

MUSHROOMS  
May 3, 2020

You'd think that, after more than 17-years behind bars, I would have learned the most basic, most important lesson of all, which is that the government should **never** be trusted. Clearly, this is a lesson that has yet to sink in because, until last night, I believed the information contained in the lockup orders posted by the prison administration.

Before I proceed any further, allow me to explain what a "lockup order" is, and why it's so significant. If you've never had the misfortune of being incarcerated, then you probably don't realize just how much physical space a prison occupies, which, if you've ever seen the inside of a cell, makes absolutely no sense whatsoever. How can a place that gives the people who have to live here so little space, and then fill that space with so many people? But such is the "wisdom" of the prison system. Regardless, the end result is that you have a single prison divided into multiple facilities, or "yards," physically separated to the point that, in many cases, you can't see or hear what's taking place in another yard.

In California, when something happens that requires a change in program, or even a complete lockdown, the administration is required to post a daily "lockup order." The purpose of the lockup order is to provide staff and inhabitants alike with a list of expectations, authorized activities, unauthorized activities, an explanation for the changes, and, where possible, a projected expiration date for the changes. When the CIM (California Institution for Men) posted its lockup orders, it explained the social distancing protocols expected (even if many were physically impossible), and went on to list how many cases of COVID-19 had been confirmed, presumably in the entire prison. As someone who prepares a lot of legal documents, I should have known enough to take a closer look at the wording, as the lockup order didn't say how many cases of COVID-19 had been confirmed **in the prison**, it simply listed how many cases had been confirmed on D-Facility.

Up until last night, I, like everyone else on my yard, had been led to believe that guys who reported to medical with any potential COVID-19 symptoms were being transported to Colusa Building, a housing unit on my yard, where they were quarantined until their test results came back. If positive, they were supposed to have been taken off the yard and transported to a hospital, or so we were told, but last night, I had a rather interesting conversation with a prison guard. I asked him how many confirmed cases there were. He pulled out the lockup order and showed me that the number was now 72, and when I expressed surprise that it was that low, he pointed out that this was only the confirmed cases on **D-Facility**. This did **not** include the cases on the other facilities. When I pressed him for additional information, he explained that people were **not** being removed from Colusa Building upon confirmation of COVID-19, like we'd been told, but were only being removed when their condition required hospitalization. In addition, the CIM was now being used as a hub for inmates from various other prisons throughout this area. While he didn't have the exact numbers, it was his understanding that the actual number of confirmed cases from the CIM was over 150, and this didn't include the transplants from other facilities.

The other night, the yard was shut down because of a transport. Turns out that they weren't bringing people onto the yard, they were removing the people in Colusa Building who'd reported to medical with COVID-19 symptoms, only to test negative for COVID-19. (I should point out that, at this moment, if you report to medical for **any** COVID-19 related symptom, they're immediately removing you from your housing unit and placing you in a building with other suspected and positive cases of COVID-19.) What I didn't know, what I couldn't have possibly known, was that, when the bus took them back to their assigned yard, there was a near riot, as inmates in the dormitories attempted to refuse the returning people entry to the dorms. Given the recently discovered inaccuracies of the tests, and the extremely cramped nature of the dorms (they're currently at 160% of designed capacity, despite a court ruling to reduce the current capacity to 137.5%), I can sympathize with their feelings, but the officer's response perfectly summed up the prison system's position in the matter: "at the end of the day, it doesn't matter how right you are. When you're given an order, we expect you to follow it."

As I've said in a previous post, I've now served just over 17-years on a sentence for a crime I never committed. With just under 6-months left to serve, I can finally see the light at the end of the tunnel, but the inability to comply with social distancing protocols, combined with my underlying health conditions, make surviving another 6-months in the middle of a COVID-19 pandemic all but impossible, especially when many of the guards in here **refuse** to wear their masks. I thought I would have been one of the people released early, but, as usual, they came up with a list of restrictions which excluded me. It didn't matter to them that I was now serving my final 8-month consecutive sentence for a nonviolent misdemeanor. The only thing that mattered to them was that two of the charges I was (falsely) convicted of were for violent, sexually based, offenses. As such, there's no way in Hell that I'll **ever** be let out so much as a day sooner, no matter how much danger my continued incarceration poses to me, the people who work here or the community.

By now, you're probably asking yourself why I chose to title this piece "Mushrooms." Can you imagine a better title for a piece that describes a system that keeps you in the dark and feeds you bullshit? If that's not a mushroom, then I don't know what is.

I usually end with a statement about how I'd welcome any questions or comments, either by posting them here, or sending them to me at the address listed below, but what I'd really like to do is engage in a discussion over whether or not releasing people from prison early is the right thing to do, and if so, who should be impacted. Should we, as everyone seems to be doing, excluding the most vulnerable among us, simply because one of their convictions was for a violent offense, even if they've only got a few months left to serve anyway? Or should we be practicing what we preach, exercising the compassion we speak of so often?

Shawn L. Perrot CDCR# V-42461  
CIM C-Del Norte Upper: 246L  
P.O. Box 500  
Chino, CA 91708

## DAILY PROGRAM STATUS REPORT PART A – PLAN OF OPERATION / STAFF & INMATE NOTIFICATION

*Describe only this reporting period's specific Plan of Operation  
Upon completion, distribute to ensure all staff and inmate awareness*

<b>PLAN EFFECTIVE FOR DATE:</b> April 21, 2020		<b>INSTITUTION:</b> California Institution for Men (CIM)	<b>PROGRAM STATUS NUMBER:</b> CIM-CIM-20-002
<input type="checkbox"/> NORMAL PROGRAM	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MODIFIED PROGRAM	<input type="checkbox"/> LOCKDOWN	<input type="checkbox"/> STATE OF EMERGENCY <input type="checkbox"/> Approved <input type="checkbox"/> Disapproved
<input type="checkbox"/> INITIAL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UPDATE	<input type="checkbox"/> CLOSURE	
RELATED INFORMATION (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)			
AREA AFFECTED		INMATES AFFECTED	REASON
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INSTITUTION:	CIM	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALL	<input type="checkbox"/> BATTERY
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FACILITY:	All	<input type="checkbox"/> SECURITY THREAT GROUP(S):	<input type="checkbox"/> DEATH
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> HOUSING UNIT:	All	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER  Total 3383	<input type="checkbox"/> RIOT / DISTURBANCE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> HOUSING LEVEL:	Level I & II and Reception Center		<input type="checkbox"/> THREATS
<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:			<input type="checkbox"/> CONTINUING VIOLENCE
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MEDICAL QUARANTINE COVID-19
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER
MOVEMENT		WORKERS	DAYROOM
<input type="checkbox"/> NORMAL		<input type="checkbox"/> NORMAL	<input type="checkbox"/> NORMAL
<input type="checkbox"/> ESCORT ALL MOVEMENT		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CRITICAL WORKERS ONLY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO DAYROOM ACTIVITIES for C3 inmates. All other inmates will utilize a barrier mask when away from their bed area.
<input type="checkbox"/> UNCLOTHED BODY SEARCH PRIOR TO ESCORT		<input type="checkbox"/> CULINARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MODIFIED: Only the amount of inmates allowed in the dayroom to maintain social distancing, but no more than 10, disinfect before and after each session
<input type="checkbox"/> IN RESTRAINTS		<input type="checkbox"/> CLERKS	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CONTROLLED MOVEMENT		<input type="checkbox"/> VOCATION/EDUCATION	RECREATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: Movement in such a manner as not to mix inmates from one housing unit with another housing unit		<input type="checkbox"/> CANTEEN	<input type="checkbox"/> NORMAL
No movement for units C2/C3 and D6. All inmates SHALL wear a mask		<input type="checkbox"/> CLOTHING ROOM	<input type="checkbox"/> NO RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES
FEEDING		<input type="checkbox"/> RESTRICTED WORK PROGRAM	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MODIFIED: Yard for all housing units, all inmates must wear masks while on yard. (follow schedule).
<input type="checkbox"/> NORMAL		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PORTERS	No Gym access for the FAC inmate population
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CELL FEEDING isolated inmates in C2, C3 and D6		<input type="checkbox"/> NO INMATE WORKERS	CANTEEN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CONTROLLED FEEDING IN DINING ROOM		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: No quarantined/isolated inmate workers	<input type="checkbox"/> NORMAL
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> HOUSING UNIT/DORM AT A TIME the dining hall will be cleaned after each dorm		SHOWERS	
<input type="checkbox"/> DORM / POD AT A TIME		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NORMAL in dorms, cleaning every hour and document the cleaning	
<input type="checkbox"/> TIER AT A TIME		<input type="checkbox"/> ESCORTED	
		<input type="checkbox"/> ONE INMATE PER SHOWER	
<input type="checkbox"/> SACK MEAL BREAKFAST		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CELL PARTNERS TOGETHER C2/C3	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SACK MEAL LUNCH		<input type="checkbox"/> DORM SHOWERING BY GROUP	
<input type="checkbox"/> SACK MEAL DINNER		<input type="checkbox"/> CRITICAL WORKERS ONLY	
DUCATS		<input type="checkbox"/> NO SHOWERS	
<input type="checkbox"/> NORMAL		HEALTH CARE SERVICES	
<input type="checkbox"/> CLASSIFICATION DUCATS		<input type="checkbox"/> NORMAL PROGRAM	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIORITY DUCATS ONLY		<input type="checkbox"/> PRIORITY DUCATS ONLY	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: No Ducats for C2/C3 and D6 inmates. ALL other inmates will be escorted with masks		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CONDUCT ROUNDS IN quarantined/isolation units twice daily. C2/C3 and D6 inmates will be seen in housing unit only	
		<input type="checkbox"/> LEGAL CALLS	
		<input type="checkbox"/> MODIFIED:	

On Friday, March 27, 2020, an inmate was placed on quarantine due to Influenza Like Illness (ILI) surveillance. The inmate was tested for COVID-19 at 09:00 hours on Friday, March 27, 2020. The results came back and he is COVID-19 positive. He was moved to the OHU for better isolation, monitoring and treatment. Subsequently, other inmates were identified with ILI symptoms and/or tested positive for COVID19. As a result, the following housing units were placed on quarantine/isolation:

- C2-194 quarantined inmates
- C3- 21 isolated inmates
- D2- 185 quarantine inmates
- D4- 116 quarantined inmates
- D5- 129 quarantined inmates
- D10- 131 quarantined inmates
- D11- 122 quarantined inmates
- A1- 138 quarantined inmates
- A7—124 quarantined inmates
- A8—142 quarantined inmates

Total 1701

### D6- 50 COVID19 POSITIVE INMATES

Per memorandum dated 4/7/2020 with an effective date of 4/8/2020 the entire institution affected is 3383.

On April 8, 2020, CDCR DAI issued a directive that the institution be placed on a 14 day modified program. Therefore, this PSR is updated to reflect the changes as they occur. All yards were modified to mitigate the spread of the COVID-19. The entire institution will be affected. Movement will be via escort, keeping in mind social distancing. Legal visits will be urgent/emergent, via telephone or video conferencing where available. BPH will continue with attorney contacts as required. Educational materials are to be provided either cell front or to the dorm officer.

The CRM and education department shall facilitate the delivery of increased games, program materials, reading books, and other items to the housing units. Housing/Dorm staff and supervisors shall increase tours in an effort to reduce self-harm and/or suicide attempts.

We are in the process of painting/placing markers on the ground at the sally ports, canteen windows, laundry windows, outside entries to dining halls, package lines, and clinics. We are in the process of plexi-glass partitions placed as barriers between staff at entrances.

PIA will increase HFM cleaning in the medical areas due to the need for additional proactive measures. Inmates that have been issued masks shall wear the mask outside the housing unit.

Inmates that walk to the dining hall for meals will submit their Healthcare Services Request Forms (7362) in the normal manner. Inmates confined to their housing units shall continue to have the ability to submit to healthcare staff while they conduct rounds in the housing unit.

On April 9, 2020, all inmates housed at CIM have been issued multiple masks. All inmates were issued three masks each, to wear both inside and outside of the housing units. If the inmates is not on their assigned bunk, they shall wear a mask.

On April 11, 2020, the Facility C gymnasium was activated and 21 non-symptomatic inmates were housed in the gym to allow for high and low suspect and COVID19 positive inmates to be placed in a cell with a solid cell door to mitigate the spread of the virus.

On April 13, 2020, Facility D, D6 inmates were moved from D6 to D5 and D10 to vacate a dorm for Facility D COVID-19 positive inmates.

On April 14, 2020, the inmates that are COVID-19 positive, originally from Facility D, were moved back to the yard (D6) from Facility C, C3 to facilitate more celled housing with solid doors for suspected inmates. These inmates shall not leave the dorm for any reason that is not an emergency. All meals and medical services shall be provided in the dorm or at the triage tent located just outside D6. All persons entering the D6 area or dorm shall don a full PPE kit, to include mask, gloves, face shield and Tyvek suit.

On April 16, 2020, Facility A1 was placed on quarantine due to a highly suspect inmate with signs of COVID19 symptoms.

On April 19, 2020, CIM had our first in custody death, Inmate Troy Matheny BK7936.

*COVID-19 related*  
^

On April 20, 2020, Facility C2 was placed on quarantine due to a highly suspect inmate with signs of COVID19 symptoms. Facilities C3, D5, D6, and D10, shall wear an N95 mask, gloves and a face shield while in the dorm/housing unit.

REVIEWED BY	DATE: 4-21-20	NAME / SIGNATURE (WARDEN)	DATE: 4-21-20	NAME/SIGNATURE (ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR)	DATE:
<i>[Signature]</i>		<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>4/21/2020</i>		
(REQUIRED FOR INITIAL, CLOSURE, & STATE OF EMERGENCY)					