

Daniel Gwynn Blog Update

Date: 3/21/15

Subject: "The Grievance Interview, First Level"

I was interviewed by the Unit Manager concerning my grievance filed on 3/11/15. (The atypical & significant hardships of my confinement). We had a forty-five minute discussion in the middle of the tier surrounded by prisoners buzzing around us trying to catch glimpses of our discussion--no privacy. We discussed the hardships the policies create and how we could change things. The discussion wasn't very productive, as my issues & ideas were shut down one after the other: "It's policy; or "It's security." I suggested an inmate council be formed to present the prisoners' issues & suggestions; I've suggested due process to address policy's legitimate penological interests versus the harm; and I suggested they permit pod officers to assess prisoners' status on their unit to lessen restrictions & increase privileges. It's sad to say that as expected, the interview was nothing more than all talk, but I had to try. I'll be getting the official response soon denying my grievance. My appeal to the Superintendent comes next.

During the interview, he tried to make a point of me not participating in the Periodic Review Committee's ninety day review to air these complaints. I explained that I don't trust that perfunctory committee to make a difference. But during our discussion, It hit me that in order to effect any meaningful change, one must make the sacrifice to get involved.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Daniel Gwynn". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned in the lower right quadrant of the page.