

April 28, 2021

To the staff of the APWA,

Greetings, I hope that none of yall were adversely affected by the pandemic. I saw some very good people (guards and prisoners) die from Covid, but I was fortunate enough not have lost any family members from it and I survived two Covid infections myself. Last year, and 2019, was unbelievable. Prisoners died / caught Covid at multiple times the rate of the outside public because of the crowding and continuous shipping / transfers, we were also more affected by the 'Zantac - Ranitidine' FDA recalls because prisoner are the largest consumers of the cancer-causing generic heart burn meds (appx. 40% of all prisoners) plus the medication was still being given to us for almost one year after the FDA recall! I personally have two active lawsuits involving Ranitidine and many other prisoners are following suit (haha!) because so many of us developed cancer and we actually got economic Stimulous payments (\$3,200 thus far) and can afford the \$350.00 civil action filing fee now. I myself have been transferred twice now because a 2017 lawsuit caused medical/mental prisoners to have to be incarcerated in air-conditioned prisons now, my lawsuit made Tums available in all Texas prisons and emergency medical need prisoners (with heart disease etc...) to only be housed at prisons with 24 hour emergency medical staff. The reluctance of prison officials to prepare / comply with the federal courts'

mandates is causing unbelievable conditions and problems because officials are rushing to create/fill these air-conditioned facilities with medical prisoners who are blind, wheel chair bound, diabetic, epileptic, amputees, deaf ~~and~~ and heart disease, hypertension and asthmatic. But they also have mentally ill, psychopathic, sex offenders, transgenders, skitzophrenic, mentally challenged and dementia prisoners at these facilities too.

There are not enough medical staff or mental/medical special trained guards (as TDCJ policy AD. 2.01 mandates) and the outside distances exceed maximums for canes, crutches, wheel chairs etc... but millions (over 13 mil. here alone) are being spent in a futile effort at trying to make regular prisons into court ordered mandatory medical prisons. I've personally witnessed more heart attack deaths at these two "medical" prisons (Smith Unit ECB and LeBlanc Unit) in 9 months - than the entire 13 years I've been at many other prisons. I know that some major changes are sure to occur soon in the Texas prison system.

Outside you guys are trying to get back to normal and having critical employment shortages at jobs not only that a ~~lot~~ all prisoners would love to have - but jobs that most of us prisoners actually had before incarceration and are extensively skilled at! There should be a way for non-dangerous prisoners to reduce ~~our~~ our sentences by contract labor exchange in jobs that are obviously unwanted by the majority of society. # prisoner job exchange Just some thoughts and information for the public. Good health and peace to yall.

Perry Patterson #11673121 LeBlanc Unit

3695 FM 3514 Beaumont, TX. 77705