



COORDINATING COUNCIL OF PRISONER ORGANIZATIONS

THE COUNCIL, WHICH WAS FORMED ABOUT TWO YEARS AGO, IS CONSTITUTED OF VARIOUS PRISONER, EX-PRISONER, SELF HELP, AND OTHER COMMUNITY GROUPS WORKING WITH PRISONERS AND EX-PRISONERS. MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS MEET TWICE A MONTH TO EXCHANGE INFORMATION ON EXISTING SERVICES AND TO UNITE THEIR COMMON EFFORTS IN DEALING WITH THE SERIOUS DEFICIENCIES IN THE TOTAL SYSTEM OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE. WE HAVE FOUND OURSELVES TO BE CONCERNED NOT ONLY FOR THE IMPRISONED, BUT ALSO FOR THE SOCIETY THAT IMPRISONS, FOR IT IS THAT SOCIETY WHICH IS INEVITABLY REVISITED BY THE VIOLENCE...MENTAL, SPIRITUAL, AND PHYSICAL...THAT IS PERPETRATED ON THE WOMEN AND MEN IN ITS PRISONS.

WE ARE WORKING TO RESTORE HUMAN AND CIVIL RIGHTS TO CONVICTS AND EX-PRISONERS. WE FEEL THAT BEING SENTENCED TO SERVE TIME, REMOVED FROM FAMILY AND FRIENDS, IS SUFFICIENT PUNISHMENT FOR CRIME, AND THAT DENIAL OF BASIC HUMAN RIGHTS WORKS TO THE DETRIMENT OF REFORMATION AND THE BEST INTERESTS OF SOCIETY.

BILL OF RIGHTS FOR PRISONERS

THE CONVICTS ARE PERSONS DEPENDENT FOR THEIR DEVELOPMENT AND PSYCHOLOGICAL WELL-BEING UPON THE SAME ESSENTIALS AS ARE FELLOW HUMAN BEINGS OUTSIDE THE WALLS. EACH PRISONER HAS AN UNEQUIVOCAL RIGHT TO THE FOLLOWING:

1. RETENTION OF ALL CIVIL RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES UPON CONVICTION.
2. A SHORT JUST SENTENCE, IMPOSED BY THE COURTS, BASED UPON CRIMINAL STATUTES AND WHICH ONCE DETERMINED CANNOT SUBSEQUENTLY BE EXTENDED.
3. FULL KNOWLEDGE OF THE REASONS FOR, AND DURATION OF, ALL DISCIPLINARY ACTION TO BE TAKEN AGAINST THEM; EFFECTIVE CHANNELS OF APPEAL THROUGH WHICH INSTANCES OF MALADMINISTRATION OR DISCRIMINATORY TREATMENT MAY BE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THOSE WITH THE DESIRE AND AUTHORITY TO CORRECT THEM.
4. ACCESS TO SOME SEPARATE AUTHORITY WHOSE FUNCTION IS TO ENSURE THAT THEY RECEIVE ADEQUATE DIET, SANITATION, FRESH AIR AND EXERCISE, PROMPT MEDICAL TREATMENT AND PRESCRIPTION DRUGS.
5. THE MAINTENANCE, BOTH BY FREQUENT MEETINGS AND PRIVATE UNCENSORED CORRESPONDENCE, OF THEIR RELATIONSHIPS WITH MEMBERS OF THEIR FAMILIES, CLOSE PERSONAL FRIENDS, PUBLIC OFFICIALS, AND CONCERNED REPRESENTATIVES OF THE COMMUNITY AT LARGE; REGULAR OPPORTUNITY FOR CONJUGAL VISITATION AT THE PRISON, AND BY THE GRANTING OF FREQUENT HOME OR COMMUNITY FURLOUGHS.
6. SUFFICIENT TIME IN WHICH THEY MAY AVAIL THEMSELVES UNCENSORED READING MATERIAL, ADEQUATE LIBRARY, AND FACILITIES SPECIFICALLY PROVIDED FOR RECREATION, VOCATIONAL TRAINING, COUNSELING, CONTINUING EDUCATION BOTH THROUGH CLASS ATTENDANCE AND ENROLLMENT IN CORRESPONDENCE COURSES.
7. OPPORTUNITY IN PRISON OR OUT FOR WORK AT PREVAILING WAGES, ELIGIBILITY FOR UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION AND WELFARE BENEFITS UPON RELEASE, EXCLUSIVE TITLE TO AND CONTROL OVER ALL PRODUCTS OF LITERARY, ARTISTIC, OR PERSONAL CRAFTSMANSHIP PRODUCED ON THEIR OWN TIME

PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS IN CCPO

AUSTIN MACCORMICK CENTER
AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE
DISMAS HOMES OF CALIFORNIA
CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR PRISON AND PAROLE CHANGE
COMMITTEE FOR PRISONER HUMANITY AND JUSTICE
BLACK CULTURE ASSOCIATION
TRANSITIONS TO FREEDOM
REBOUND
PRISONER UNION
MONTEREY COUNTY SOLEDAD COMMUNITY
SELF-ADVANCEMENT THROUGH EDUCATION
URBAN LEAGUE
ALL TRIBE HOUSE
COMMUNITY EDUCATION RESEARCH FOUNDATION
EMPLEO PAR UNIDAD
SEVENTH STEP FOUNDATION
FAMILY SERVICE AGENCY
NATIONAL LAWYERS GUILD
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA SERVICE LEAGUE
NORTH BAY HUMAN DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE FOR PEACE AND FREEDOM
CONNECTIONS
ALTERNATIVE HOUSE
ALLIED FELLOWSHIP HOUSE
ANGELA DAVIS DEFENSE COMMITTEE
SONS OF SAN QUENTIN
AMERICAN INDIAN CULTURE GROUP

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONCERNING PRISON AND
PAROLE PROBLEMS, LEGISLATION, AND SPEAKERS PLEASE
CONTACT:

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