

SHIRLEYWORLD UPDATES
"Let The Bullets Fly!"
Chapter LXXXIX

by Timothy J. Muise

* * * * *

- **GLENDa THE GOOD WITCH PISSES OFF HARM REDUCTION CAUCUS / SHOWS ASS**

Our wonderful director of mistreatment here, Christine Lurking, who is now known as "Glenda The Good Witch" due to her "Hide The Wizard Behind The Curtain" Program offerings, really screwed the pooch this time. You see she told the Legislative Harm Reduction Caucus that the February 26, 2016, meeting between Caucus Members and members of the "Free Speech Task Force" would be open to 50 members of the general population as an audience, but the Caucus Members did not find out that this was a lie until they reached the door of the facility. It was the best display of "who" these "people" really are that we could have asked for. We told the Caucus they were liars and Glenda proved our point for us. Our "Good Witch", who used to play "good cop" to former Deputy Denied-Oh's "bad cop" and/or "Bad Witch", really showed her ass on this one; even if they needed the Hubble Telescope to find it! The real story is that this event, and the previous event which took place on October 23, 2016, were organized without the involvement of these gulag deceivers. This even after they told me that we "were not allowed" to organize such events: Boy were they wrong! These true fools would tell you that you are Not Allowed To Breathe if you let them get away with this crazy bullshit. It is not a bad gig though, if you can get it, as Glenda The Good Witch makes \$81,450.80 a year to use smoke and mirrors to make it appear that men are getting some form of "treatment". A true black arts talent as it "sure ain't happening" here at ShirleyWorld! Her treatment of the Harm Reduction Caucus was just a toddler's tantrum out of anger that we, the Free Speech Caucus, will not work with her office of deception. She Hokie-Doked the Veteran's Group when she pretended she would "help" them contact volunteers for their Veteran's Day Event, she even called the aging commander over to her office four or five times, but as it often is in prison the "pussy" disarmed these guys and they did not even realize the "meetings" were information gathering sessions to see what "Muise" might have been doing. Run that game on someone else Glenda; you can fool the old man and some potential stalkers, but you ain't foolin' the Free Speech Warrior! We don't need no stinkin' Glendas! I will organize events on my own as it is my constitutional right to do so. I will expose the lies of the department of corruption and what Glenda did to the Harm Reduction Caucus could not have helped us more! These people always show their "ass" when afforded the opportunity, even if it is a scarecrow ass, and I plan to give them as many opportunities as possible. When I get to the State House to testify, and that is going to happen, I will detail the actions of Glenda and her ilk with unmistakable zeal and accuracy.

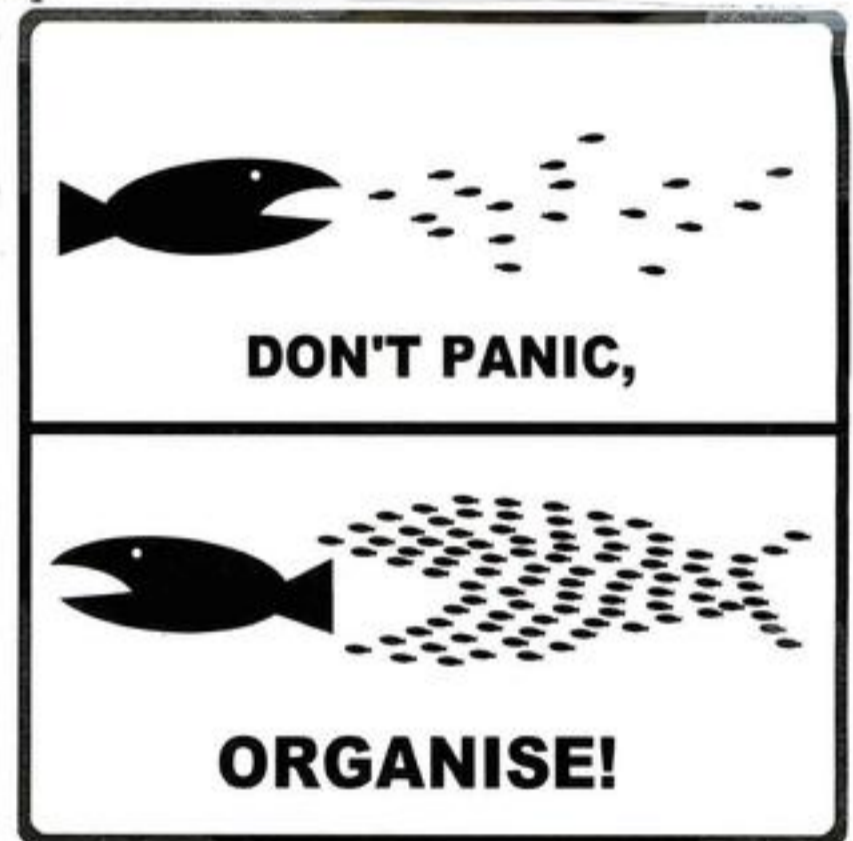


FREE SPEECH WARRIOR

- **LT. PECKERHEAD/LT. McHARDLY "HOT LINE" ESTABLISHED / ACCOUNTABILITY COMING**

One thing we are proud of that occurred immediately after the February 26, 2016, meeting with the Legislative Harm Reduction and Drug Law Reform Caucus that we established a direct line to the Caucus by which we can

report the abuses that occur here at ShirleyWorld. We will call it "The Lt. Shameless Peckehead / Lt. Dick McHardly Hot-Line" and it will be used to gather information to be presented when dirt-bag oxygen wasters such as these two have their day before an inquiry committee. Each and every time Shameless utters some foolishness out of his mishapened head it will be documented and reported to the Caucus. Everytime Lt. Dick overcrowds the chowhall or sucker-shots some handcuffed con it will be documented. These two, along with many other "blog favorites" had their names turned over to the Caucus on February 26, 2016. The document named them as among the top abusers here at the prison and asked that they begin the files on these men. It is our turn to seek justice and the caucus sees the results of the abuse very clearly. We can and will work toward full accountability for these criminals with badges. You, the taxpayer, paid Lt. Shameless Peckerhead a total of \$116,294.17 and Lt. Dick McHardly a total of \$91,017.85 in 2015 to DESTROY public safety and render this prison a joke. It is about time that we organized a real and viable method of accountability. No more whitewash DOC "interviews" for the DOC investigators and Lt. Shameless. he will have to answer to the charges in front of a "sworn" body and real accountable will be levied: its coming Peckerhead so get ready! That's right bitch, we marched twenty members of the Legislative Harm Reduction Caucus right into the prison, on our own authority, and reported you and your ilk directly to them - by name! We detailed your criminal activity and full and vivid stupidity. I am certain that they are reviewing the State Police Dirty Urine debauchle as I write and we asked them to "check the facts". You piss dirty for the staties and then think you can act the fool just beacuse you have a set of bars on your shoulders. Think again. Bars, but no balls, equals pure stupidity. Douche out your mangina and prepare to get fucked! You will have "deja vu all over again" brining you back to Spring Break in Provincetown where you "broke your cherry!" Lt. Dick always says that he loves what he reads on here, imagine you made \$91,017.85 and your spare time is spent reading prisoner blogs? Get a fucking life, will ya!, and I hope you like reading the reports the Caucus will write when we get the Hot-Line in full swing. Maybe we can even get a special number like 1-800-BAD-DICK or 1-888-PEE-DRTY!



- BUILDING OF NEW CHOWHALL POSTPONED / GIRLS OF SHIRLEYWORLD FUNDED INSTEAD

ShirleyWorld Director of Engineering, Casey Jones Supernut, recently declared, "I will postone the building of the new chowhall and instead fund

the "Girls Of ShirleyWorld" Calendar as a way to raise funds for the "Public Safety Be Damned" media campaign the facility plans to engage in. Casey Jones Supernut took the money for the replacement of the Structurally Unsound chowhall and hired the IPS Team here to use their "Evidence Cameras" to take provocative photos of the "Girls Of ShirleyWorld" to be assembled in a 2017 Calander. You will have a photo of CO Hasbeen, clad only in a see through powerlifting suit, diving into a prisoner "misunderstanding" on Unit C-1. Glenda The Good Witch will pose sitting at her desk in the Programs Building, nothing on but a pointy Black Witch's Hat, while on the phone to "Ghost Guests" she pretends to invite in for Self-Improvement Group Events. Our Director of Over-Classfication Janice Paris-Hilton, will conceal her assets behind some Palm Fronds and hold a Puerto Rican flag in her left hand and a Department of Corruption banner in her right. Lt. Kim Urine was photographed wearing only Ice Skates and a Tanya Harding grin while doing a Hamel Camel at the local rink. Our new deputy, C. Go-Get-Em will dress in a nurses uniform with short white skirt, high spike heels, and a Red Cross on her hat, while giving a "lecture" to dementia patients in the HSU/SNF/ADL about their "right" to file a commutation petition. Some of the men were caught drooling, but they do that even when the women are clothed. The highlight of the event will surely be, at least for me anyway, our fine feathered leader here, Kelly Rubber Stamp Wry-On, who will pose in Jackie O's gown that she wore to the 1962 Kennedy innauguration. A pair of Prada heels and DeBeer's diamond choker will complete the package which she will wear while posing in front of the new sign the woodshop made for the Facility's Harvard Road entrance which reads, "Welcome to ShirleyWorld. Abandon All Hope All Ye Who Enter Here." When someone falls through the hole in the floor in the chowhall Casey Jones Supernut, The Engineer, driving his train high on cocaine, can offer them a copy of the calendar as a consolation, but in the meantime he can answer to Dr. Mary Lou Sudders at the Department of Public Health about his decision as Free Speech Central is making an immediate report!



More To Come...

IN THIS ISSUE:

Title	Pg.
5 Questions w/ Ronald Johnson	2
We need a Citizen's Advisory Board	3
Corrections of Congress	3
Patriotism Not Lost Behind Bars	5
Justice Reinvestment	5
Changing Perspectives of Prisoners	6



**Citizens United for the Rehabilitation of Errants—
Adherence to the Rehabilitative Mandate**

Too many people go to
too many prisons
for far too long for no good
law enforcement reason

Former Attorney General
Eric Holder

Volume 3, Issue 1

Winter 2016

FACTS SPEAK

**The vehicle of the new Commutation Guidelines
for the sick and dying has a flat tire!**

by: Ken Seguin

There is a job's program going on in the Commonwealth that may as well be flushing money down the toilet. And there is a moral decay that would rot a stainless steel pot. It has to do with the incarceration of extremely sick, very old, incarcerated people. To employ security personnel for people who need to be transported by ambulance because they are unable to get in a transport van/car is ridiculous. To reason that a person must serve their whole sentence, regardless of the fact that their dementia is so advanced, or they are a paraplegic, or their cancer is stage four and ravaging their body..... is the sign of an immoral society hell-bent on punishment. Their ignorance of "tough on

crime" mentality is proven to be nothing more than a prison jobs program.

Let's look at one three day span at MCI Shirley from November 23rd to 25th 2015. MCI Shirley has some 25 men isolated in what they call the hospital services unit and another 13 in the Assisted Daily Living unit. During those three days there were 49 "trips". A trip is when the local prison sends two C.O.'S out of the prison to accompany the one prisoner who goes out for a "real hospital" trip. Although there is a "transportation department" of the D.O.C. that sends out a fleet of vans and cars used daily for court, hospital, parole trips, they cannot always keep up with the demand. But when a prisoner

is so sick he/she must be transported by ambulance, then that institution sends a chaser car with two C.O.'s to "guard" the prisoner.

An ambulance trip from prison costs the D.O.C. \$3,000. Two C.O.'s (and many times one officer is a Sgt. or Lt. because there is an overabundance of them) for a shift is lowball estimated at \$400. If the prisoner stays overnight, add three shifts (\$1,200) per day. And this is for a prisoner so sick that he's unable to walk! The Boston Globe reported that hospital trips required \$900,000 just in overtime pay for 2014. (*Dying inmates don't need to be in jail, 10/26/15*).

Continued on page 4



HARM REDUCTION CAUCUS RETURNS TO MCI SHIRLEY

On Friday, 2/26/16, thirteen members of the Harm Reduction Drug Law Reform Caucus from the Massachusetts State House came to MCI Shirley. CURE-ARM Director, Tim Muise diligently worked with the offices of Representatives Swan, Sannicandro, and Fox to make this second meeting with the Caucus a reality. Unfortunately the D.O.C. Shirley Administrators stopped a generally assembly and only had eight prisoners attended the roundtable discussion.

Topics ranged from: (1) reentry preparation (and the lack thereof), (2) substance abuse counseling for overcoming addiction issues (and the ineffective Correctional Recovery Academy program), (3) medical treatment of the prisoner (and how Mass Partnership for Correctional Health Care is treating prisoners less than human), (4) solitary confinement and how "policy" differs from "practice", (5) issues of idle time in prison from lack of jobs/school/

programs for everyone, (6) mental health counseling and how limited the resource is, (7) vocational training programs and how sewing shop has never led to post incarceration employment yet welding, which has been eliminated could, (8) pay scales for prison jobs, (9) parole reform needs, (10) classification system faults—particularly the nondiscretionary overrides and the façade of hearings as Milford does what they want and (11) Skype for Life" program to

Continued on page 5

FIVE QUESTIONS WITH RONALD JOHNSON

WISDOM OF FIVE PLUS DECADES OF INCARCERATION

Mr. Johnson, how long were you on death row and what was your first impressions when you arrived there?

I was on death row for 8 1/2 years. When I first went there it was a surreal experience as I would never have imagined myself in prison sentenced to be killed. All I did is pace the cement floor of my cell with the bobo footwear provided. As time went on I became flatfooted. After some time death row prisoners were allowed to walk outside in a small restricted yard. The first time I walked on that small grass area because the earth gave way to my weight.

Briefly, what do you say are the biggest differences between the prison system of the 60's/70's and today's system?

Clearly, the biggest difference is that back then there was more consideration and respect from the staff. I think that is because it was run by the Department of Human Services who were professionally focused on true rehabilitation and releasing men better able to succeed. One simple example; the prisoner could paint their own cell and had a choice of five different colors of paint. Doesn't sound like much but they knew the

psychological effect of allowing an individual to match a color to his personality. Another example was the furlough system to enforce good behavior and provide a means for those close to wrapping up to go out and begin lining up jobs, programs, etc. themselves as responsible people. Today the focus is penal, not rehabilitation; that fact is shown in the budget where only 2% goes to rehabilitation and education.

After years of successfully working outside the wall, dozens of unsupervised furloughs, living in minimum security and then being pulled back to medium security due to politics and no fault of your own, do you feel bitter or angry?

I have no bitterness or anger but rather a disappointment in today's prison system. It seems to me that today's system is set up for the benefit of the employees and not the prisoner's rehabilitation. It is counterproductive to rehabilitation and penal in nature. Men leave here bitter and angry and I don't think society wants that. Yes, I'm disappointed.

What do you feel your biggest accomplishment was during your five decades of incarceration?

It was the numerous furloughs I earned between 1972 and 1987 when they existed. Just a few examples were going to Mt. Holyoke College and Clark University as a guest of the Criminal Justice Departments to speak to college students about my death row experiences. In 1982 I was furloughed and took public transportation to Boston to speak at my first commutation hearing. I had earned trust to go out in public, determine how to get from point A to point B, represent myself, and then come back to prison. The backbone of rehabilitation is to earn trust and take responsibility. It was a big accomplishment I was afforded.

Has there been, or would you be open to any form of reconciliation with your victim's family/friends/community?

Interesting enough, for years I corresponded with my victim's granddaughter who reached out to me from Seattle WA. I came to understand her loss at a personal level and she came to understand the crime that took her grandfather's life was not deliberate but the result of bad decisions I made. She was able to see me more than just the murderer of her grandfather. I believe it was a form of justice for both of us – a healing salve to the pain and suffering I caused. †

Ronald Johnson who served our country as a U.S. Marine in the 1950's until his honorable discharge. He was convicted of murder in 1964 and was sentenced to die in the electric chair until Massachusetts abolished the death penalty in 1972. He has been a model inmate for over 52 years now. From 1973 until 1987 he accumulated 2,917 furlough hours for various reasons, worked outside the wall of prison in such places as the State House and other State offices. His co-defendant's sentence was commuted by the governor in the 60's. Since then Ronnie has applied for a commutation three times and been denied three times. He is now 84 years old. No purpose is being achieved in his continued incarceration. After five decades the punitive nature of incarceration no longer exists, only the extraordinary cost of having to care for an elderly gentleman in prison remains which only serves the employment ranks of the Department of Correction. For more information on Mr. Johnson's 52+ years in prison write him: Ronald Johnson W29696, P.O. Box 1218, Shirley, MA 01464

THEY WON'T GIVE THEM WINTER HATS, AND YOU EXPECT THEM TO REHABILITATE US?

We need a Citizens Advisory Board

by Timothy J. Moise

The "Law" in Massachusetts requires that prison officials provide "adequate weather appropriate clothing" to the prisoners in their charge. Many Massachusetts prisons, such as MCI Shirley, require prisoners to walk great distances to and from chow, three times a day, if they want to eat. The walk can be up to 200 yards or more. Also, a large number of the aging prison population requires life-sustaining medications which requires that they venture out one to three times per day in addition to going out for meals. In the brutal winter weather these trips out of the cellblock can be brutally cold and unforgiving, but they are a must.

At MCI Shirley the powers that be have decided that they will no longer issue winter hats or thermal underwear to these prisoners, some who are over 80 years of age, despite that they have to venture out into freezing cold for food and medications even though the "law" requires that they do so. This is a prime example of how the prison guards and wardens view us as less than human and not even worthy of a

winter hat. The "Law" in Massachusetts requires that prison officials rehabilitate the prisoners in their charge. How can anyone expect that the same people who do not even feel prisoners would have winter hats in the freezing cold would make an effort to rehabilitate those same prisoners whom they view as less than human? Trust me when I tell you that absolutely no guards or administrators care about rehabilitation; they cannot even define it if you asked them what it was.

**THERE IS ONE D.O.C.
EMPLOYEE FOR EVERY 2.2
PRISONERS.**

**OVER TWO THIRDS OF THE
D.O.C. BUDGET IS FOR
STAFFING**

CURE-ARM knows what it is and it is not prison guards and wardens viewing prisoners as less than human; that's for sure. It is the quest for self-

realization and that quest cannot happen under the current abusive prison staff attitude.

You can come up with the best solutions: programs, education, job training, and all the other components of what society views as effective rehabilitation tools, and all will fail when the guards and wardens who's duty it is to facilitate those efforts view prisoners

as less than human. When the system is about guard salaried it can never be about rehabilitation. That is why the \$550 million corrections budget reaps a 47% recidivism rate. When you pay the superintendent of Shirley a whopping \$116,466.56 no matter the results you can expect lethargy and indifference. When one of the most abusive line lieutenants at the facility can earn \$116,294.17 under the current overtime abuse scheme, even though his employment record displays numerous instances of dereliction of duty, that you are cursed with a system that creates violent offenders and ensures the perpetuation of crime and social decay. There exists absolutely no accountability in the current system.

We need a Citizens Advisory Board which has the power to effectively discipline guards and wardens if they cannot produce results. They need the power to crush the unreasonable demands of the guard's union which created the abusive overtime system and staffing ratio debacle; you have one guard for every 2.2 prisoners! The system must once again, as it was in the 1980's, be about rehabilitation and second chances. Guard salaries and sadistic operating procedures must be replaced with real opportunities for self-realization. Help us build this Citizens Advisory Board. †

THE CORRECTIONS OF CONGRESS

By George Nassar

The U.S. Congress is enacting a "criminal justice" revision of federal prison sentencing and programming - reducing sentences, upgrading education and jobs, and "compassionate release" of the senile and disabled - all with the aim of "correcting" the system to further justice. In other words, the Congress, and all noteworthy criminal justice/penal reform advocates, are obliquely admitting that the suppression of the Massachusetts 1972 penal

reform law was a legal, moral, and intellectual transgression (as the CURE-ARM Summer 2015 Position and Racketeering papers detailed) - a law that provided all and more than now urged.

All these elements of a failed penology are what Massachusetts represents as specified in that Summer CURE-ARM newsletter. Massachusetts was the test case in 1972 reform (Legislative enactment Chapter

777) and its failure and suppression was duplicated nationwide. All licensed (legal) social science (rehab counseling) was suppressed, all court orders to save the mandated rehab process and programs were suppressed, therefore the judicial judgment constitutionally was suppressed, perverting the American people's social mind to judge truthfully - therefore, the nation's academic integrity to

(continued on page 4)

THE CORRECTIONS OF CONGRESS

Continued from page 3

judge and require faithful accredited science application was perverted and suppressed. In short, the mind of the nation to think and act rationally to solve social-economic and criminal justice problems was brainwashed by the "law and order" constituency for its profiteering advantage.

Now the profiteers are entrenched in the system. They have every rationale to oppose and undermine initiatives that contrast their failures, imperil their station, and impends exposé of their malfeasance. Their 43 year encroachment upon the sanctity of the Constitution and their undermining of the judiciary are no small retributive omens they shudder.



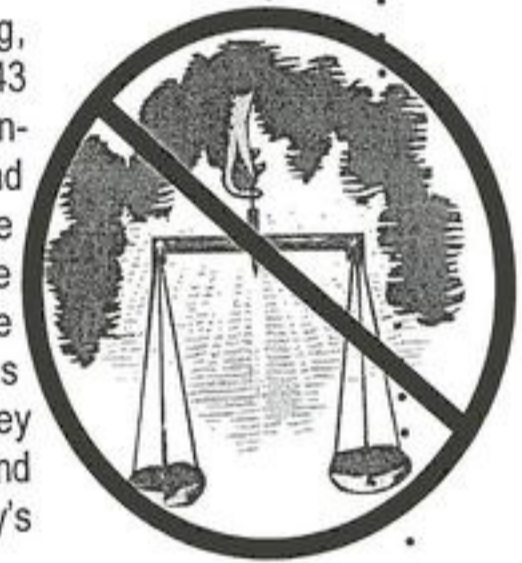
weight of the evidence of social rehabilitation science validity – by invoking the public's anger against criminality and its animus toward convicts. The "majority" of the citizenry does not trump the Constitution; to do so is tyranny, and to pander to that tyranny is at once obsequious and perfidious. I don't care how many votes a politician gets to effect that perfidy; it is treasonous by nature and manipulative by design.

Such moral degeneracy, it must be said, is exactly correlate to the perversion of social science methodology in theory development and academic practice.

The fact is that the public anger and animus is an emotional response to a lack of knowledge of what's going on – not an understanding of what's going on. "The public" is engaged in their "daily chores"; they expect the policing, political, and academic entities to inform them of the evidence and truth of the matter so they may make informed policy judgments. When, however, these "leaders" credit such passion as deliberative reason – by complicity or default – they purloin the thinking power of the nation. They

become, exactly, Frankenstein scientists, cleaving the body politic into fractured and confused constituencies, thereby inflaming the social confictions.

All that is why we at CURE-ARM can say with moral and intellectual certainty that the policing, political, and academic entities' perfidy and absent scientific methodology are culpable. That is, we, convicted criminals, **know** the effect of those entities' commission and omission; we embody them. And now, in the light of learning, these past 43 years, we confront them and so charge them in the name of the Constitution's promise they betrayed and the judiciary's judgment of Justice they raped. †



FACTS SPEAK

Naysayers might doubt the validity of how sick the men are in the MCI Shirley medical ward. Just look at the caption of this article showing the most recent 21 deaths in the last two years. **Facts speak!** So in those three days before Thanksgiving when 49 trips took place requiring 98 security officers to accompany the trips, the rest of the prison -programs, school, library, church- was shut down for the other 1,000+ prisoners and the teachers, instructors, chaplains prevented from their duties with the general population that was scheduled for school and programs.

Governor Baker recently published his clemency guidelines which allows for terminally or chronically ill prisoners to be considered for commutation. Filing a commutation petition is something none of these men are qualified or well enough to do. Once again, the government provides a solution but the execution of commutations for these very sick and dying men is out of reach. Nearly all of these men have been incarcerated for decades and are too old to still have a support system on the streets. This asinine practice only benefits one thing— D.O.C. employment ranks to "guard" the fully disabled! †

continued from page 1

PRISONERS WHO HAVE DIED IN THE LAST TWO YEARS at MCI SHIRLEY

- Frank Ferdinand · Humberto Feijo
- Emilian Paszko · Jim Bui
- Frank Soffen · Glen Breese
- Herbet Earl · Bernard Sanderson
- Ken Getchell · Kevin Hicks
- Everard Genius · Dave Stetson
- Dave McCall · Dave Owens
- Franz Kebreau · Eddie Darragh
- Robert Hubbard · Modesto Espejo
- Peter Ladetto · Al Trudell
- Reuben Lacefield · Dave Partridge
- Ali Flowers

PATRIOTISM IS NOT LOST BEHIND BARS

by: Timothy Cassidy

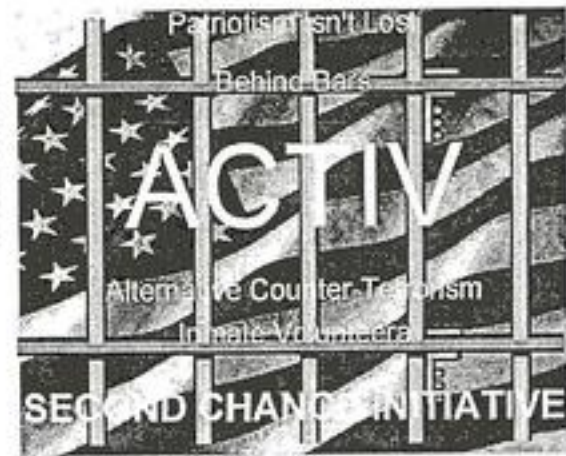
A proposal called the Second Chance Option has been presented to Rep. Paul Tucker of the Harm Reduction Caucus and the Joint Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security.

The proposal calls for the use of a long established Mass. law that would allow prisoners to become part of the Mass. Militia (MGL Ch33§1).

It is becoming readily apparent that ground troops will have to be used to fight ISIS insurgency in the Middle East. It would be high risk combat. This proposal will

not only save taxpayers and the Commonwealth money, but will create a new prison reform avenue for Lifers. President Obama has been quoted as saying, "America is the land of second chances." This is a way for lifers to earn 2nd chances at freedom and give back to the country.

During WWI, President Wilson saw the need for America to fight in Europe was escalating based upon the superiority of the German forces. From that initial belief that a million troops would suffice, Wilson and his military advisors quickly increased the number by millions in



that moment of crisis, 121 inmates of Eastern State Penitentiary in Pennsylvania were given the opportunity to join the army or navy. A plaque dedicated to their service with "Everlasting Honor" was placed in the prison. History can and will repeat itself. Lifer's are useful, we have been put away to die. We are all still useful. Let us earn a chance to get ourselves back and to again walk with our loved ones. †

HARM REDUCTION CAUCUS

continued from pg 1



allow prisoners to counsel inner city youth and lastly (11) how prisoners need to represent ourselves and not PLS who has their own agenda but little connect to the informed prison population. The adage was shared, "if you don't speak to us, don't speak for us."

The fact that that Harm reduction Caucus return following our presentations last October to take part in Phase Two of the plan to have this roundtable discussion in February is encouraging. It would have been nice if what the legislators wanted (also having an audience of 50 other prisoners to witness the roundtable and experience civic action)

would have happened. When they asked why, Tim Muise offered an explanation that it would have given hope to those who witnessed the event and the D.O.C. does not support that. So we now move on to phase three of this action—furloughing prisoners to the State House to testify before the Public Safety Committee. †

JUSTICE REINVESTMENT IN

Last summer Governor Baker successfully sought help from the U.S. Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), PEW Charitable Trusts, and the Council of State Governments (CSG) to direct Massachusetts in policy that will reduce corrections spending and recidivism while improving public safety.

There are 25 members appointed in Massachusetts as the CSG Justice Center—Massachusetts Criminal Justice Review working group. Members representing issues on prison and parole are Carol Mici, Asst. Deputy Com-

missioner of Classifications, Programs, & Reentry, Paul Treseler, Parole Board Chairman, and Leslie Walker, Director of Prisoner Legal Services. The prisoners voice is NOT represented and CURE-ARM will be making that point clear so this committee sees beyond existing policies and procedures down on paper to what is actually being executed in corrections and parole.

The results of this thorough collaborative analysis and recommendations from

BJA, PEW, and CSG will not begin to trickle into the State House until the fall of 2016. It is not anticipated that any legislation will be coming out as a result of this analysis until the 2017/2018 legislative docket.

CURE-ARM has made it a priority to assure the reality of the way our prisons and parole hearings/management is brought before the Justice Reinvestment initiative that has taken place. †





CURE-ARM

MISSION STATEMENT

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts has a very unique distinction in that General Laws of this state **MANDATE** that prisoners be rehabilitated as stated under the Powers and Duties of the commissioner of Corrections, M.G.L. 124 § 1(e):

In addition to exercising the powers and performing the duties which are otherwise given him by law, the commissioner of corrections, shall: ...

(e) establish, maintain, and administer programs of rehabilitation, including but not limited to education, training and employment, of persons committed to the custody of the department, designed as far as practicably to prepare and assist each person to assume the responsibilities and exercise the rights of a citizen of the Commonwealth.

It is apparent to our organization that the Department of Corrections has engaged in efforts to usurp the legal mandate to rehabilitate here in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The Massachusetts special interest group of CURE-ARM will work toward the melioration of that failure in accordance with justice and the enhancement of public safety.

Our Platform Issues are:

- ◆ Re-establish a viable commutation system in Massachusetts
- ◆ Enacting a presumptive parole system focusing on managed successful reintegration to society as well as motivated and effective rehabilitation during incarceration
- ◆ Working toward the implementation of compassionate medical releases dovetailing into viable commutations and effective parole with more cost effective management of the D.O.C. medical budget.
- ◆ Effective use of the Massachusetts Department of Corrections medical budget which is the 2nd largest portion of their budget. Cost effective preventative care is the goal.
- ◆ Work toward realization of the mandated duty that the D.O.C. focus on care and custody that promotes successful reentry and goes beyond a predominant focus of security-only.

Send your comments/feedback to:

CURE-ARM
P.O. BOX 396
BILLERICA, MA 01821
or
tmuise63@gmail.com

OUR BOARD

- Donna Barnoski.....President
- Holly BarnoskiSecretary
- Shawn Fisher.....Director
- Tim Muise.....Dir. Steering Com.
- Ken Seguin.....Outreach Cord.

CHANGING PERSPECTIVES OF THE PRISONER

by: James Ware

On Friday, October 23, 2015, a group of prisoners were asked to talk to a group of state senators, representatives, and aides of the General Court. It was a monumental event. Nine men addressed the assembly of twenty legislative policymakers.

I can tell you how I felt. When I first entered the room and began to shake some of the guests hands, I felt they did not know what to expect, some did not make eye contact, some did not even wish to greet me. In my mind all I wanted was a chance to be heard and taken seriously.

Tim Muise opened the floor as the "MC" and after he finished the visitors seemed quite surprised. Marcus Dyer then spoke; upon completing the visitors were awestruck. Then Shawn Fisher, and when he concluded they were shocked at the way visits and volunteers are disrespected. When Joe

Labriola finished addressing the legislative body; some were in tears, and one deputy was shocked to learn his story. After Mike Skinner concluded, the audience understood his vision on parole. When I finished, in my view, they saw us as humans. Then they nodded in respect and gratitude after Ken Seguin praised their efforts but told them the intent of the effort would not be lost in the execution by the D.O.C./Parole with our help. Then Evans Auguste educated them on how much the prisoner has to offer. Lastly, Jamal Gooding illustrated how we are trying our best to propose rehabilitation programs and hope to continue working with them.

Again, this was a momentous event. When the speeches were all over, the visitors did not run out of the room glad we were done presenting – No. The assembled legislative body of twenty now

understood what to expect from us. Any hesitation to greet us and have eye contact, were now engaged, looking eye to eye, and with smiles on their faces. They were asking questions and requested us to send them more specific suggestions. They have promised to come back and we are ready to keep engaged. I, for one, am suggesting new guidelines for multiple 1st and 2nd degree murder sentencing as well as a means to affect successful reintegration to society that will drastically reduce the recidivism rate.

Fast forward to February 26, 2016 when another legislative body from the State House came back in. This time they had a receiving line as we walked in the building and we exchanged our names with a warm handshake before starting an interactive roundtable discussion about reentry, parole, medical release, voting rights, jobs/ job training and classification. †