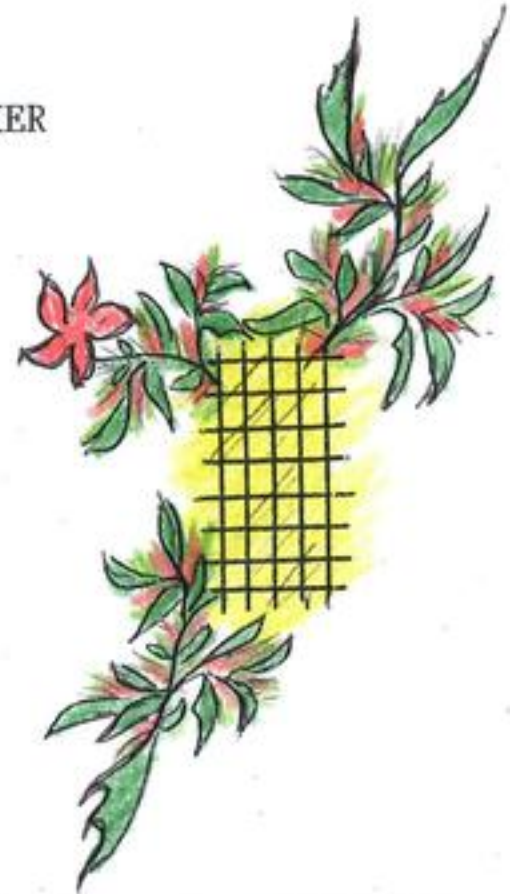


OPEN LETTER TO GOVERNOR CHARLIE D. BAKER

AND

SENATOR WILLIAM N. BROWNSBERGER
THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
STATE HOUSE
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02133



<http://betweenhebars.org>
luis-d-perez - Research Blog-350

In Re: PRISON SUBCULTURE AND EXPERIENCE

June 17, 2018
HAPPY FATHER'S DAY

Dear Governor Baker,
and Senator Brownsberger;

I am writing my open letters to the Governor because of personal motivation when I hear the word "TRANSPARENCY" from our politicians in Massachusetts. The thought of economic Justice come to my mind, when I remember the "BIG DIG BUDGET". - How I can transfer that thought into practice and help the community at large, small business people, the poor and the culture of prison business complex in Massachusetts.

I am a strong supporter of Governor Baker, just as much I'm supporting prison reforms and Senator Brownsberger on his political efforts to accomplish that important goal.

Being a politician from inside a prison and segregated from the public and the media is a very complicated task, because you never know if you'll ever survive, but one of the issues that gets my attention is the over-all hypocrisy of "Tough on Crime" political approach post Willie Horton's political fiasco of 1987-1990 and how it has been played out over 3-decades in Massachusetts.

While on the one hand we are saying "Tough on Crime" and on the other hand political correctness is mixed with corrupted elements between politicians and individuals who played a major role in obtaining state contracts without being registered as lobbyists. This maneuvering have secured access to contracts to friendly companies with direct connections to self serving politicians. I keep part of the original public record for public illustration as (Exhibit-A).

The main issue here is that the state is obligated to publish the hearing for bidding on state contracts. The registered lobbyists have to play by the rules. Instead of many individuals who are not registered lobbyists are indeed manipulating the system on behalf of powerful politicians and interest groups so that at those hearings the competing bidding for state contracts have been reduced to the amount of friendly companies. Without any question that systemic process has to change.

Governor and Senator Brownsberger;

While I was presenting my points of view between corruption and tough on crime, I personally was facing another dangerous situation at MCI-Shirley; Racial conflicts between prisoners of color. The classification of individuals in prison as STG was indeed discriminatory in nature if the Department of Correction don't have culture programs that can address the issues of concern; Such as the drug culture, violence and poverty. - My capacity as an older prisoner was compromised because of the different STG or Nations and the perception of being racially outcast, where we even have a difficult time to speaking our own language and being reprimanded by inmates and staff. It is the same behaviors that we have at the present time. It was very hard for me to hear comments and men laughing saying the negroes are killing each other. In particular when I have so many black friends, just as much as I have latino friends.

Occasionally my work at the law library helps me to mediate tension, even a conflict. Based on that knowledge I ended up filing a Class Action. The Court denied the Class-Certification and subsequently stopped the process (See Exhibit-B). Even when I lost the complaint I was able to stop a racial riot at the prison.

Governor Baker and Senator Brownsberger;

I am a prisoner under the state custody, I am also a human being living for decades segregated from society - I have something to say and this is the only avenue to get your attention.

It is very important that you be aware that at one point I was able to create a Latino Group more powerful than the individuals who held power on different STG-NATIONS; In two occasions I was able to stop a racial riot because I learned from experience that a riot can start easily, but it can go out of control very quickly. (See Exhibit-C).

During the summer of 1995, we had several mini-racial conflicts, until the month of September when the Deputy Superintendent went around for inspection, and sat on the bed of a Spanish inmate, who a week earlier had a fight with another guy for the same thing. The Deputy got mad at the inmate for foul language that was used and ordered that he be locked up in the segregated unit.

The following day, different groups met in the prison yard to make a demonstration in the kitchen by no one moving out after the meal. When I was informed of that event, I told them that I would try to get the young man out of the hole until the final outcome of the disciplinary hearing. The agreement was acceptable and one of the CO's accompanied me and another inmate to speak to the security staff who indicated that within the next 24-48 hours they would release the inmate to the general population.

The days passed and nothing happened. The Security Staff did not really care, they probably thought that nothing was going to happen and they brushed it off. We have a tremendous pressure because the demonstration was on for supper time. I called my people and I told them to visit me because there was a

serious conflict inside the prison and I didn't want to be there when that took place. - As soon I was called for visit, the riot broke at the kitchen. There was an estimation of \$1.2 million in damages, including the cost of the Tactical Team.

The authorities came to see me at the visiting room and ask me about the problem, which was something that they already knew, but on that process they also told me that if I go outside and mediate between the prisoners and the Director of Security, they would guarantee that I would be safe of any disciplinary action. The Deputy Commissioner James Bender, arrived at the prison and he further indicated that we should sit down and no one will be hurt. Every one sat on the prison yard and we stayed there for 3 or 4 hours on the ground.

The following day the D.O.C. ordered 74 inmates to be transfered out, on the interview I took the 5th Amendment to remaind silence, and the entire prison population was locked up for 24 hours a day for several weeks and I filed a civil complaint in toilet paper (See Exhibit-D).

During the Court Hearing, I remeember seeing 40 to 50 people, and many of them laughing when the Judge unrolled the toilet paper. - After the argument, the Judge took the case under advisement until Dicember 10, 1995 when I was transfered to Bay State Correctional Center.

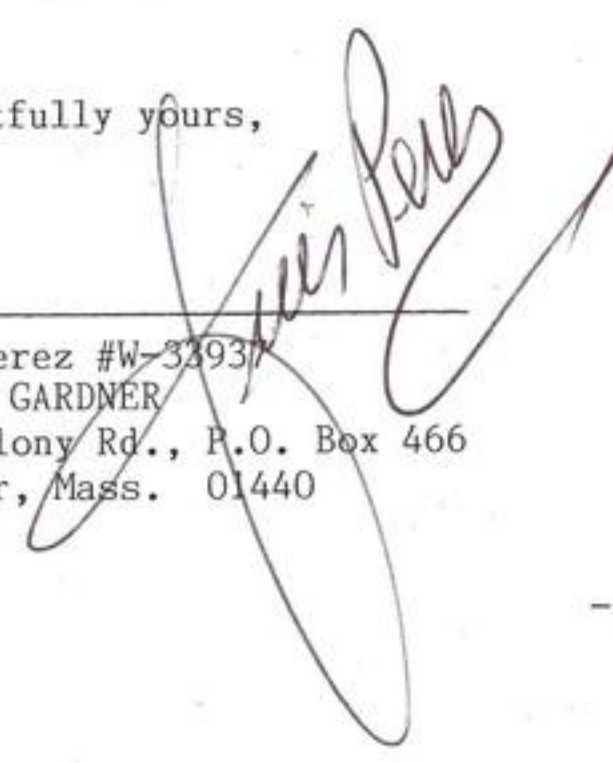
CONCLUSION

Governor Baker,

I already wrote a letter to Senator Brownsberger indicating that I am willing to testify before a Judiciary Committee so that I can address all the issues of concern.

I really don't care if I have to be shackle and handcuffed like we do in Court, or allowing me to have a conference hearing by the Cable TV system that we have here at NCCI - GARDNER.

Respectfully yours,



Luis Perez #W-33937
NCCI - GARDNER
500 Colony Rd., P.O. Box 466
Gardner, Mass. 01440

Lobbyist payments soared last year

LOBBYISTS

Continued from Page B1

warded handsomely for lobbying legislators:

■ John Moffitt, a former top political aide to Cellucci and former chief secretary under former governor William F. Weld. Moffitt earned 778,000 in 1997 representing 25 clients as a lobbyist and political strategist.

■ Sandy Tennant, the former executive director of the state Republican Party. He made \$338,000 representing 13 companies. Tennant who until three years ago was chairman of Cellucci's political committee, said he is not advising the acting governor or raising money for him.

■ Robert J. Cordy, former Weld-Cellucci legal counsel, now a lawyer in the Boston office of McDermott, Vill & Emery. Cordy earned \$58,000 lobbying last year on behalf of such clients as General Electric Co., Hilton Hotels, and Lincoln Life Insurance. Cordy, who recently was appointed to the Governor's Judicial Screening Committee, has said he will not register as a lobbyist this year to avoid the perception of a conflict of interest.

■ Ray Howell, a Cellucci political adviser and former Weld-Cellucci communications director. Howell's new employer, Joyce & Joyce, a prominent Beacon Hill lobbying firm, collected more than \$566,000 in fees last year, \$248,000 from New England Electric System Inc.

Rob Gray, Cellucci's campaign manager, hit back at Malone, saying there were ethical lapses in the treasurer's office as well as in Lottery Commission, which Malone oversees. Gray referred to reports that the state Lottery Commission once had a secret "slush" fund to pay for golfing fees and concert tickets for clients. He also noted the lottery was discovered to have been using coupons to circumvent the law capping its advertising expenses. Both practices were halted.

"This is more of Joe Malone's negative campaign, but I find this critique quite humorous coming from the guy who brought us the se-

In his attack, Malone is trying to exploit a vulnerability that has dogged the Weld-Cellucci administration. Weld came under fire for letting his chief fund-raiser act as a business consultant to companies seeking access to the administration.

Howell said yesterday that none of the lobbying fees Joyce & Joyce listed in 1997, including those from New England Electric System, went for his services. As with other Joyce clients, Howell said, his role for New England Electric System was to perform public relations services such as helping the company frame its public message and setting up editorial board meetings.

"I am not a lobbyist, and I don't lobby on the company's behalf," Howell said.

Moffitt, a registered lobbyist who has his own corporate consulting firm, Andover Strategies, made \$145,000 from two utilities, US Generating and Berkshire Power Development Co. Inc. Yesterday, he shrugged off Malone's allegations.

"I never talked about deregulation with Paul Cellucci or anybody in his administration," said Moffitt, who also advises Cellucci on political matters.

EXHIBIT-A

1/22/98
GLOBE

Deaths B6
Weather B8

Billings soar for state lobbyists

Ex-Weld-Cellucci officials take part

By Frank Phillips and Scot Lehigh
GLOBE STAFF

Lobbying legislators on behalf of special interests is a booming business on Beacon Hill, especially for a handful of former Weld-Cellucci officials, according to figures released this week.

Last year, an army of State House lobbyists were paid a total of \$34.5 million by clients, a 26 percent increase over the previous year, and 43 percent more than in 1995.

The large increase in 1997 was driven mostly by the state's utilities industry to win passage of a controversial electricity deregulation bill. The companies spent \$2.4 million, nearly \$1 million more than in 1996.

The health industry, faced with efforts to broaden health care coverage, spent \$3.4 million, a 33-percent increase, according to reports filed with Secretary of State William F. Galvin's office.

The surge in fees to lobbyists prompted State Treasurer Joseph D. Malone to step up his attacks on the Cellucci administration. Malone, who is challenging Acting Governor Paul Cellucci in the GOP gubernatorial primary, said that if he is elected, his advisers will be barred from working as lobbyists or for special interests with business before his administration.

"They are putting out one shingle that says 'adviser to the governor'

Political Circuit

BRIAN C. MOONEY *BOSTON GLOBE*
2/18/98

In fund-raising, Cellucci stays way ahead of pack

1st COLUMN
If money is the mother's milk of politics, Acting Governor Paul Cellucci is one well-nourished candidate.

After an amazing month of fund-raising in January, Cellucci, the Republican front-runner, had \$3.1 million on hand. That's nearly as much as his five challengers — one Republican and four Democrats — had combined.

January is typically a big month for candidates because it presents the first opportunity to revisit contributors from the previous year and ask them to cough up again. But even with that in mind, Cellucci's January figures are astonishing. He collected contributions from 1,399 donors who gave a total of \$434,911. That's an average of \$310 apiece, and 656 of the contributors, nearly half, gave \$500, the maximum annual contribution for an individual.

Cellucci's committee recorded the following daily deposit totals: Jan. 27, \$81,871; Jan. 30, \$80,820; Jan. 26, \$78,525; Jan. 22, \$62,161. On four other days, deposits ranged from \$22,335 to \$38,000, and Cellucci transferred \$300,000 into a savings account early in the month. That's power fund-raising.

2nd COLUMN
struction firms with contracts on the \$10.8 billion Big Dig.

At minimum, these firms provided Cellucci \$11,750. The list includes Parsons/Brinckerhoff, Metcalf & Eddy, Kiewit, Perini, Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Camp Dresser & McKee, and Chicago-based H.W. Lochner Inc. Dozens more trucking, engineering, and contracting firms are on the list, and you can bet some are working on the Central Artery/Tunnel megaproject.

Presumably, there's more where that came from.

A smattering of lobbyists gave in January, including Alexander "Sandy" Tennant, former Cellucci campaign chairman, whose firm raked in \$338,000 in lobbying fees last year.

Few of Cellucci's contributors donate for altruistic reasons. He's the front-runner, and a check for \$500 is the coin of the realm in politics. He asks; they give.

Cellucci's list is filled with \$500 donations from executives of insurance, financial services, manufacturing, and health care concerns. Among the many \$500 corporate executives on the contributors list are James Vincent of Biogen, Richard Smith of Harcourt General, David Mugar, Malden Mills' Aaron Feuerstein, Chris tos Cocaine of Ta ble Talk Pies, Abigail Johnson of Fidelity Investments, and Wil-

liam Van Faasen

of Blue Cross Blue Shield.

CONTINUED 1st COLUMN

By contrast, Treasurer Joseph Malone, his GOP rival whose cash on hand is about half of Cellucci's, raised only \$108,881 last month, continuing a trend of declining monthly revenue.

Cellucci's January report provides a revealing snapshot of the sources of his money.

Among blocs of contributors were at least 78 political appointees in state jobs. They gave a total of \$27,000.

The politically wired Boston law firm of Mintz Levin Cohn Ferris Glovsky & Popeo was good for \$10,000 from 30 lawyers.

The firm has done contract work for state agencies and represented clients with interests before the state. Indeed, in 1993, one partner, R. Robert Popeo, soliciting his colleagues on behalf of Cellucci's predecessor, William Weld, said Weld had been "a good friend" and "very helpful" to Mintz Levin.

But contributions to Cellucci came in many bundles.

About 20 chiropractors chipped in \$9,000, and a group of personal-injury lawyers were among scores of other lawyers who wrote checks to Cellucci. Many are politically connected, including one lawyer from a firm that billed the MBTA \$843,669 for legal work the past three years.

There were at least 25 donations — nearly all for \$500 — from executives of design and con-

Then there are the execs with pending matters of interest, such as proposed tax breaks for insurance companies. Hello, Gary Countryman of Liberty Mutual, Thomas Wheeler of Massachusetts Mutual, and Stephen Brown of John Hancock, all of whom were good for \$500 checks to the Cellucci campaign last month.

Of course, no one on either end of a campaign contribution transaction publicly acknowledges even the remote possibility of a quid pro quo. But few of Cellucci's contributors donate for altruistic reasons. He's the front-runner, and a check for \$500 is the coin of the realm in politics. He asks; they give.

At some point, Cellucci's money will become an issue, especially in a year when a campaign finance reform question is likely to appear on the November ballot.

But the political price is minimal. Every poll shows voters believe campaign money is dirty and the system needs a cleanup. But the electorate has never shown an inclination to punish specific moneyed candidates. Even in the heat of a full campaign for finance reform, this year will probably be no different.

Cellucci's opponents may squawk about his fund-raising, but when the barrage of television advertising begins, most voters won't make a connection.

Until they do, money will continue to be the mother's milk of politics.

CONTINUED 2^d COLUMN

A politician with conviction

Inmate running for governor

By Mike Elfland
Staff Reporter

GARDNER — Luiz Perez deflects suggestions that his run for governor is an underhanded attempt to gain his freedom. He maintains that his intention is to run the state from his cell at the Gardner state prison.

Communication with the public would occur via the lieutenant governor, he said.

"If I did a good job, then maybe after four years the people could decide if I should be pardoned," said Perez, convicted of murder in 1973 and sentenced to life without parole.

The 42-year-old former Lowell resident has set out to get the 10,000 signatures needed in order to get his name on the 1994 ballot. So far he has 61 signatures, all from fellow inmates. Many of those inmates became registered voters last year during a registration drive at the prison — spearheaded by Perez.

Perez acknowledges that many people will scoff at his political ambitions. He points to a certain lifetime behind bars when asked about his credibility.

THE TRUTH

"I personally think I'm a dead man; I'm speaking from my cemetery," Perez said during an interview at the prison. "I'm going to tell the truth, and I'm not going to lie. I don't have anything to gain."

Crime and politics are topics Perez enjoys

discussing — be it criminals who want to be politicians, like himself, or politicians who are accused of a crime. Since 1986, Perez has been collecting newspaper articles pertaining to political wrongdoing. He has over 500 articles, neatly arranged in a three-ring binder.

"They all get a break," Perez said, pointing to a collection of newspaper clippings that includes a recent story on the indictment of former state Sen. William Q. MacLean Jr. "I can tell you honestly, they aren't coming to prison."

Prisoners are people Perez will rely heavily on if he is to make headway in his quest for political office. Most of the 10,000 signatures he needs in order to get on the ballot in 1994 will be those of inmates. Therein lies one of Perez's motivations for organizing a voter registration drive at the prison last year. Similar registration drives were held at other state prisons.

"I figure there's about 8,000 to 10,000 inmates whose signatures I can get," said Perez, who has no party affiliation. "And then there's their families. That's a big block."

SIGNATURES NEEDED

According to the office of the secretary of state, the 10,000 signatures are due to the board of registrars for verification by Aug. 2. Perez's parents, who live in Pitchburg, and friends on the outside will help collect signatures.

Perez said he will rely greatly on the mail to spread his message.

"I ask people that if they support me, instead of sending money, to send stamps," he said.

Perez was born in Cuba and came to the United States in 1966. His family settled in Lowell. In 1971, he and five other people robbed a house that contained counterfeit money and a counterfeiting machine. Perez shot and killed a man, and two years later he was sentenced to life without parole.

Two decades later he has learned to speak English and earned an associate's degree in general studies through an extension program at Mount Wachusett Community College.

"The prison subculture is being transferred to the youth in urban areas," Perez said in a Feb. 6 press release. "If we don't study the prison we are never going to understand the problems that are affecting the community. My candidacy will offer another window of education with the scope being on prison subculture. ... throughout my political campaign I will be offering and sharing accurate solutions."

Meanwhile, chances of a pardon would be unlikely, according to Catherine Bromberg, spokeswoman for the state Ethics Commission. She said public officials can't be afforded benefits not available to others. In this case, other prisoners would not have the same opportunity for a pardon.



Luiz Perez, with his collection of newspaper articles

MIKE ELLFAND

Reason aplenty for me to be part of the GOP

I want to be a Republican.

And I'm hoping the Massachusetts Republican Party will consider me for the Shamie Internship Award.

Anybody can be a Rhodes scholar. Tom Birmingham proved that. But oh to be a Shamie Intern. When I got the call for applications, I thought — ah, to be a member of the party of Lincoln and Lakian.

I couldn't believe the opportunity actually exists to win an honor bearing Raymond L. Shamie's name, although I suppose the Royal Switzer Internship isn't available anymore.

All applicants have to submit an essay on why they want to be Republicans. Here goes:

Being a Republican in Massachusetts isn't easy. You tell Mom and Dad you've decided to be a member of the GOP and they go around telling the neighbors you're gay to save face.

Even Bill Weld is embarrassed to acknowledge he's a Republican. He only joined because he figured the Grand Old Party would have an open bar.

And you can forget getting invited to a Kennedy clambake unless you can get Bob Maginn to buy the catering service.

Despite those challenges, there are big pluses.

Since there are so few GOP activists, and so many who are a few floors short of Lyndon LaRouche's floor, the odds of being wooed to run for high office on a regular basis are pretty darned good. Ask Janet Jeghelian.



JOE
SCIACCA

And it's not that hard to get 15 percent at the GOP convention, since 15 percent of nothing is, well, nothing. More good reasons to be a Republican:

Barney Frank's a Democrat.

You can walk across the New Hampshire border and be in the majority, but then again, so are people who eat squirrels.

You don't have to wear pants in the office. It's OK, Greg Hyatt, Bill Clinton doesn't wear them much either.

You can smear a candy bar on your pants after a night at Weld's house and *still* get an honored seat at the GOP convention rostrum. Ask Ron Kaufman.

You can run for office without a single supporter as long as you have tons of money.

Speaking of Mitt Romney, you can also become a revered statesman in the GOP even if you get humiliated by the voters.

You get good seats at the Harvard Club even if you went to Salem State.

**I have to admit at this point that, although I really want to be a Shamie Intern, I'm a little torn. I was thinking about backing Luis D. Perez for governor this year.*

"There is no different (sic) between political parties anymore," he writes. "They are all competing for the same issues and you can no longer see political candidates pursuing (sic) the traditional avenues thru (sic) grass roots to sense the feelings of the people."

One thing I know about the Perez for Governor campaign. He'll never take money from lobbyists. Just bail bondsmen.

His campaign headquarters is based at the Bay State Correctional Center in Norfolk. At least we know he'll serve out his term if elected.

But back to my application. Being a Republican means:

You get to yell "Hey, Cue Ball!" at Speaker Tom Finneran from the outer reaches of the House chamber and you won't lose a key committee assignment.

You're taken *more* seriously if you wear loafers without socks.

You can feel confident about Viagra since it was tested on a lab mouse and Bob Dole, neither of whom will ever lead the free world but sure as heck feel like they do.

I'm rushing off my application for a Shamie Internship today to the coordinator, state Sen. Robert L. Hedlund (R-Weymouth).

But I'd better do it fast. He's thinking of becoming a Democrat.

THE WEEK'S OPINIONS

U.S. DISTRICT COURT

J.) Burton A. Nadler for the plaintiffs;
David G. Hanrahan and Marla B. Hurwitz
for the defendants (Civil Action No. 95-
CIV-10620-MEL).

Prisons

Latino Inmates - Class Certification

Where three Latino prison inmates — alleging that their constitutional rights are being violated by (1) a lack of cultural programs for Latino prisoners at MCI-Shirley, (2) the limited number of Latinos on the staff of the correctional system and (3) inadequate treatment for HIV-positive Latino prisoners — seek class certification to represent all Latino inmates at MCI-Shirley, the request for class certification must be denied because “[t]he term ‘Latino’ is far too general to be useful in formulating the specific judicial remedy sought here.”

Judge's Analysis

“This Court believes this class suit reflects a creeping ‘balkanization’ of American society into contending ethnic splinter groups which, if allowed to continue, will tear apart the cohesiveness of our social fabric by fanning the flames of accidental ethnic differences. Must the Commissioner of Correction provide Italian, Irish, Russian, Japanese, etc., cultural programs throughout the prison system? Must the staff represent every ethnic group comprising the prison population? The answer is No. The Constitution requires that each prisoner be accorded equal and impartial treatment under the law. The Fourteenth Amendment does not require that the Commissioner of Correction afford inmates any special or separate facilities on account of their ethnic background nor provide a staff reflective of every ethnic group in the prison population. Although it might be prudent for a prison administrator to do so, if it were financially feasible, it is not constitutionally mandated. What is constitutionally required is that no person be discriminated

dividual interests.

“The Court denies certification of the class under these plaintiffs’ Complaint.”

Pagan, et al. v. DuBois (Lawyers Weekly No. 02-102-95) (8 pages) (Harrington, J.) (Civil Action No. 95-10675-EFH).

against on account of his ethnic origin.

“Plaintiffs seek to represent all Latino prisoners. Latinos are persons of Latin-American origin living in the United States.

“With respect to those claims based on a lack of staff able to communicate with inmates in the Spanish language, plaintiffs’ class definition is clearly overbroad. Latino prisoners who speak and write English are not harmed by the conduct. The class sought here would have to be redefined to consist of only those Latino prisoners who cannot communicate effectively in English.

“Plaintiffs do not claim that they do not write and speak the English language. Therefore, they do not have ‘a sufficient stake’ in the controversy so as to obtain a judicial resolution of that issue. ... Unless plaintiffs have a cause of action in their own right, they cannot be certified as representatives of a class. ... In fact, it is not clear from the Complaint that the individual plaintiffs themselves have been personally deprived of any constitutional right.

“With respect to the claim based on the lack of Latino cultural programs, an intra-class conflict appears to arise. The standard of fair and adequate representation requires that plaintiffs have no interests antagonistic to those of the class. ... Yet, Latin America is a continent comprised of many countries consisting of people of many races and ethnic origins. There is a potential conflict within the proposed Latino class between Latinos who are citizens of Brazil, for example, and Latinos who are citizens of the United States, as are all plaintiffs, and between Latinos whose culture derives from Africa and those whose culture derives from Western Europe. One plaintiff was born in New York City; two were born in Puerto Rico. What Latino culture and history is to be taught and celebrated? The term ‘Latino’ is far too general to be useful in formulating the specific judicial remedy sought here.

“I decline to certify the class. However, the prosecution of the individual cases would not create a risk of inconsistent adjudications, but rather would insure that each plaintiff’s case is based on its own merits. To this end, I will retain the case to provide the individual plaintiffs the opportunity to establish that their own personal constitutional rights have been violated. If any is able to do so, he shall receive his full remedy in this court consistent with his in-

EXHIBIT

B

THIS CLASS ACTION WAS
DISMISSED IN FEDERAL COURT

Hispanic inmates form rights group

Demand fair treatment from corrections system

By Jenifer McKim
CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

SHIRLEY - Behind the towering walls and curled barbed wire of the state prison here, Hispanic inmates are quietly organizing themselves into what they say is a bold new force within the corrections system.

Established two years ago, "Latino Unity" is a loose affiliation of several dozen Hispanic inmates who say they are dedicated to making sure the burgeoning Hispanic prison population gets fair treatment.

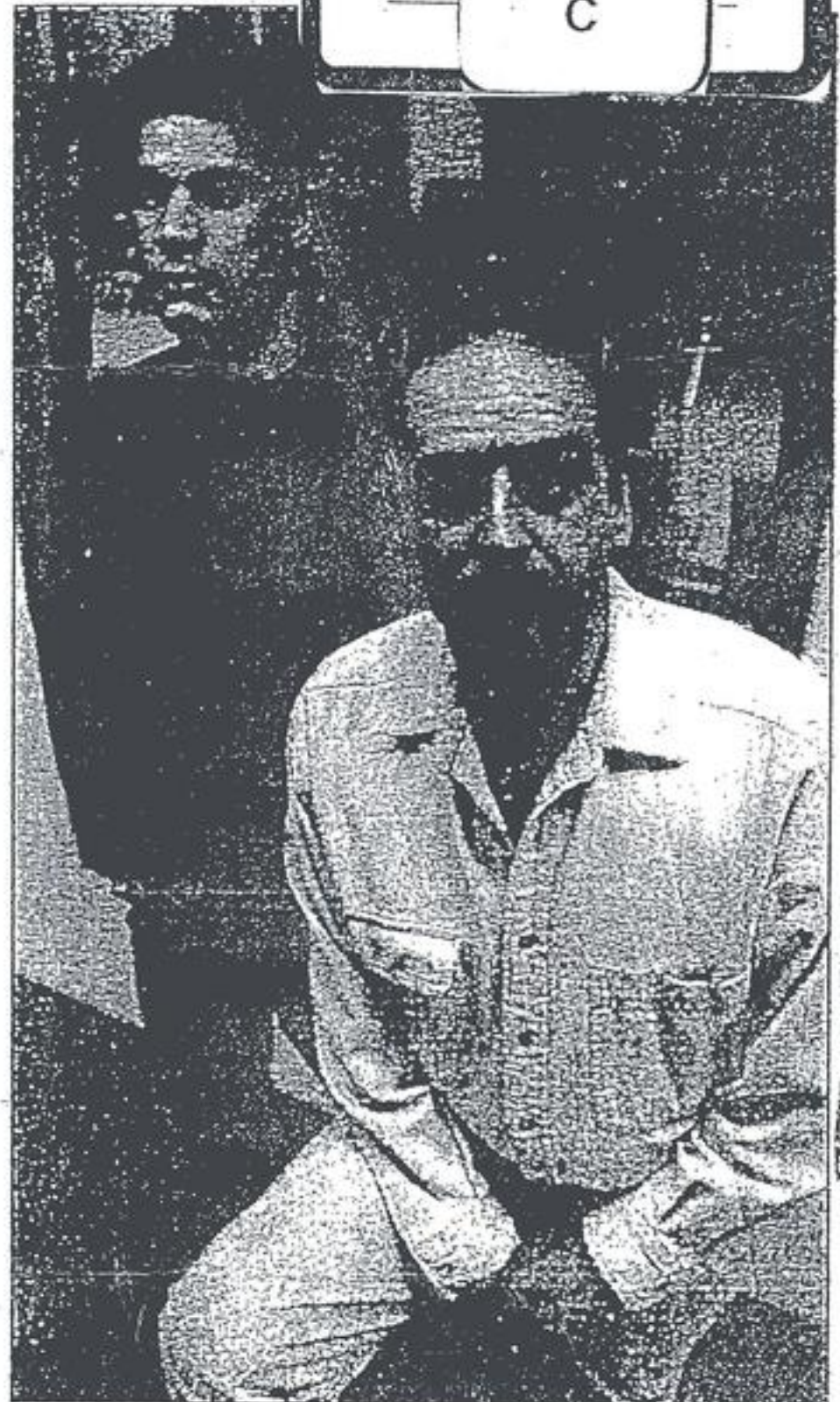
As it is, many Hispanic prisoners say they are treated like second-class citizens by fellow inmates, guards and administrators. Because of a language barrier and a lack of bilingual corrections personnel, they say, they are denied full access to medical care, counseling and drug and alcohol rehabilitation programs, and often end up confined in relatively harsh maximum- or medium-security facilities.

Hispanics also say they are sometimes targeted for violent attacks by fellow inmates and harassment by guards - all because of their race and broken English.

"Nobody fights for the Latinos," Mateo Colon, 26, a drug offender and a Latino Unity organizer, said in Spanish during an interview last week. "We want to be heard by somebody."

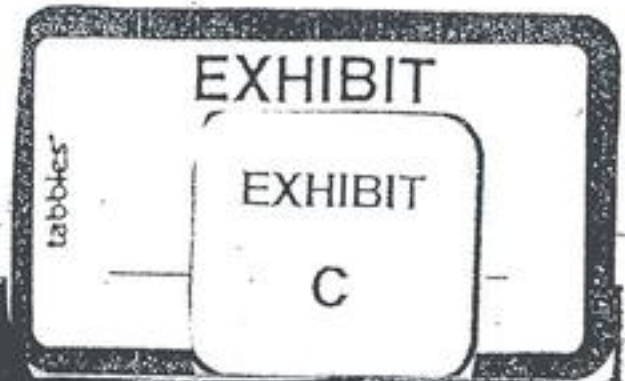
And while Latino Unity disavows violence, Roberto Pagan, 29, a drug offender and Unity member, said.

PRISON, Page 39



GLOBE STAFF PHOTO / TOM LANDERS

Shirley inmates Mateo Colon (left) and Luis Perez are leaders in the Latino Unity movement, a loose affiliation of several dozen inmates who say they are dedicated to making sure the Hispanic prison population gets fair treatment.



Hispanics seek to find unity, strength in prison

■ PRISON

Continued from Page 33

"We have to do what we have to, to protect ourselves."

Hispanics are the fastest-growing segment of the prison population. Today, there are about 1,900 Hispanic inmates in the system, up from about 400 in 1985. Hispanics make up about 20 percent of the prison population today, compared with only 9 percent in 1985.

Latino Unity began in 1993 when a few Hispanic inmates began meeting informally in the prison library. Today it has the support of most of the Spanish-speaking inmates here.

And now, the group is taking on the Department of Correction.

Three inmates — Colon, Pagan and Jose Hernandez — have prepared a class-action suit to be filed against Correction Commissioner Larry Dubois. The suit asks for the creation of bilingual programs and an increase in the number of Spanish-speaking personnel.

The suit alleges that guards often make disparaging remarks to Hispanic inmates, telling them, for example, "You should return to your country" and "If you don't speak the language, you have no rights."

They also say the lack of programs leaves Hispanics isolated and aimless, enticing some to join violent gang organizations like the Latino Kings, Los Solidos and Netas for protection.

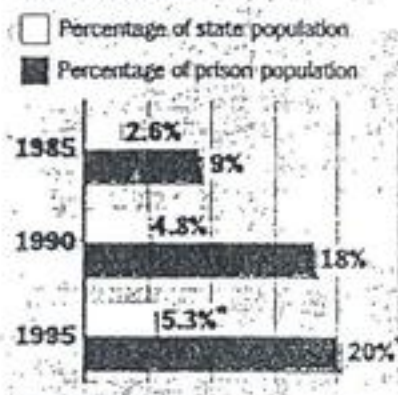
Department of Correction spokesman Anthony Carnevale said the department is well aware of the growing Hispanic population and is actively recruiting bilingual personnel. There are currently only about 140 bilingual employees among the department's 4,800 staff members. He said recruitment is difficult because few Hispanics live near the prisons.

"The best thing we offer is the opportunity to learn English," said Carnevale, citing English as a Second Language classes, the only program currently aimed specifically at Hispanics. "That is the most cost effective and beneficial."

Ernest Vandergriff, Department of Correction associate commissioner for programs and treatment, said he is leading a study, expected to be

Hispanics in prison

With more than 1,900 Hispanics incarcerated, they are the fastest-growing segment of the state's prison population.



* Projected figures

SOURCE: US Census Bureau, Mass. Department of Correction

GLOBE STAFF CHART

completed this summer, on Hispanic issues. Already, the department is translating rules and regulations into Spanish, building up Spanish reading materials and identifying foods favored by Hispanics.

But without adequate programming, some fear Hispanics are sure to return to prison after release. Tony Ruiz, an associate pastor for the Church of United Community in Roxbury who often visits Hispanic prisoners, said alcohol and drug programs are imperative.

"We have a community that has a lot of drug-related problems," Ruiz said, but adding that local Latino leadership isn't doing enough for prisoners. "They are afraid of dealing with issues that might bring a bad image," Ruiz said.

Luis Perez, a convicted murderer, said keeping the peace among younger Latinos, many of whom are involved in gangs, is a challenge.

"Younger guys have no respect for nobody," he said.

Perez, seen as Latino Unity's leader, said people forget that many inmates end up on the street again, often angrier and more violent.

"I don't look for sympathy or pity, but I would like the public to know the seriousness in the prisons," Perez said. "I see people going out and coming back and going out. It's a vicious cycle, and many of these people end up living on your street."

LA SEMANA OCT 95 Manifestación de Apoyo a Hispano

Una manifestación de respaldo de Luis D. Pérez, un recluso hispano que ha demandado al gobernador Weld y el Sistema de Correcciones del Estado de Massachusetts se celebró el jueves 26 de octubre.

El piquete fue montado junto al edificio de la Corte Superior del Condado de Middlesex en Cambridge, en donde fue conocida la demanda por maltrato presentada por Pérez, quien en las elecciones pasadas lanzó su candidatura para gobernador y obtuvo 9,000 votos.

La demanda presentada por Pérez se refiere a abusos y maltratos que él dice ha sufrido en la prisión.

Pérez se había quejado con anterioridad de haber sido mantenido en una situación de aislamiento en la cárcel.

Pérez ha mostrado liderazgo en la cárcel, en donde han sido frecuentes sus denuncias del sistema carcelario.

El recluso hispano, cuya candidatura recibió amplia publicidad en las elecciones pasadas, ha sido reconocido como un hombre de determinación.

Se indicó que cuando las autoridades le negaron papel para presentar su demanda, la formuló en papel de baño, y ésta fue aceptada por el juez.

Day State con transferred to Texas dies of AIDS

2-23-96 HERALD

One of the 299 prisoners transferred to a jail in Texas to save the state money last fall has died of AIDS, the state Department of Correction confirmed yesterday.

Adell Sullivan, 47, had been serving a 12-year sentence for assaulting and trying to rape a child in 1986.

He died Sunday, 18 days after being moved from the jail in Dallas to a nearby hospital.

Although all the Massachusetts prisoners were screened for medical problems before they were sent off to rented beds in Texas, there was no indication that Sullivan had AIDS in his medical records, said Anthony Carnevale, a DOC spokesman.

"The bottom line is on the death certificate, the cause of death is listed as AIDS," Carnevale said.

In Massachusetts prisons, testing for HIV is not mandatory and prisoners are not required to disclose their medical problems, Carnevale said.

"We have no mandatory AIDS screening for inmates ... we should, but we don't," Carnevale said.

Jill Brotman of the American Friends charged that correc-

tions officials lied said none of the pr were transferred i problems.

EXHIBIT

"I have received regular basis from who are HIV posi Brotman, who said all of those afflicted should be brought back for proper treatment.

She called the state's action "terribly irresponsible."

Sullivan apparently started to develop symptoms after he and the others were transferred to the 12-story Lew Sterrett Justice Center, a county jail in Dallas.

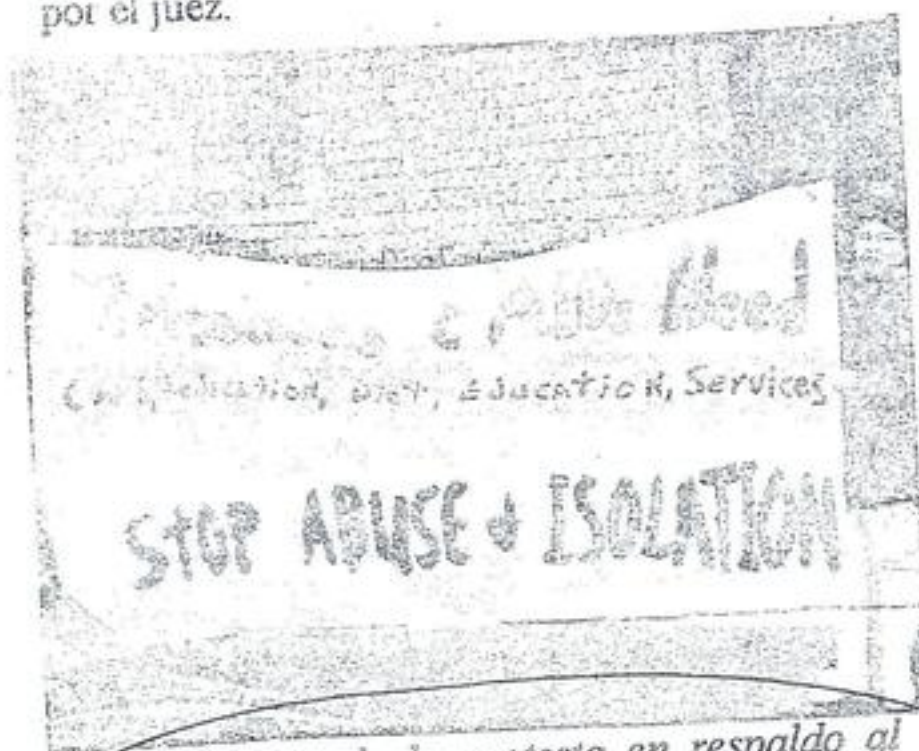
He was checked into nearby Parkland Memorial Hospital on Jan. 31 after receiving some treatment at the jail.

John Pineo, the father of another Massachusetts prisoner in Texas, said he was disturbed to hear about Sullivan's death in a phone call from his son earlier this week.

"There is a person who is transferred away from his family and he died alone," Pineo said. "My heart goes out to the family."

Sullivan's body is being delivered to his family in Tennessee for burial.

Connie Paige contributed to this report



Otra muestra de la protesta en respaldo al hispano Luis D. Pérez, un recluso que ha demandado al Gobernador William Weld

Marchan en protesta por abusos en el sistema penal

Por Luis D. Pérez.

El pasado día 14 de septiembre, un centenar de ciudadanos se lanzaron a las calles de la Ciudad de Boston y caminaron por más de 20 millas en protesta por los abusos que existen

pacientes/reclusos en ocasiones amenazados sufren de recaídas mentales y crean serios problemas, tanto para ellos como para otros y terminan casugando a todos por dichos incidentes. Mientras tanto en

representando los intereses del compañero Victor Rosario, el cual se encuentra pulgando una sentencia de por vida.

El Sr. Rosario fue encarcelado a raíz del incendio que cobró 7 vidas en la Ciudad de Lowell (5 de marzo de 1982). Los familiares de las víctimas, Evangelista Ferrer, Adelaida Ferrer y Tomasa Luna han expresado opiniones sobre la inocencia del Sr. Rosario. Los co-defendidos, Edgardo García y Felix García pudieron maniobrar al fiscal para que les soltaran y le echaran la culpa al otro.

El Sr. Rosario fue convicto de dicho incendio el 29 de marzo de 1983 y la única evidencia incriminatoria fue la que él mismo dio durante las entrevistas de arresto. El abogado defensor John Campbell ha expresado públicamente que el testimonio de Rosario no fue voluntario y que dichas confesiones fueron echas en un estado de psicosis, todo el mundo se limpió y este hombre pagó por todo. Hoy en día, su esposa Beverly Rosario se mantiene en lucha por exponer la verdad de todo



En la foto la Sra. Beverly Rosario habla sobre las circunstancias en que su esposo está preso.

dentro del Sistema de Justicia Criminal del Estado, incluyendo los procedimientos de tonos raciales que están tomando las cortes del Commonwealth de Massachusetts.

Esta marcha culminó al frente de Casa del Gobierno, en donde se usaron altos parlantes para poder expresar las preocupaciones que ellos tenían. En las escalinatas de dicha entidad también hablaron funcionarios y representantes de la Cámara de Representantes, los cuales dieron sus opiniones sobre las 28 muertes que han ocurrido en las prisiones durante el año 1998.

Familiares de los confinados y otros grupos de respaldo mantuvieron el orden y pudieron terminar el evento sin dificultad alguna. Todos pudieron expresar sus puntos de vistas relacionados al tratamiento de los presos, salud mental y las epidemias del SIDA, Hepatitis C y los suicidios por desesperación, ya que los programas de tratamientos se han estado deteriorando hasta el punto que no pueden dar servicios por la gran cantidad de internos y la poca importancia que el Departamento de Corrección le está dando a todo este asunto.

También existe otro dilema de preocupación inmediata, ya que hay

las calles a algunos se les prende el FOCO y terminan haciendo una de barbaridades que salen por todas las noticias del Estado y figuramente las comunidades se disgustan y ponen presiones para que pongan más leyes de castigos, sin darse cuenta que son víctimas de sus



En la foto la Sra. Paula Sánchez en la marcha y cargando su cartelón pidiendo la libertad para su hijo Luis Pérez.

propias medicinas y del tratamiento destrampado que reciben dichos pacientes reclusos.

Los familiares de este servidor estuvieron presente durante dicha marcha, incluso mi querida madre cargó pancartas y carteles pidiendo mi libertad. Para mí es muy doloroso ver a la persona más querida de mi vida haciendo estos sacrificios, pero que no hace una madre por un hijo.

este asunto y que los verdaderos culpables ocupen sus posiciones que en realidad le tocan.

De más está decir que nuestra gente sufre y llora en silencio, mientras las cortes hacen arreglos con mafiosos que han matado a 12 personas y son sentenciados a pequeños términos de prisión, vemos esto y más cuando hay personas que han abusado de la



April 20, 2009

Luis Perez-W33937
NCCI Gardner
P O Box 466
Gardner MA 01440-0466

Dear Mr. Perez:

This letter is in response to your letter dated March 15, 2009 to John E. Potter, Postmaster General of the United States Postal Service. That correspondence was referred to me for resolution.

In your letter you state that you paid for services for certified mail affixed them to a manila envelope and placed it in the mail box in your housing unit. Unfortunately I am unable to help you with your problem. When you affixed your certified label to your mailpiece you should have kept your receipt which is your method of tracking your item. Without having that number there is no way for us to know what happened to your mailpiece.

The United States Postal Service sells certified mail service to many customers but unless you can provide us with the number that was on your mailpiece we are unable to conduct any kind of search or respond to your request.

Sincerely,

Office of Consumer Affairs
Massachusetts District

United Nations Nations Unies

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2 May 2018

Greetings from the Public Inquiries Team,

On behalf of the Secretary-General, thank you for your recent letter which has been referred to this office for reply. We have read and carefully noted the contents of your message, and are grateful to you for sharing your views with us.

Thank you for your interest in the work and goals of the United Nations and for taking the time to write to us.

Best regards,

Public Inquiries Team
Department of Public Information



Dear

Thank you for your letter to JustLeadershipUSA! I am glad that our message resonated with you and that you decided to reach out.

JLUSA's mission is simple. We are committed to cutting the US correctional population in half by 2030. To achieve this, we are relying on you. We believe that those who are closest to the problem are closest to the solution.

Our national membership is made up of currently and formerly incarcerated people, their communities, and those who support our vision for a decarcerated United States. Anyone who wishes to be part of #halfby2030 is welcome to join. Free memberships are available to incarcerated people through the #2MillionVoices program. I am pleased to welcome you as JLUSA's newest member. ***Welcome to the JustLeadershipUSA Community!***

Your envelope contains information about our work, including stories from participants in JLUSA's leadership training program — Leading with Conviction. In addition to leadership training, JLUSA organizes and supports decarceration advocacy campaigns on the local, state, and national levels. In New York State, we are building on the success of the #CLOSErikers campaign with #FREEnewyork — a statewide effort to pass bail, discovery law, and speedy trial reform. Under the #DEMANDfreedom umbrella, we are working in Wisconsin, Pennsylvania, and California on jail closure campaigns. South Carolina and Wisconsin are the launch states for our #WORKINGfuture campaign, which looks to eliminate the 40,000 barriers to employment that people with records face.

Through our #2MillionVoices project, we are working to connect you to JLUSA's criminal justice reform efforts and to ensure that your perspective and experiences inform our advocacy work. Every week we receive hundreds of member letters which we — with the help of our volunteers — process regularly in order to get back to you as soon as possible.

Please share your thoughts on criminal justice reform (along with any additional contact information you wish to provide) in the attached form and mail it back to us. Your feedback informs our understanding of the issues that most affect incarcerated people and the potential policies and programs that might combat the United States' incarceration crisis. We are working toward a report that will share your ideas and concerns with our broader member network as well as with the public. We will include this report and other updates in a newsletter launching later this year.

Please don't hesitate to reach out. I am available to answer any questions about JLUSA's work and welcome any news you choose to share with us! Welcome again, and thank you for your membership!

Anastasija Ocheretina
Membership Coordinator
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Prepared by: *Emma*
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