

HOW'S MY PRISON HEALTHCARE?
"Ask The Ghosts"

by Timothy J. Muise

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When I was a young man I would have scoffed at the proposition that "Ghosts" existed. I drank beer in cemeteries, brought dates to haunted mansions, and cracked jokes about the Salem Halloween antics. Today I believe in them wholeheartedly as I hear them screaming down the corridors of the prison hospital units; crying for justice!

If you want to know about prison healthcare you need to ask the ghosts. You can ask my dear friend Billy Barnoski about how when he was dying from a brain tumor his lungs were full of MRSA, but no one told him. They knew, these prison Kavorkians, but they kept it secret. Billy's family, my extended family, did not find out until the autopsy. Billy screams for justice at Shirley's Hospital Unit.

You can ask Lefty Gilday, a man who helped to get dozens of men out of prison. When Lefty was held in a "Solitary Confinement" medical cell and could not open his food trays they just piled up. No nurse, doctor, or evil candy-striper would even consider opening the trays for him; he was left to starve to death at 90 years of age. Thank God another convict came by and fed Lefty. Lefty is letting out blood curdling cries for mercy in the Secured Nursing Facility at MCI Shirley.

If you were to talk to the ghost of Frankie Soffen he would tell you of how he was left in a feces and urine filled adult diaper for over twenty-four hours on several occasions. Frank's private areas looked as if the skin was sandblasted off and nurses would say, "I'm not dealing with him. I'm hung over", and Frank would lay there in his filth. Evil knows no limits in these gulag hospitals. Frank Soffen haunts the shiny waxed corridors of Shirley's Health Services Unit.

Dying of cancer old Herbie was begging for an increase in pain medication. A prison warden, with no medical training, told Herbie that he was "at his limit" and could not get more unless he was sent to the "end of life unit" at Shattuck Hospital. Herbie moaned in pain each night, begging to be sent to Shattuck, but this evil deputy, snakes in her hair, kept him in pain for weeks until he ultimately succumbed to the cancer. She is our Himmler. Herbie rolls a ghostly wheelchair up and down the halls moaning in pain to this day.

One of the "dregs of humanity", as Mark Twain called prison guards, spends his day snapping plastic cups into the ear of a deaf, 70 year old, dying veteran, and verbally abusing a bed-ridden dementia patient. He hides the wheelchair of an old man with brain cancer and eats the fruit that was sent for the patients to eat. His ear-to-ear evil grin reminds the sick and dying octogenarians in the gulag sick-bay that their lives are literally in his evil hands. His victims, untold and growing, haunt the cells and dormitories of the hospital. These ghosts scream out for justice, they plead for mercy, they are demanding that the evil be exposed.

How's my prison healthcare? The answer is "haunting". I avoid the hospital like the plague and I pray each day I do not get sick. Ghosts are real and they live in the prison hospitals. Listen to them. Help us expose the evil there. It has to be exposed, and the evil doers held accountable, before it can be changed. Listen to the ghosts they are calling out to you!

FREE SPEECH CENTRAL

THE WORK TO EXPOSE THE FAILURES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION WILL CONTINUE NO MATTER WHAT LEVEL THE RETALIATION RISES TO: FREE SPEECH RULES!

FROM: "Prison Legal News", SEPTEMBER 2016

Massachusetts Prisoners Involved in Reform Efforts Transferred, Held in Solitary

by Christopher Zoukis

THREE MASSACHUSETTS STATE PRISONERS have been placed in segregation in apparent retaliation for their prison reform activism.

Timothy Muise, Shawn Fisher and Steven James, all incarcerated at the medium-security prison MCI Shirley, were taken from their cells late at night on March 23, 2016 and transferred to three different Massachusetts facilities, where they were all put in solitary confinement. While in solitary they had restricted access to phone calls and visits.

What do they have in common? They are all prison reform and prisoners' rights advocates.

Muise, 52, and Fisher, 44, had recently organized meetings at MCI Shirley with members of the Legislative Harm Reduction Caucus, a coalition of 70 state lawmakers that works to address the root causes of incarceration. Massachusetts Rep. Benjamin Swan, a leading member of the Caucus, described it as "A group of progressive legislators who see the need for some reform in the criminal justice system and corrections as well."

Meetings sanctioned by MCI Shirley

officials and attended by correctional staff were held at the prison in October 2015 and February 2016. Muise and Fisher organized the meetings and attended. While James, 39, did not attend, he has been a prominent advocate for prison reform.

A number of topics were discussed at the two meetings, including the overuse of solitary confinement in Massachusetts, low pay for incarcerated workers and the 22 deaths recorded at MCI Shirley the year before.

Muise and Fisher were in discussions with members of the Legislative Harm Reduction Caucus to arrange travel to the statehouse to testify before the Public Safety Committee at the time they were transferred and placed in segregation. They did not receive their underwear or other personal items until 41 days later.

When asked by Solitary Watch, an advocacy organization, why the three prisoners were put in solitary, a DOC spokesperson said that pursuant to state law, prison officials were unable to publicly comment on the reasons why specific individuals were subjected to solitary confinement. However, people close to Muise, Fisher and James reported that DOC investigators had ques-

tioned them about a supposed plot to build a computer and "hack" into the DOC's communications system. No evidence was produced to support the alleged plot.

"While there is a fairly clear appearance that Tim and the others were shipped out – and now locked up – because of their involvement in the meetings with legislators, it appears that they are looking for

some other basis for bringing disciplinary charges against them," Muise's attorney, John Reinstein, told Solitary Watch.

Rep. Swan clearly suspected the possibility of retaliation by staff at MCI Shirley.

"How is it that a group of inmates can get in trouble for trying to see the governor?" he asked. Swan called on the Caucus, as well as the legislative Latino and Black

Caucus, to meet with the state's Executive Officer of Public Safety and Commissioner of Corrections to "give us some understanding as to why this is happening, and tell us if they think this is what should happen or if someone is overstepping their policy." ■

Sources: www.solitarywatch.com, www.rt.com

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