

BREAD & WATER

Issue 1

"Resistance Is A Duty"

2014

IN THE NEWS

- European Union Votes to Ban Life Without Parole Sentences 17-1 (Britain only Country to Vote against)
- 160,000 Lifers in the USA.
- 49,000 Serving Life Without Parole in USA (x4 since 1984!)
- 1 in 9 in Prison Serving Life!
- Life Without Parole Sentences up 22% Since 2008
- 700,000 Prisoners released back to the streets EVERY YEAR. (to your neighborhood!)
- 1970—250,000 US Prisoners
- 2013—2.3 Million US Prisoners
- 65 of 300 Million Have Arrest Record in USA!

This Month in History:

John F. Kennedy, America's first Irish Catholic President, is murdered in Dallas. Kennedy, a descendant of Irishmen who were themselves enslaved by the British for 700 years, was an outspoken *Civil Rights Advocate*.

Parole Issues

By Mike S.

Since the current Parole Board was put into place in 2010, they have failed to comprehend the value of parole, which protects society, rather than endangers it. Bread & Water will fight for a more diversified board membership; a system of presumptive parole, and statistical data & research to share with the public to prove that the current program is failing miserably—at a huge cost to the tax-payers and society as a whole.

Changes are necessary. The prosecutorial mindset of the Parole Board must change in order to give prisoners fair, unbiased hearings and a real chance to succeed upon release—and to create hope.

Veterans Issues

By Joe L.

Veterans imprisoned who were convicted of a capital offense cannot be buried in any state or federal cemetery. Their families do not get an American flag, nor do they experience the pride of an Honor Guard, or a bugler playing Taps. The disabled veteran cannot be seen at any V.A. Hospital and treated for his or her wounds that were received while upholding the ideals of our American democracy. Whatever pensions they may have been receiving are reduced to 10% irrespective of how much they were receiving prior to prison. For one bad decision in their lives the veteran is cast as unworthy trash.

Compassionate Release

By Tim M.

Massachusetts is one of only nine states that does not have some type of compassionate/medical release legislation. The associated security costs attached to caring for the aging prisoner population are astronomical and an extreme burden on the taxpayer. We are working to ensure that real and viable compassionate release legislation is written into law here in the Commonwealth, and we are currently supporting the measure authored by State senator Patricia Jehlen—Senate Bill No. 1139.

The State of Justice

By Shawn F.

The More than 2.3 million incarcerated individuals in the U.S. are often regarded as a throw-away population. While the criminal justice system focuses on giving offenders "what they deserve", it does little to restore the needs created by crime, or to explore the factors that lead to it. This is an observation that encapsulates the attitudes of the Department of Correction. Many citizens believe that when a judge's gavel bangs, and the prisoner is convicted, their involvement ends. Nothing could be further from the truth.

The American people, starting with Massachusetts, need to be more aware and involved in the comings and goings of the Department of Corrections. As of now, the DOC is a jobs program being funded on the backs of the working class and the victims of avoidable crimes. There are cost-effective solutions that are not being utilized



PRISONERS' RIGHTS ADVOCACY

Contact Info:

Karen Schulman
PO Box 84
Hopedale, MA 01747

Email:

klschulman@verizon.net

Saving Lives With Your Help!



<https://www.facebook.com/pages/bread-water/258692877617327>

Mission Statement

Bread & Water, Inc., is the true voice of the prisoner here in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Our mission is to hold the Department of Correction accountable for its full failure to adhere to the rehabilitative mandate, under the law, M.G.L.c. 124 §1(e). We will work to enhance public safety, and therefore strengthen the social fabric, through the utilization of the resource that is the prisoner himself/herself. No one can speak for the prisoner but the prisoner himself/herself.

One of the main focuses will be the aging/elderly prisoner population as it is the fastest growing demographic in the prison today. Too many terminally ill inmates are allowed to linger in this failed system at great cost to the taxpaying public when they could easily be released to family or outside hospice care which incurs drastically reduced costs. We will fight tirelessly for compassion here til no end.

The prison system has been broken for far too long and the hopelessness that is the product of this brokenness permeates the prison population with drastic results. We are going to work to change that through our ceaseless efforts promoting redemption and personal achievement. If there is nothing good left in the destiny of a person he or she will surely die.

"Right is right, even if everyone is against it; And wrong is wrong, even if everyone is for it." - William Penn

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

William Francis Galvin

Secretary of the Commonwealth

One Ashburton Place, Room 1717, Boston, Massachusetts 02108-1512

ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION

(General Laws, Chapter 180)

ARTICLE I

The exact name of the corporation is:

Bread & Water, Inc.

ARTICLE II

The purpose of the organization is to engage in the following activities:

Bread & Water, Inc., is to represent the true voice of the prisoner in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts by working to enforce the rehabilitative mandate, under the law, that is detailed in Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 124, § 1(e).

The main focuses of Bread & Water, Inc., will be commutation reform, parole reform, the implementation of meaningful compassionate release legislation, and holding the Department of Correction responsible/accountable for its failure to honor the rehabilitative mandate. Bread & Water, Inc., will always listen to the voice of the educated prisoner and will act with their needs at heart in all of the corporations actions and endeavors.

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/BREAD-WATER/258692877617327>