscle, white and wounded to the bone
Blood dripping down the eves, yowling
And the bird forgotten, gone
Took so long a summer healing, that we wondered
If the fabled nine were used and done
But she survived and still sleeps the afternoon in sun, these days
Listening to the radio this morning in my cell,
ear to the wind and the wild world outside
All walls and razor wire, comes the rolling distant thunder
Of masses on the move, rivers of refugees
Each person fleeing worse and much worse behind them
Where everywhere is war
And those few wealthy nations, crossed arms close their gates
Spew tear gas and water cannons, raise up more walls
And I cannot help by wonder
As the thousands push their way through daily
Who will be cut, and who will bleed
And who will get away
To survive this and find the sun again
Somewhere, someday

Marius writes: "[A] poem to remember 30 great whales that died in a very short period of time, recently, in the Gulf of Alaska (oh, where Shell just showed up to explore for oil, right?) The title is the actual code that the deaths come under for a piece of legislation."

An Unusual Mortality Event

It has been "most difficult", said Rowles, the scientist who
Said samples have been unobtainable
And as they are also (sadly) edible,
They've become elusive proofs, eviscerated beyond plain investigation
Hungry bears have wrecked havoc (and one might ask just why ARE they so hungry now?)
At the scene of the crime,

Leaving the system without an approved explanation (hence Dr. Rowles' aggravation)
The Gulf of Alaska's dark waters hold the secret still, a mystery
An anomaly, a rarity in history
And N.O.A.A., without a plan to build an ark
To save the giant whales
Cannot explain the sudden death of these
30 souls lost at sea
But my standard guess is: it's just humanity
Once again blundering in our desperate way
Whether it be heating waters (from coal plants or from cars)
Or the military's blasting (always preparing for more wars)
Or the missing fish we've vacuumed up and thrown half dead away
Or maybe just pollution drifting past
The pumping chimneys in their vast array
Or algal blooms (from oil spills) or airplane plumes (that cause reef kill)
Or any of a host of things we do
There's no solid evidence, of course my dear,
But certainly lots of clues

15 Sept - Transform Now Plowshares Sentencing Update

Transform Now Plowshares three receive unsupervised supervised probation, \$52,000 restitution upheld by Judge.

MORE:

After hearing arguments from both sides during a teleconference sentencing hearing, Judge Amul Thapar split the difference between the defense's request for no supervised probation and the government's request for supervised probation for Megan Rice, Greg Boertje-Obed and Michael Walli.

In the end, the judge sentenced each to two years of "unsupervised" supervised probation with only three conditions

1. they must not be commit any local, state or federal crimes
2. they may not enter any US nuclear facility
3. they must report any arrests for any reason to their probation officer

There are no other restrictions on their activities. When defense attorneys asked if they retained their first amendment right to protest nuclear weapons at facilities, the judge said, "Absolutely, as long as they don't enter the facility."

The judge also declined to reduce or drop the demand for \$52,000 in restitution to the taxpayer.

The three have until Friday, September 18, to report to their local probation office.

16 Sept - Albert Woodfox Update

Though it is an incredibly unusual, and often confusing situation, the legal reality is that Albert is fighting for permanent, unconditional release concurrently on two separate legal tracks - one in federal and the other in state court.

MORE:

As we all wait to hear whether the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals will uphold federal Judge Brady's June 8th "unconditional Writ," a third attempt to prosecute Albert in state court for the crime he continues to maintain he's innocent of is already, simultaneously, underway.

Next Monday, September 21st at 9:30am at the Courthouse in St. Francisville, the state court track will take a huge leap forward as Judge Carmichael of West Feliciana Parish's 20th Judicial District Court decides what a new playing field will look like after each side presents what they believe to be the key ingredients needed to ensure a just potential third trial.

Over the summer, Albert's state court legal team (Rob McDuff and Billy Sothern) filed a slate of 16 motions that began this process of defining the evidentiary and procedural ground rules for a potential retrial. In addition to a comprehensive and convincingly argued request for change of venue, the bulk of the filings seek to construct a legal landscape where Albert has at least a chance of being fairly retried-- where all of the now impeached, debunked, and discredited testimony, statements, and evidence presented at previous trials is excluded.

Albert's team also asks the court compel the State to allow modern DNA testing of all remaining physical evidence and to compare the potentially exculpatory fingerprints from the crime scene, already proven not to be Albert's, against the prison's own inmate fingerprint archives from the 1970s and the FBI's recently expanded AFIS fingerprint identification system. Though it seems obvious that these simple tests could have long ago helped to identify the real culprit, the Attorney General told NPR as recently as 2008 he didn't see a need. "A fingerprint can come from anywhere," Caldwell explains. "We're not going to be fooled by that."

Most fundamentally though, Albert's legal team argues that the 2015 indictment should itself be quashed and the case dismissed because all the key prosecution witnesses have passed away, as have all the key witnesses for the defense and the leaders of the initial investigation, making it impossible for Albert to exercise his constitutional right to confront and cross-examine them about the many inconsistencies, obfuscations, and procedural missteps later uncovered. His attorneys conclude:

"Albert Woodfox is 68 years old, less than two years away from turning 70. He has been severely punished for the last 43 years for a crime in which none of the physical evidence implicates him and the State's proof is highly questionable. The circumstances of this case are such that he cannot receive a fair trial 43 years after the fact. The motion to quash should be granted and this case should be dismissed."

We will keep you updated as to how these issues play out if you are unable to attend on the 21st and won't stop fighting until justice for our friend is finally realized.

September 21st - Amnesty International USA Statement on Latest Albert Woodfox Developments

Today, Judge William G. Carmichael of Louisiana's 20th Judicial District Court held a hearing to lay the groundwork for a possible third trial of Albert Woodfox, the last imprisoned member of the Angola 3. In June, U.S. District Judge James Brady ordered Woodfox's unconditional release, overturning his conviction and barring the state from retrying him, but the state of Louisiana appealed the ruling. While the appeal is being considered, the state court is moving ahead with a new trial.

Jasmine Heiss, Senior Campaigner for Amnesty International USA's Individuals at Risk program, attended the hearing and issued the following statement:

"Albert Woodfox has endured over four decades in a cell the size of a parking space. His conviction has been thrown out three occasions. But each time his freedom has seemed within reach, the state of Louisiana has done everything in its power to keep him incarcerated.

"Woodfox was moved to solitary confinement before ever being convicted of murder. He has stayed there for four decades, through three overturned convictions, fighting to prove his innocence. Albert Woodfox's case serves as a harsh condemnation of the U.S. justice system; he remains trapped in both a cell the size of a parking space and in a legal process tainted by racial discrimination, among other glaring flaws. Through all of this, the warden of Angola prison has continued to justify his ongoing isolation based on Woodfox's association with the Black Panther Party.

"Judge Brady's writ of unconditional release should have ended Albert's ordeal, yet Louisiana Attorney General Buddy Caldwell continues to pursue a campaign of vengeance against him. It's time for Albert Woodfox to walk free."

September 22nd - 'I just want to see justice': Albert Woodfox's supporters worry he can't get a fair trial

by Emily Lane (*The Times-Picayune*)

A bloody fingerprint, a knife and some clothing are among the evidence found at a 1972 crime scene inside Louisiana State Penitentiary, after prison guard Brent Miller was stabbed 32 times to his death at Angola.

Prisoner Albert Woodfox has been twice convicted of the crime and held in solitary confinement more than 40 years for his alleged involvement in the 23-year-old guard's death. But until this week, no one from the state had ever ordered testing the blood evidence for DNA.

Those who believe Woodfox is innocent have clamored for DNA testing, pointing out fingerprints at the scene did not match Woodfox's. Their request was finally granted Monday (Sept. 21), when state District Judge William Carmichael ordered the testing at a hearing in St. Francisville. Carmichael also ordered comparing fingerprints lifted from the crime scene against those of every prisoner who was at Angola when Miller was killed.

Prosecutors for Attorney General Buddy Caldwell's Office did not object to the DNA testing and fingerprints examination.

Yet most supporters of the 68-year-old Woodfox, including family members, friends and activists for his release, left Monday's hearing disappointed. They agree with a federal judge that the state should not try Woodfox for a third time, and Monday's hearing made clear the state is poised to take the case to trial again.

"The more time the state has, the less time Albert gets," said former prisoner Robert King.

The fight over a third trial

King, Woodfox and the late Herman Wallace are known as the Angola 3, whose supporters argue the men were wrongfully implicated and convicted in prison murders in retaliation for helping organize a Black Panther Party chapter that protested inhumane conditions inside Angola at the time.

As the last remaining imprisoned member of the trio, Woodfox has received worldwide attention, mostly because of the amount of time he's been held alone in a cell "the size of a parking spot" for 23 hours a day, according to the human rights organization Amnesty International, which has called for his release.

Doubts about Woodfox's guilt have surfaced over the years, including by Miller's widow, Teenie Rogers. Miller's brother Stan Miller and other members of his family, however, agree with Caldwell's office that Woodfox is guilty.

"My brother (doesn't) get to go home and rest in peace," Stan Miller said in June. "He's under the ground and resting in peace."

A spokesman for Caldwell said after the hearing Monday that it is Woodfox's attorneys, not the state's, who's thwarting justice in the case.

"This inmate seeks to further delay justice by attempting to put up procedural hurdles that would prevent the state from holding him fully accountable for his crime," said Aaron Sadler, Caldwell's communications director, in a statement.

The statement alluded to several motions Woodfox's attorneys asking to strike for testimony of witnesses who have died. Woodfox's attorneys say some of the old statements have been debunked, and the defense can't cross-examine witnesses who are dead. The judge denied most of those motions, meaning much of the old testimony will be allowed in lieu of live witnesses.

Two previous convictions thrown out

Federal courts threw out both of Woodfox's previous convictions on constitutional grounds in 1992 and 2014, respectively. But after the second conviction was overturned last year, a West Feliciana Parish grand jury indicted Woodfox for a third time in the case.

U.S. District Judge James Brady in June 2014 ordered Woodfox's unconditional release and prohibited a third trial. Woodfox has remained in prison as the state appeals.

Brady's ruling said a number of factors indicated Woodfox could not receive a fair retrial. Key witnesses were dead; Woodfox is old and ailing; and the state showed prejudice in Woodfox's case by isolating him in alone in a cell, the judge wrote. The 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals is currently weighing Brady's decision as the state moves forward with its prosecution.

If a federal judge tried to bar a third trial on the basis that the state cannot produce a fair trial, "then to try him unfairly is the only way," King said.

"Judge Brady's writ of unconditional release should have ended Albert's ordeal, yet Louisiana Attorney General Buddy Caldwell continues to pursue a campaign of vengeance against him," says a statement Monday by Amnesty International. "It's time for Albert Woodfox to walk free."

In June, Caldwell told the Associated Press that the driving factor behind his dogged pursuit of the Woodfox's case is "guilt — guilt, guilt, guilt."

Carmichael on Monday rejected a request by Woodfox's attorneys to throw out the recent grand jury indictment, which would have precluded a third trial. Carmichael also denied a change of venue, which means a new trial would take place in West Feliciana Parish, where Angola is located.

The next deadline in the state's case is in the end of October, at which point Carmichael indicated he might be prepared to set a trial date.

A brother's concern

As Woodfox walked into court Monday, wearing black-and-white striped shirt and pants stamped "WFSO," he smiled and lifted one of hand from his cuffed wrists to wave to his brother, Michael Mable, who was among those in the gallery at the hearing.

Mable, who lives in Houston but visits Woodfox on a monthly basis, said after the hearing that he thought his brother looked worried once the judge started quickly issuing orders on multiple motions.

Mable pointed to a confederate monument outside the courthouse and noted that the history and culture of Louisiana, as well as the state's treatment of his brother's case through the years, means it could be difficult for Woodfox to receive a fair trial.

Woodfox's 1974 murder conviction was vacated in 1992 due to "systematic discrimination." His 1993 indictment was ultimately thrown out because of racial discrimination in the selection of a grand jury foreperson.

"I just want to see justice," Mable said.

Woodfox, of New Orleans, was originally sentenced to prison at Angola on charges of armed robbery. He's currently being held at a pretrial facility in St. Francisville, where he remains in isolation for more than 23 hours a day.

For the armed robbery, Mable said Woodfox served his time.

"But a murderer? No," he shook his head. "I will go to my grave or he'll go to his grave (declaring) that he did not kill Brent Miller."

16 Sept - Transphobia at the Intersection of the Military and Prison Industrial Complexes

The latest writing by Chelsea, as well as some other updates.

MORE:

by Chelsea Manning (*truthout*)

My home – or, at least my place of residence for the time being – is the US Disciplinary Barracks, the United States' crown jewel military prison. Being both a military institution and a prison, it lies in a unique, though not necessarily uncommon, intersection of two of the world's largest institutional ecosystems: the military-industrial complex and the prison industrial complex.

My status as a trans woman in a military prison places me in the unique position in which the extraordinary administration, regulation, surveillance and policing of gender norms, expectations, vices and virtues clash with my most fundamental understanding of my identity and how I intend to express myself as a female. For instance, although I am now being allowed to wear female undergarments, use cosmetics and take hormones, I am not allowed to grow my hair beyond the two inches authorized by the military.

The purpose and intent of the military-industrial and prison industrial complexes are very similar. While both systems often appear to be functioning separately, there are more and more instances where they operate in unison. This is especially the case in our post-9/11 world, in which these frameworks and structures overlap and operate together in many places. Such overlaps between them can now determine how individuals and groups that society labels as "criminal" can now be labeled as enemies or terrorists and become classified as threats to national security.

Both systems impact women and other gender and sexual minorities – the imposition of strict gender norms of femininity on women, and the praise of masculinity and the macho at the expense of femininity, which is deemed a sign of "weakness." Both systems impact immigrants through the criminalization of those who are read as "unfamiliar." The military-industrial complex also targets people read as "foreigners" by labeling them as potential terrorists and threats to national security. Both systems impact people living in poverty through the criminalization of low-income people.

It is at the intersection of these two systems that trans women such as me are placed into the exhausting and dehumanizing position of being determined as a potential criminal, named as a threat to national security and deemed as immutably male.

When I was a homeless teenager in 2006, trying to survive in the Midwest and on the streets of Chicago, I was left to fend for myself against both systems. The prison industrial complex had the power to imprison me and label me as an offender for life, for crimes as small and victimless as loitering in public areas, trespassing in private parking areas and being suspected of solicitation for prostitution. The reality, from my perspective, was clear: that I had nowhere not to loiter or trespass, and that my perceived sexual orientation, living as an effeminate gay male at the time, allowed law enforcement officials to assume that I was a prostitute.

Later, in 2007, when I attempted to start a career and obtain a degree from college, the military-industrial complex tempted me with large bonuses and financial assistance. By enlisting for a four-year term as an intelligence analyst, I would also receive training with certification and tuition assistance, and receive more pay – without paying for taxes – for deploying to Iraq or Afghanistan. Yet, despite my certain sexual orientation and uncertain gender identity, I placed myself into a structure of strict sexual and gender norms and expectations, compounded by the “don’t ask, don’t tell” law still in effect.

In the 2009-10 time frame, when I eventually did deploy to Iraq, I saw firsthand how the military places people like me and my fellow soldiers into some of the most burdensome positions in the intelligence community, with most of us making less than a fourth or a fifth of the pay earned by civilian counterparts while enduring long work days with no time off.

From the start of 2010 to our current moment (2015), I have continued to have my gender enforced and regulated (to varying degrees) as being forever and immutably male underneath the somewhat mild and cosmetic relaxations of the “male” standards imposed on military prisoners. And, this has been primarily the result of two years of public pressure and litigation to compel the military and the US secretary of defense to provide for accommodations as recommended by medical and mental health professionals and the World Professional Association for Transgender Health standards of care. Thus far successes have been slow and, ultimately, unnecessary.

How do we begin to roll back the widespread effects of these two (continually expanding) industrial complexes? One thing we can do is identify what the institutions are and who the interested parties behind them are. We can identify the scope and range of the institutions driving the industrial complexes. We can identify what the general objectives of the parties identified are, and what specific objectives each component to them has to meet the general objective.

Through educating each other and ourselves, we can fill in the gaps in our understanding of the world around us. We can inventory all the things that we know from our experience, and find out what we don’t know or understand. But, this is only the first step. From here, we can use our improved understanding of how each institution works to identify its weaknesses and vulnerabilities. These are going to be dependent upon the context in which the specific institution operates. For instance, a private corporation is going to have different vulnerabilities than a public department or agency does. We must also communicate with each other, sharing knowledge, experience, ideas and criticisms with each other. Through this kind of communication, which institutions naturally and reflexively attempt to stifle, we can help to minimize the scale and effect of the military and prison industrial complexes in our lives.

September 18th - Chelsea Manning To Sue Military For Prohibiting Her From Growing Hair

by Kevin Gosztola (*Shadowproof*)

Chelsea Manning announced the United States Army has once again denied her ongoing request to grow her hair out. She indicated she will file a lawsuit against the prohibition.

“Bad news for me: Military continues to make me cut my hair to male standards. I’m gonna fight in court,” Manning stated in a message on Twitter.

Chase Strangio, an attorney for the ACLU’s LGBT Project, reacted, “Even though the military agrees that allowing Chelsea to grow her hair is a critical part of her treatment plan, they continue to deny her basic human and constitutional rights.”

“When we filed our lawsuit a year ago, Chelsea had already waited more than a year for even minimal care to treat her gender dysphoria. We are confident that this decision will be overturned by the court but saddened that Chelsea’s treatment continues to be needlessly impeded.”

Manning is serving a thirty-five year prison sentence at Fort Leavenworth in Kansas. She was convicted of crimes stemming from her decision to provide over a half million U.S. government documents to

WikiLeaks, which exposed war crimes, diplomatic misconduct, and other instances of wrongdoing and questionable acts by officials.

As the ACLU noted in a press release, this decision comes in spite of the fact that the Army backed down from its opposition and has allowed Manning to receive hormone therapy.

Manning's own military doctors have apparently agreed the ability to grow her hair out is part of medically necessary treatment she should receive for her gender dysphoria.

On October 2, the ACLU will be in court to establish a plan to respond to the Army's prohibition.

Additionally, Manning finally received paperwork indicating her punishment for having expired toothpaste and LGBTQ and political literature would begin on September 17.

After a secret disciplinary board hearing in which press, members of the public, and her attorneys were not allowed to be present, the Army sentenced her to 21 days of restrictions against recreation.

According to the Chelsea Manning Support Network, this means Manning cannot watch or listen to television, movies, or radio. She cannot possess arts or crafts supplies. She may not go to the gym or library or outside for recreation. She is not authorized to have headsets, earbuds or radio. She is restricted to her cell from 6:30 in the evening until 5:00 in the morning.

On weekends, Manning is only allowed outside her "cell from 5:45 in the morning until 8:00 in the morning and meals." All phone calls have to be made during breakfast, lunch, or dinner. But she may still use the law library, and her visitation, mail, and academic courses are not impacted by the punishment.

"As a result of these restrictions, Chelsea will only be able to spend minimal time outside of her cell besides when she works for the prison and meals. On weekends, Chelsea can only be outside her cell for 2 hours and 15 minutes," according to the Support Network.

Initially, the Army threatened Manning with indefinite solitary confinement. But Manning believes that punishment was not issued against her because over a hundred thousand people signed a petition against the Army's decision to issue "charges" against her.

The worst part about the discipline, as Strangio previously noted, is she will "carry these infractions through her parole and clemency process and will be held longer in the more restrictive custody where she is now incarcerated."

Manning had expected to be moved to minimum custody in February, but now it could be years before that happens.

17 Sept - New Writing By Mumia Abu-Jamal

Here is the latest commentary by Mumia, as well as an update on the fight to get him proper medical care.

MORE:

September 17th - Politicians: Servants of the Wealthy

It is impossible to look at the current crop of political presidential aspirants and not be struck by their level of subservience to the wants and needs of the owner class.

Like Puppies panting in the presence of their masters, the politicians, emboldened by the unconscionable Citizens United decision, are at the feet of the billionaires for scraps to better serve their betters.

Now, one billionaire can field half-dozen pols, and by so doing, can determine not just who runs, but who wins - and what laws will be passed.

Why not? They own them, don't they?

But still, that is not enough. For witness the emergence of New York real estate executive Donald Trump.

Trump brags, at every opportunity, of his enormous wealth. By so doing, he intimidates his potential rivals, who are used to bending their knees to such men. But he also represents the distrust of his class, for rather than hiring politicians, he runs himself, to lock in his class dominance.

Nor is this solely a Republican affair, for Democrats, who run on emotional appeals to labor unions and working people, once in power lead to the interests of Wall Street – the source of the lion's share of their donations.

Their strategy, of talk labor, while pleasing capital was seen in the destructive NAFTA pact, which decimated manufacturing jobs in the U.S. by the millions.

Bill Clinton hustled NAFTA like a street dealer sold crack, selling dreams that turned to dust.

Now, the Clintons return, posing as the saviors of the working class, when their treasured NAFTA ripped away tens of thousands of jobs annually, undermined unions, and transferred vast wealth to Wall St.

When Texas businessman and 1992-96 presidential candidate, H.Ross Perot predicted NAFTA would produce a “giant sucking sound” of lost jobs, the media pundits laughed at him, making him sound like a fool.

History proves his words were true.

Politicians –servants of capital; promisers of progress, but bringers of disaster.

September 19th - Court Magistrate Proposes Denying Mumia Urgent Medical Care

Late in the day on Friday September 18th, United States Magistrate Judge for the Middle District of Pennsylvania Karoline Mehalchick issued a proposed order denying Mumia Abu-Jamal's motion for preliminary injunction and his 1st Amended complaint seeking immediate treatment for active Hepatitis C.

In a calculated attempt to deny lifesaving health care and effective arguments on Mumia's behalf, Judge Mehalchick preemptively issued this "proposed order" before Mumia's lawyers had the opportunity to respond (as allowed by court local rules) to the Pennsylvania Department of Correction's (DOC) opposition.

Bret Grote (Abolitionist Law Center) and co-counsel Bob Boyle (NYC) are expected to quickly file in court with 3rd Circuit Federal District Court Judge Robert Mariani to oppose this proposed order on procedural and substantive grounds.

The proposed order is clearly an attempt to subvert justice and delay critical treatment for Mumia Abu-Jamal. It is simply intellectually disingenuous.

A few quotes from the ruling will illustrate this point.

Notably the proposed -not final- order submitted to the presiding Judge Robert Mariani states that Mumia Abu-Jamal has failed to exhaust his administrative remedies/grievances, and thus is precluded from filing a federal lawsuit. As quoted:

"Accordingly, the Court recommends that Abu-Jamal's motion for injunctive relief be dismissed without prejudice because the uncontroverted evidence presented by Defendants indicates that this claim has not been administratively exhausted, his administrative grievance appeal remains pending."

In fact, Mumia has fulfilled all of the exhaustion requirements and the intent as well-- and the DOC denied his grievance specifically, as we know through written record.

Further, the "uncontroverted evidence" cited by the court completely ignores the facts in Mumia's preliminary injunction and 1st amended complaint. This proposed order was also issued even before Mumia's lawyers could respond to the DOC brief- which was full of blatant obfuscations and lies.

In addition, Magistrate Mehalchick's proposed order states that Mumia will not be irreparably harmed if he receives no care.

To quote the Order: *"While there is little question that hepatitis C is a 'sufficiently serious' condition under the Eighth Amendment, merely becoming infected with hepatitis C does not ensure that serious and irreparable damage will occur... These risks, although severe, do not sustain Abu-Jamal's burden of showing immediate irreparable harm that warrants injunctive relief, especially given the fact that it often takes significant time for hepatitis C to progress."*

Mumia's 1st Amended complaint details his near death and hospitalization with renal failure on March 30, 2015. It also shows the extensive diagnostic tests which indicated organ failure (skin) and organ damage (liver), open wounds, hemoglobin deficiency, extensive fevers, and his continued weakness.

Magistrate Mehalchick's order goes on to state that the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections (PA DOC) should be allowed to implement their own "protocols" for hepatitis C for prisoners.

"The Defendants' interests would therefore be harmed by granting injunctive relief because it would deny Defendants an opportunity to treat Abu- Jamal's hepatitis C in accordance with their own established protocols."

This language purposefully misstates the facts. The truth is that the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections has not produced a treatment protocol for Hepatitis C in their responses. This is because the current standard of care in the PA DOC is to deny appropriate testing and deliver no treatment.

As such, Mumia's lawyers, Bret Grote and Bob Boyle, will file in court to oppose this proposed order on procedural and substantive grounds.

17 Sept - Eddien Is Out Of Jail

We have good news— Eddien Patterson is no longer in jail.

MORE:

We received a call from his lawyer yesterday, Tuesday 9/15 that he is out of jail. He pleaded guilty to 3rd degree misdemeanor Assault & Battery as well as misdemeanor Breach of Peace and was sentenced to 30 days for each, but was able to get time served for both charges after paying court costs and a fine. Though we believed he could have beaten all charges, Eddien and his lawyer decided to move on with his life and plead guilty.

We ask that people no longer send in money for Eddien; all the money that has already been donated will go to him to pay his fines and to help him resettle in Columbia because his 2 months in jail caused him to loose his job.

Thank you so much for the support!

Fuck the Klan!

Fuck the Law!

18 Sept - J. Edgar Hoover gave cash bonus after evidence fix in Omaha Two case

William Sullivan was rewarded with \$250 for unspecified "meritorious service" following an order to withhold a FBI Laboratory report.

MORE:

by Michael Richardson (*Examiner*)

J. Edgar Hoover, director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, was enjoying his vacation with Clyde Tolson in LaJolla, California, an annual retreat the two men took together, when Patrolman Larry Minard, Sr. was murdered by bomb in Omaha, Nebraska. Hoover's first awareness of the crime most likely did not come until two days later when he was called by Assistant Director Ivan Willard Conrad, the director of the FBI Laboratory.

Conrad called Hoover on the last day of Hoover's vacation, Aug. 19, 1970, to ask for directions on a request from Paul Young, the Special Agent in-Charge in Omaha, to accept evidence, but withhold a laboratory report. Young had sent a recording to FBI headquarters of the 911 call that sent Minard to a bombing ambush in a vacant house. Young wanted to turn the police investigation to the leadership of the National Committee to Combat Fascism, a Black Panther affiliate chapter, and the tape recording of someone else's voice presented a problem.

Edward Poindexter and Mondo we Langa, former David Rice, were leaders of the NCCF and were specific targets of COINTELPRO, a clandestine counterintelligence operation of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Young had been under growing pressure from Hoover to do something to get the two men off the streets. Minard's murder presented the perfect opportunity to blame the Omaha Two, as the pair have come to be called.

Hoover gave the okay to withhold a lab report on the identity of the anonymous 911 caller that lured Minard to his death. Conrad wrote a notation on an accompanying memorandum that he talked to Hoover who said, "OK to do." Conrad dated and initialed his notation regarding Hoover's command.

Hoover and Tolson travelled the next day back to Washington, D.C. In Omaha, Larry Minard, Sr. was laid to rest following the largest funeral in the city history.

On Aug. 21, Hoover's first day back in the office, Hoover gave Assistant to the Director William Sullivan a \$250 "incentive award" for meritorious service. Assistant Director John Mohr likewise received a surprise \$250 bonus. Although Hoover would use cash bonuses as part of his discipline system they were always earmarked for specific cases or achievement. Never before had Hoover given a subordinate extra money for covering the office in Hoover's absence.

"You certainly deserve commendation for your exceptionally meritorious services during the period of time when I was away from Washington," wrote Hoover to Sullivan. "I am aware that my absence necessitated your shouldering additional responsibilities. Your splendid performance is appreciated."

John Mohr was likewise given a commendation and cash award for his actions at FBI headquarters while Hoover was on vacation. As head of the Administrative Division, Mohr had oversight over the FBI Laboratory and communications between the laboratory and FBI field offices. Mohr responded the same day with a thank you letter to Hoover:

"I was deeply pleased that I was associated with a winning team at the Seat of Government while it was necessary for you to be on the Coast and I was delighted to learn that you thought our efforts were so satisfactory. I shall always strive to perform by responsibilities the way that you want them done."

The cash payments to Sullivan and Mohr are recorded in their FBI personnel files that have been made public. Ivan Willard Conrad's personnel file has not been released so it is unknown if he too received a cash

bonus. The unusual cash bonuses, so soon after the plan was made to withhold a FBI Laboratory report, suggests that Hoover sugar-coated a bitter pill to swallow--complicity in letting one of a policeman's killers get away with murder.

Sullivan supervised all of the FBI domestic counterintelligence operations. Sullivan later alluded to the Minard case in his last public speech, indicating he was aware of Bureau actions in Omaha. Sullivan mentioned Omaha in a speech to United Press International editors and reporters although he was in error on the date of the crime.

“On August 12, 1970, an Omaha, Nebraska, police officer was literally blasted to death by an explosive device planted in a suitcase in an abandoned residence. The officer had been summoned by an anonymous telephone complaint that a woman was being beaten there. An individual with Panther associations had been charged with this crime.”

Ed Poindexter and Mondo we Langa were convicted in April 1971 of Minard's murder and remain imprisoned at the maximum-security Nebraska State Penitentiary. The FBI role in the case was kept out of the courtroom. The jury that convicted the Omaha Two after a controversial trial never got to hear the recorded voice of the killer. Both men continue to proclaim their innocence.

September 22nd - Subject: Ex-cop leads effort to free Omaha Two COINTELPRO prisoners

Former Omaha policeman Tariq Al-Amin, head of Nebraskans for Justice, took his campaign to free the Omaha Two to the airwaves in Washington, D.C. Edward Poindexter and Mondo we Langa, former David Rice, were the subjects of a special two-hour radio program on WOL-AM radio hosted by announcer Carl Nelson on Sept. 21. The special broadcast gave Tariq a chance to tell the story of the Omaha Two to a new national audience.

The Omaha Two were leaders of Omaha's Black Panther affiliate chapter National Committee to Combat Fascism. The pair were also targets of J. Edgar Hoover's illegal, clandestine counterintelligence operation codenamed COINTELPRO. Hoover conducted a massive, secret war on America's political activists whose loyalty he questioned. The Black Panthers were the target of the most lethal ferocity of COINTELPRO actions. The Omaha Two were convicted for the 1970 murder of a policeman after a controversial trial that included a withheld FBI Laboratory report on the identity of the anonymous 911 caller that lured Patrolman Larry Minard, Sr. to his death.

Carl Nelson's advocacy for the Omaha Two will be a big boost for Tariq's Midwest-based campaign. Nelson was so impressed by the story of Mondo and Poindexter that he compared them to Nelson Mandela. Nelson said the two men were caught in the same kind of net that imprisoned Los Angeles Black Panther leader Geronimo Pratt. Unlike the Nebraska prisoners, Pratt was able regain his freedom after a quarter-century behind bars, The Omaha Two have been locked up forty-five years, serving life sentences, at the Nebraska State Penitentiary.

Tariq Al-Amin co-hosted a freedom rally in August at the Malcolm X Memorial Center in Omaha. Tariq opened the program and then had co-host Mary Dickinson, an officer in Nebraskans for Justice, tell the gathering about the role of the Federal Bureau of Investigation in framing the two men for Minard's murderer. Independent researcher Kietryn Zychal discussed the role of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms Division in the case.

Video clips of the prisoners were shown, updates on the health of the two men were also given. Both prisoners suffer from the effects of their long years of confinement with impaired health. The last time the Nebraska Supreme Court looked at the case they dismissed it out-of-hand without even issuing a written decision leaving the men with little recourse to the courts.

Tariq's tireless efforts were long aided by the late Marvin McClarty. McClarty was also an Omaha policeman who had been stationed outside Mondo's house the night it was searched and dynamite was

allegedly found. The search seemed suspicious to McClarty who saw detectives carrying things into the house. After his retirement, McClarty took on a weekly public access television program with Tariq where the two men reviewed police reports of the previous week.

Tariq closed his WOL radio interview by talking about the disappointments of his effort. Tariq said others have encouraged him to give up but that he knew the right thing to do was to keep working for justice for Ed Poindexter and Mondo we Langa. Veteran radio host Carl Nelson now joins Tariq and has added his voice to the call for freedom.

18 Sept - Freedom fighter Safiya Bukhari and a voice for political prisoners

Two things recently brought back memories of Safiya Bukhari: the release of Stanley Nelson's film on the Black Panther Party and the various commemorations surrounding the uprising in Attica prison in 1971.

MORE:

by Herb Boyd (*Amsterdam News*)

Given her political commitment to the legacy of the Panthers and relentless dedication to the welfare of political prisoners, she would have undoubtedly been in attendance at these events.

Much of what we obtain from her eventful life is gleaned from her writings, particularly a "coming of age" chapter included in "The War Before: The True Life of Safiya Bukhari" (Feminist Press, 2010), edited by Laura Whitehorn. Born Bernice Jones in the Bronx in 1950, she wrote, "I am one of a family of 10 children. My parents were strict and religious, but proud and independent."

Whitehorn's introduction to the book fills in some of the details of Bukhari's early years. "In 1968, she was attending Brooklyn's New York City Community College as a premed student," she wrote. Education was the magic elixir in Bukhari's family, the portal through which they could escape the poverty and oppression of being Black in America.

One day, Bukhari and her friends were traveling through Harlem when they encountered members of the Black Panther Party. They were asked if they wanted to volunteer for the Panther's Free Breakfast for Children Program. Bukhari liked what she saw and continued to return as a volunteer, though not yet a member of the Party.

Her membership began when she intervened to help a Panther selling the Party's paper after he was harassed by the police. "It wasn't the Panthers that made me join the Black Panther Party," she often said. "It was the police."

For her intervention, Bukhari was arrested, and a year later, in 1969, she was fully involved and working on projects from the Party's Harlem office. "By the summer of 1970," Bukhari related, "I was a full-time Party member and my daughter [Wonda] was staying with my mother. I was teaching some of the political education classes at the Party office and had established a liberation school in my section of the community."

But the heat was on from various factions of the nation's law enforcement agencies, none more insidious than the FBI's COINTELPRO operation that, by 1971, had succeeded in driving a wedge in the Party, leaving it split with rival factions on the East and West coasts. Bukhari became communications director of the East Coast organization, editing its newspaper, Right On! "She also issued statements received from the clandestine Black Liberation Army, which was aligned with the East Coast Panthers," Whitehorn added.

Many of the liberation fighters were forced to wage their struggle underground, though Bukhari, by now a Muslim, chose to stay above ground, where she could work to assist the BLA. In 1975, she and members of a militant collective were in Virginia to practice on a shooting range. After that, they planned to travel to

Mississippi. Bukhari, in preparation for the trip, went to a grocery store for cold cuts to make sandwiches, thereby avoiding having to stop at restaurants.

She was in the store shopping when two of her comrades entered the store and what next happened was clouded in gunfire that led to a death and a wounding of her two comrades by the storeowners. Bukhari was arrested and soon the FBI was on the scene.

“My bail was set at \$1 million for each of the five counts against me,” she wrote. Her trial lasted one day and she was sentenced to 40 years for armed robbery.

“Long before her arrest,” Whitehorn explained, “Safiya had developed massive fibroid tumors. In prison, her condition worsening, she received frighteningly little medical care. In late 1976, Safiya escaped.” Two months later she was recaptured and returned to the prison in Goochland, Va. By then her condition was so severe that she had to have a hysterectomy.

In 1983, after eight years and eight months in prison—the last four in which she deliberately tamped down her political voice so not to alienate “the Left”—she was granted parole and released. She rejoined her mother and daughter and secured employment in the Bronx office of the Legal Aid Society.

Between 1984 and 1998, Whitehorn recalled, Bukhari was unstinting in her involvement in the plight of political prisoners. She visited prisoners, “wrote to them, and always accepted their collect phone calls. She communicated their needs and ideas to the outside world, and she wrote and spoke on their behalf.”

Through these efforts, eventually, with the help of other activists, including the late Herman Ferguson and the still incarcerated Jalil Muntaqim, she created the Jericho Movement. “The name Jericho was used to conjure up the image of massive resistance that would succeed in bringing down the walls of prisoners, freeing the more than 100 political prisoners behind bars at that time,” Whitehorn observed.

Her work on behalf of political prisoners was wide-ranging, through forums, pamphlets, books, lectures and even a weekly radio show she conducted on WBAI with Sally O’Brien. Associated with this endeavor was her role in establishing the Free Mumia Abu-Jamal Coalition.

“In the early years of this century, Safiya’s health deteriorated,” Whitehorn wrote. “Not many of us knew how badly she suffered from a variety of ailments connected with hypertension. A week after the death of her mother in 2003, Safiya died of pulmonary embolism to the lungs. Her death at the age of 53 was mourned by leftists and progressives across the globe.”

The power of Bukhari’s legacy resonates from “The War Before,” and testimonies by Bukhari’s daughter, Wonda Jones, Angela Davis and Mumia Abu-Jamal bracket Whitehorn’s superb editing of the essays, articles and speeches by Bukhari.

At the close of one of the many documents included in the book, Bukhari stated, “The issue of political prisoners is part of that movement that we are building, and in building that movement we must understand that this is not a separate issue. It is an integral part of that movement. It can’t be put in front of the movement and it can’t be an afterthought. It must be woven into the very fiber.”

Woven into the fiber in the same way, Bukhari was an inextricable part of that tapestry for total liberation of the world’s political prisoners.

21 Sept - A Special Message on El Grito de Lares from Oscar López-Rivera

For the past thirty-four years, Oscar López-Rivera, the longest held political prisoner in Puerto Rican history, has commemorated El Grito de Lares from within a U.S. prison. From his cell in the Marion Federal Penitentiary, he wrote a brief reflection on the significance of El Grito.

MORE:

It's very important to celebrate the Grito de Lares, especially to learn more about that glorious event and to have a good appreciation about the courageous men and women who dared to sow the seed of struggle for the independence and sovereignty of our beloved homeland. We can raise the question, why was the abolition of slavery so important to the heroic women and men who took up arms against Spanish colonialism? Would the Spaniards have abolished slavery without their uprising? Would the colonizers have continued taking Puerto Ricans for granted? Would the anti-colonial struggle have had the continuity it has been able to have without this event? If the Grito de Lares had not happened, could so many generations of Puerto Rican freedom fighters have given continuity to the anti-colonial struggle?

The best leaders, who have succeeded them and emulated their example, have looked at the Grito de Lares as the most important symbol of the Puerto Rican anti-colonial struggle. They have used it as a platform not only to raise consciousness, but also as one that will not allow Puerto Ricans to forget that we have the potential of becoming an independent and sovereign nation as long as we dare to struggle for it.

For us, El Grito de Lares is as important as the Grito de Dolores is to Mexicans and the Grito de Yara is to our Cuban brothers and sisters. The Grito de Lares was only the beginning of a revolutionary process. Its celebration in the Puerto Rican diaspora and in Puerto Rico confirms that our struggle to end colonialism continues, and that generation after generation has carried in its heart our national boricua identity. Indeed, the seed sown by the heroic women and men in the Grito de Lares—that 23 of September, 1868—has become a perennial one. Our struggle continues and victory will be ours because we dare to struggle and to win.

22 Sept - Solitary Confinement Coffee May Be the Worst Branding Idea Ever

Do prison cells sell? That seems to be the idea behind Solitary Sumatra, an organic, fair trade coffee blend sold by Jailhouse Coffee, a newish small-batch roastery in New York City.

MORE:

by Shane Bauer (*Mother Jones*)

The coffee is not made by prisoners or ex-felons and the company's only connection to incarceration is that, according to its website, "there is a 'bighouse' just near the roastery" in Queens.

The 83 marks scratched into the coffee bag far surpass the 15 days the United Nations specifies as the maximum amount of time anyone should spend in solitary confinement. Anything beyond that "constitutes torture or cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment." The Bureau of Justice Statistics estimates that more than 80,000 prisoners are in isolation at a given time in the United States. Some of these are the "worst of the worst," but many are not. In New York, prisoners have been thrown in the hole for "wasting food" or having an "untidy cell or person." On Rikers Island, not far from Queens, 16-year-old Kalief Browder spent long stretches in solitary confinement during the three years he spent in pretrial detention for allegedly stealing a backpack. Two years after his release, he committed suicide. Nearly two out of five suicides in prison happen in solitary confinement. The United Nations Special Rapporteur on Torture, President Obama, and Supreme Court Justice Anthony Kennedy have spoken out against the excessive use of solitary confinement in this country.

So who thought solitary confinement would make a good branding idea? Is it just hipster irony that makes our prison system's most extreme aspects somehow cute? Perhaps it's the Orange Is The New Black effect, a consequence of the popularization and romanticization of prison life. (Like the woman who dressed a girl in an orange jumpsuit and blackface for Halloween last year.)

I couldn't reach anyone at the company to explain their marketing strategy. So far, they seem to have gotten little flack for their brand, though one person has taken it upon himself to circulate a petition asking the company to change its name. Jailhouse Coffee's blends also include Solitary Peru, Good Behavior Organic

Blend, and Chain Gang Espresso, which harkens to the time when black prisoners were used as free labor across the South.

Sign the petition demanding Jailhouse Coffee change its name: change.org/p/jailhouse-coffee-jailhouse-coffee-change-your-name

23 Sept - Brandon Baxter and Abdul Haqq have been transferred

Bill Dunne, Brandon Baxter (of the Cleveland 4), and "ALF Lone Wolf" Abdul Haqq have both been moved in the last few days. For Bill, it's possibly a transfer unit with another move to follow; for Brandon, it's to a maximum security prison in California; for Abdul, to an FCI in Illinois. If you can, take the time to write to them. As we know, the first days and weeks at a new prison are particularly tough.

MORE:

Bill Dunne #10916-086

FCI Mendota

Post Office Box 9

Mendota, California 93640

Brandon Baxter #57972-060

USP Atwater

Post Office Box 019001

Atwater, California 95301

A few weeks ago, Abdul Haqq requested transfer out of USP Marion, the prison where he has been held since Jan 2012. On Monday he was taken to FCI Greenville, which is just a few hours drive from Marion. He sounds real good and extremely glad to be away from Marion. He said the facility is much better in terms of programs, exercise equipment, food (the vegetarian food is mostly vegan, plus the cooks are good) and people (some of the other guys gave Abdul Haqq supplies to tide him over until the commissary reopens). This is so great! The prison commissary is closed for the next 2 weeks, due to a quarterly inventory count and restocking. When the commissary reopens, Abdul Haqq will need to make some purchases, because he was only allowed to take limited personal belongings. If you can send a few dollars to help with purchases such as clothing, stationery, snacks, hygiene items, it will be much appreciated. Oh, and even more important (than money) right now is Abdul Haqq would like to hear from YOU and YOU and YOU... MR. BOND WANTS MAIL! Remember to use his new address, and include your return address in the body of the letter to make it easy for him to write you back.

Abdul Haqq* 37096-013

FCI Greenville

Post Office Box 5000

Greenville, Illinois 62246

**Address envelope to Walter Bond, cards and letters to Abdul Haqq.*