

Your Excellency,
Governor Charlie Baker
State House
Boston, Massachusetts



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MENTAL HEALTH / D.O.C. / FOLLOW-UP

On my last public writing that was published on this web-side I was explaining the need of separating Mental Health from the Department of Correction. - This entire matter was indeed very well illustrated, but no one reacted and people here in Massachusetts were indiferent because we are dealing with prisoners with mental illness.

Today I am making my point again by supporting my claims with stronger evidence "The suicide of another mental patient at NCCI - GARDNER on July 26, 2015." Another 2 or 3 Million Dollar settlement at the cost of a human life.

The main problem is with the standarizing policy and regulations that create a systematic behavior for both the Mental Health Department and the Mentally ill prisoners under the care and custody of the the (DOC). Mental Health Department does not have security staff to over-see patients 24 hours a day, the D.O.C. security staff is doing the security check of the perimeter and at night after count they can't open the door until he or she received a clearence from the chain of command.

On the night of the suicide in question, a female officer was in charge of the floor and it took sometime to get the door open. - There are two important issues with that; a) Mental Health Security staff is a person who can restraining or provide medical assistance on the SPOT by opening the door and ring the body alarm for additional assistance, b) the female officer couldn't opened the door inmediately because the staff have to make sure of the security first and them call for assistance to open the door.

It is my personal believe that there has been a serious complication where prisoners with mental illness have assaulted Correctional Staff and it is clear to me that the systemic problem stem from the incident at MCI-Shirley Medium (1992-1993) where the prisoner had the door opened and some-how he dragged the female officer into the cell and sexually abused her for several hours. - It is very important to mention that we have many good people working for the DOC and the Mental Health Dept. and I don't want to blame any person and making speculation on things that I don't know, **BUT**, I am sincerely hopeful that Governor Baker allow me to testefied before a Judiciary Committe to adres issues of confinement so that the systematic problem can be properly addressed.///

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