

Waiting For Death

I wanted to share with you a letter I wrote to staff here at USP Tucson, addressing the cruel treatment of cutting off our communication with our families and loved ones. I think it's self-explanatory, but I'll do a follow up after the letter. Let's begin:

To: Unit Team A1 and/or Warden (Feb. 8th 2021)

Considering that USP Tucson has prohibited COVID-19 negative inmates from communicating with their loved ones the past 100⁺ days (since October 21st 2020), and since there is apparently a shortage of pencils, paper and envelopes so as we can't even write letters, what then is your protocol when (if) one of our loved ones dies?

Do you understand the mental anguish you would have put us through by cutting off all communication, robbing us a chance to talk to a loved one before they died? Has USP Tucson forgotten that a worldwide pandemic has killed 14,000 in Arizona, and 400,000 in the country?

Are you going to keep COVID-19 negative inmates in a locked cell, preventing us from contacting family, until we get news of their death? What then is your protocol? A heartless "Sorry to hear about that, man"?

Since you refuse to give us BPs, this is the only reasonable venue to address a situation that will eventually happen to one of the 100⁺ inmates in here. I will also forward a similar letter to the following below: (several entities listed)

It is unreasonable that, after 100⁺ days, this prison has not come up with a humane solution to simply allow us to talk to our families. And with the lack of paper and envelopes, this appears to be malicious and punitive. This clearly isn't fair, since COVID-19 positive inmates have been given far more liberty.

What if it was YOUR family?

(End of letter)

Readers, hear me out: In A1 Unit, there's about 103 inmates who have not tested positive for the COVID-19 virus. Personally speaking, I'm one of them, and have passed TEN straight tests. Yet, the prison decides to drop us in a hole, and "hope for the best". There →

are roughly 1300 inmates here; we in A1 are the last clean inmates, yet those who tested positive are calling family, moving around, going outside and buying \$160 of canteen every 2 weeks.

We, the "clean" inmates, have been in a locked cell for 99.5% of the last 100+ days, we can't go outside, we can't call anyone, and we've been limited to only \$20 every 2 weeks in canteen, and that was just started January 12th.

Isn't this, like backwards?

It's like being buried alive, with staff from top to bottom playing the stupid role, acting like they have no idea why A1 is being tortured like this. Some officers honestly don't know, but most do, but won't say.

So, I wrote the letter, fully convinced that there's not a drop of compassion to address this critical situation. I mean, if there hasn't been a solution the past 100+ days, there's not gonna be one.

I'll let you know what happens. Keep reading my essays, there's much to share.

Until next time -