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ISSUE #4

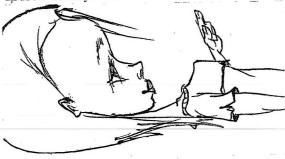
JULY 2022

Price: FREE

A 'zine by Prisoners...

KOPIMI

We've made it to Issue #4. I think that I finally figured out how to get the panels spaced evenly. It was a copying error ...



Scumbag Informant of the Month

This month's scumbag informant is Joseph Galgocy III. Snitchy Joe is a real piece of work. He got his start as "The Gasman" because he enjoyed huffing gasoline, eventually moving through the progression of drugs to being a common junk-bag. Galgocy sometimes attempts to pass himself off as an upstanding citizen after an arrest and a brief stint in rehab. Galgocy trash-talks user during his brief periods of sobriety and has even engaged in voluteer work in the local community service program to curry favor as a hypocrite informant.

Galqocy has a history of providing information dating back to at least 2004. More recently, Galgocy testified in the Northumberland County Court of Common Pleas against codefendants to avoid serving jail time. Much of the testimony was fabricated with the assistance of prosecutors.

Galgocy's current whereabouts are unknown but he may be in the company of fellow informant Nicole Rower. Look for him online and let us know what you find!

Legal Update

Picarella v. Mason, No. 641 MDA 2022

Last month, the Superior Court asked for some clarification about a jurisdiction issue. I arqued that they had jurisdiction of a mandamus action against a Department of Corrections employee, such as Superintendent Mason, because she does not hold statewide decision making authority. If she did, the appeal would have gone to the Commonwealth Court of Pennsylvania. The Superior Court accepted my argument and set a briefing schedule for the appeal. Briefs are due July 11. I'll let you know how it goes!

If you are in prison related litigation, we'd like to know how its going. Send an update.





Reader's Questions Answered

Some pretty weird questions came in so I'm not really sure how to take that. Let's get to it.

Smokey: In Pennsylvania, prisoners can purchase small televisions to watch in their cells. Cable is about \$10 a month and we get about 50 channels.

Clovis: I don't know about in other states but in Pennsylvania we really don't have gangs like we used to. I think that the newer prisons were designed to better separate and compartmentize people and if a big gang presence occurs in one area, the Department will move prisoners to separate them apart.

Stix: Gary Heidnick [spelling?] was the last person executed in Pennsylvania. I believe that was in 1989, I could be wrong about that.

Chris: Printing is done on a Swintec 2416DM word processor. The font is mostly Recta 12.

Toe: Yes! There are tons of religious people in prison. Its crazy, people come to prison and find religion for some reason but then they get out and all of that's forgotten. There's actually a saying, "Jesus doesn't go home on parole."

Naz: Ves, people get high in prison. Its mostly that synthetic marijuana, they call it "Duece". I'm not really familiar with that. Guys get shold of suboxone strips too but I really don't know how that works. I'm not in that scene so I don't know the details.

Core: We have some free weights out in the yard like you see in the movies. A lot of quys work out. It helps pass the time and it helps people to sleen better at night if they can wear themselves out. Most prisons don't have free weights any more. Let me know about other states. Ne've gotten some feedback about the Prison Reform section and some people seem to wonder why they should care. That's a fair question. The answer is pretty simple. People in the free world should care because they are paying for prison systems. some estimates place this cost at about \$490\$ billion annually. Let's look at some examples of what that money is buying:

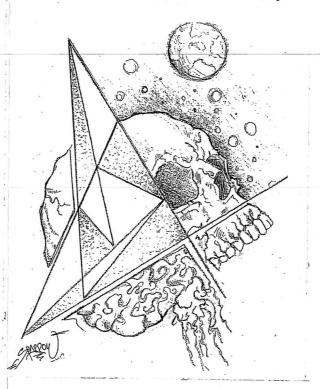
- 1. Alabama Department of Corrections Guard Mohammad Jenkins was recently charged in the Feb. 27, 2022, beating death of prisoner Victor Russo.
- 2. Polk County, Florida, prison quard Robert Collins has been charged with sexual battery and unlawful solicitation for coercing a female prisoner to perform "lewd" act on March 4 and 5, 2022. The prisoner reported fearing that her sentence could be lengthened if she didn't comply with Collins' demands.
- 3. Montgomery County, Pennsylvania, prison quard Mustafa Robinson was sentenced in March 2022, after being convicted of smuggling drugs into the county facility.
- 4. South Dakota Penitentiary guard Rian Fitzpatrick plead guilty on FEb. 8, 2022, to charges relating to receiving oral sex from a prisoner.
- 5. Riverside Regional Jail, Virginia, guard Tijuan Collins has been charged with smuggling drugs into the facility on March 30, 2022.
- 6. West Virginia Rovernor Jim Justice ordered an investigation into conditions at Southern Regional Jail in March, 2022, after reports of inhuman treatment of prisoner, including a lack of water resulting in prisoners drinking from toilets and the withholding of medical treatment.

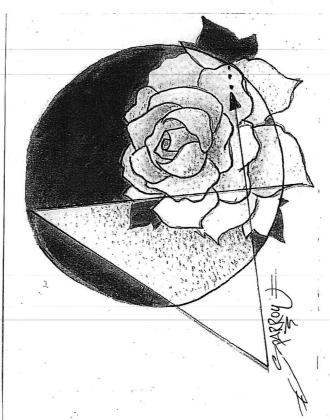
These are just a few examples of issue in the last several months of what prisons and incarceration has become. Considering that nearly 96% of prisoner will be released from incarceration at some point in the future, ask yourself how prisoners will react to being abused. Do you think that they will leave prison as better people than when they came

in? Do you want such a person to be your neighbor when they get released? Well, that's exactly what you are paying for with every tax dollar that goes to our current system of incarceration.

I don't pretend to have all the answers but I believe that we can do better. Perhaps we can shrink our prison systems so that they aren't big money operations ensnaring millions of people. Perhaps we can limit incarceration to the small number of individuals that really need to be separated from the community. Perhaps such a smaller system can be operated better and we can eliminate prisoners being beaten and raped by staff, all while being funded by public tax-dollars.

That seems like a good enough reason for people to care. So please, call your state representative and tell them that you'd rather your money be spent on improving your life, not to fund a system that turns low level criminals into emotionally tramatized individuals that will struggle to reacclimate upon re-entry into the community.





Prisoner Profile

This month we profile Eric King. Eric was convicted of attempting to firebomb the unoccupied office of a Congressman in Kansas City, Missouri, in Sept. 2014. Eric got 10 years for that stunt.

More recently, Eric was charged with assaulting staff at FCI Florence in Florence, Colorado. He was facing 20 additional years. RUT MATT!

Eric was acquitted at trial. Turns out, the guard assaulted him and Eric simply defended himself in an appropriate and legal way. We applaud Eric's courage and appreciate his success. Write Eric a letter and help him pass his time.

Eric King #27090-045 FCI Englewood 9595 W. Quincy Ave. Littleton, CO 80213



Previous 2 pages:

BEN "SPARROW" FOWLER 705 WOODHALL DR. WILLOW STREET, PA 17584

TCM Schedule

July 4 Midnight: Great Balls of Fire

July 9 2:00am: Velvet Vampire July 9 3:30am: The Hunger

July 16 10pm: Dangerous Liaisons

July 18 2:30am: Summer with Monika July 25 11:30om: Foxes

July 25 11:30pm: Faxes July 27 9:45pm: Hunger

July 29 11:15pm: A Clockwork Orange

July 30 1:30am: Eyes Wide Shut

Contact Us

We've experienced a bit of a problem recently with material that people have tried to send us. Please know that the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections have established a Byzantine system for people to use to contact prisoner through the mail. The entire policy is on the Department's website but here's the basics.

If you want to send us correspondence or an artwork submission, send it on loose leaf paper without any staples to the following address:

SMART COMMUNICATION / PADOC CHARLES PICARELLA #MZ7013 SCI MAHANDY PO BOX 33028 ST. PETERSBURG, FL 33733

If you are sending us a book or bound publication, like an issue of Sports Illustrated's Swimsuit issue (for example), you need to use this address:

SECURITY PROCESSING CENTER CHARLES PICARELLA #MZ7013 268 BRICKER RD.
BELLEFONTE, PA 16823

I know, its a real ball-breaker. I don't make the rules, I barely even follow them. Thank for your understanding.