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### Contact Us

To contact individual artist, use the address listed by their art work.

For correspondence to the editor such as questions, comments, artwork submissions, change of address, or just about anything else, use this address:

Smart Communications / PADO

Charles Picarella #MZ7013

PO Box 33028

St. Petersburg, FL 33733

To send us any sort of publications, such as a copy of your 'zine, use this address:

Security Processing Center

Charles Picarella #MZ7013

268 Bricker Rd.

Bellefonte, PA 17623-1667

Our apologies for the overly complex mail system used by the Department of Corrections but that's just the way it is.

# IB64

Price: FREE

KOPIMI

## A 'zine by Prisoners

Feb. 2023

A few quick matters to get started:

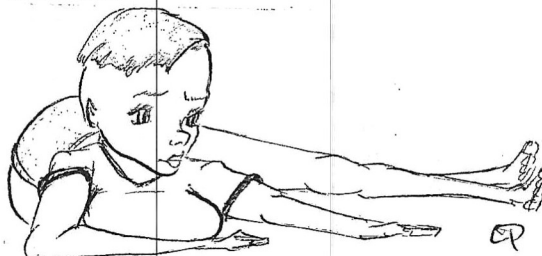
Deebz's Tech Corner continues to be on hiatus. There is just too much heat on Deebz right now because his headphone repair hussle is costing the Department significant amount of revenue and they will do just about anything to stop him!

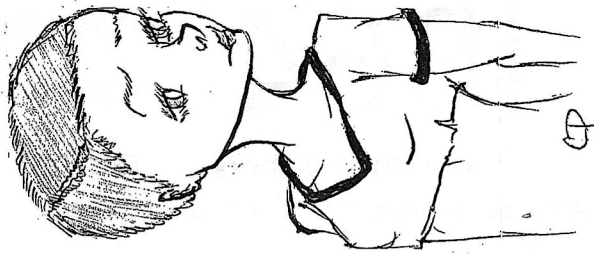
Kindly disregard the names and numbers in the return address on the envelope in which you received this 'zine. We have a lot of people helping us so that we can speed up the mailing and get them out faster.

Remember, we can't send mail to prisoners in other prisons. But if you are reading this, the 'zine is yours to do as you please. If you should happen to want to send it to somebody in a jail or prison, that would be super cool. Now, we're not asking or telling you to do that, we're just letting you know that incarcerated people would probably enjoy receiving some mail.

We're thinking of holding a raffle for an official Department of Corrections shirt. We're still in the early stages of planning but its going to be free to enter. Hopefully, we'll have details in next month's issue.

Thanks to everybody that sends 'zines to us. It gets pretty boring around here and we really appreciate reading about what people are doing out there.





### Visit a Prison

FAMM, a nonpartisan prison reform organization, launched a campaign in July asking every state and federal legislator in the U.S. to visit a prison. The campaign is designed to increase awareness among policymakers, media, and the public about who is incarcerated in America's prisons and the conditions of that confinement. Here at IB64, we support this campaign and we ask for the readerships assistance.

Please check out [www.visitaprison.org](http://www.visitaprison.org) and tweet #VisitAPrison to your elected officials. Even more importantly, attend a candidate's election rally and ask them if they will commit to visiting a prison if they are elected. If they can't commit to visiting a prison once they are in office, they probably are not the people that you need in office making decisions about the people in those prisons.

Additionally, citizens in Pennsylvania can tour jails and prisons in the Commonwealth through the Pennsylvania Prison Society's Official Visitor program. This program is unique to Pennsylvania and remains the only non-governmental organization in the United States that has this level of access by statute. We realize that people are busy living their lives out there but, if it is at all possible, please consider visiting a jail or prison in your area so that you might get an understanding of the realities of incarceration. To become an official visitor with the Pennsylvania Prison Society, call them at: 215-564-4775. You can also use the Official Visitor link on their website, [www.paprisonsociety.org](http://www.paprisonsociety.org).

We missed a bio on Tony Rizz last month so we're including it now. Rizz is a master barber who's hobbies include borrowing eCigs from Charlie, being dragooned into playing musical accompaniment for no-talent hacks at the talent show, and moving out on Deez to avoid FBI surveillance.

CA-SCENE-O.

YOU THINK  
HES COMING  
BACK HOME  
MAKING A  
BEEF BEHIND  
MY BACK?

N A H,  
YOU WOULD  
HEARD  
SOMETHING

THINK  
HESTRY  
TO START  
A WAR  
OR  
SOMETHING



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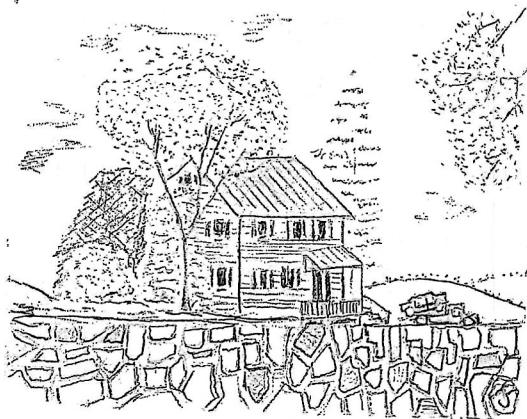


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# TCM MOVIE GUIDE

You are receiving an advanced copy of the February issue of IB64. Unfortunately, the TCM Movie Guide is not yet available for publication. We regret the inconvenience. Thank you for your understanding in this matter.

Smart Communication / PADOC  
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## Legal Update

Picarella v. Wetzel, et al.

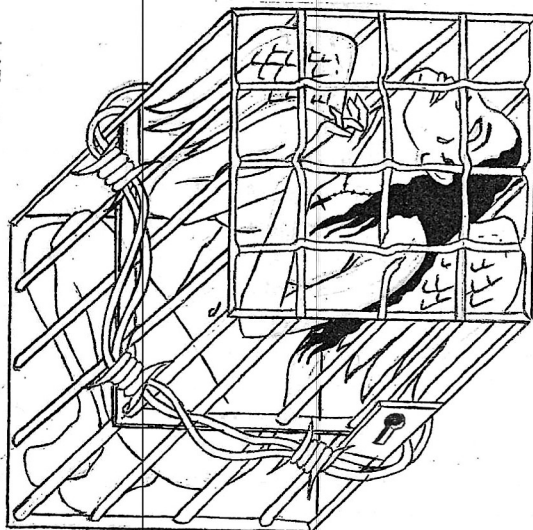
No. 1:20-cv-1440, Md. Dist. of Penns.

Suing various DOC officials for violation of rights pertaining to incoming publications. My motion for reconsideration of the dismissal of several of my claims on a Rule 12(b) motion was denied. The Department's motion for reconsideration of the same Rule 12(b) motion is still pending. Also, my answer for a Rule to Show Cause order relating to the Department refusing to provide the identity of several Department employees is still pending.

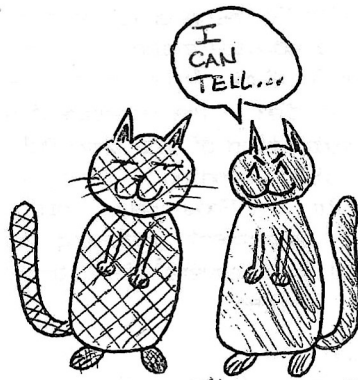
Picarella v. Mason

No. 812-CD-2002, Comm. Court of Penns.

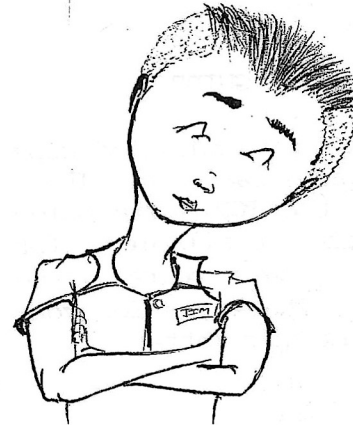
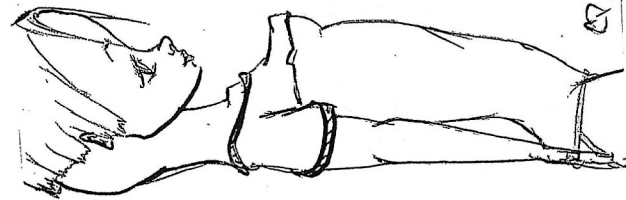
Seeking to compel the prison's warden to provide me the opportunity for 2 hours of daily yard time as mandated by 61 Pa.C.S. §5901. No action this month. I have a feeling that this one is going to drag out for a very long time because the state court simply doesn't want to deal with an action against the state prison system.



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Waffles by Logan



Smug Jim asked that we not print his address so as to minimize the amount of hate mail that he is receiving.

### *Prisoner of the Month*

This month we feature William Jones of the Green Bay Correctional Institution in Wisconsin. Jones recently received \$8,000 in settling a lawsuit which resulted from prison staff destroying his legal documents. During a search of a cell housing a prisoner that was assisting Jones with legal work, prison staff seized legal documents belonging to Jones. Corrections Capt. Jay Van Lanen advised Jones that a misconduct form would be issued and that Van Lanen would inform the hearing officer presiding over Jones' misconduct hearing, Capt. Andrew Wickham, that Jones was to be found guilty so as to obstruct Jones from seeking legal redress. Jones filed suit in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Wisconsin under 42 U.S.C. §1983. After lengthy litigation and appeals, both sides reached an agreement to settle for \$8,000 awarded to Jones.

We congratulate Mr. Jones on his efforts and victory in holding prison officials accountable.

Source: Prison Legal News, Nov. 2022

### *Smug Jim Peck's TCM Movie Review*

#### *Badlands (1973)*

This film is a fever dream told from the perspective of a young girl in love. After the murder of her father by her boyfriend, two lovers, Holly (Sissy Spacek) and Kit (Martin Sheen) find themselves as fugitives traveling through the Dakotas.

The film is narrated throughout by 15-year-old Holly, hearing her thoughts as events occur. This narration provides the viewer an opportunity to see growth and progression in her character.

The score compliments the narrative nicely and compliments the theme of innocence of youth. It is by no means a John Williams masterpiece but the experience is fitting and is easy on the ears.

Some of the events, if not all of them, may seem larger than life. I find this to be intentional so it is left to the audience to decide what they believe actually happened. I liked it, about as much as I like people, I suppose.

### Reader's Questions Answered

I enjoy answering the readership's questions so keep them coming! Remember, there are no stupid questions, only questions being asked by stupid people.

Chad: We'll publish just about any prison artwork but no nudity because that won't get by the DOC censors. Try to keep the size to a maximum of 8cm x 19cm.

Cap: Most housing blocks hold about 200-300 people, typically divided into two pods. Prisons in Pennsylvania vary from about 800 prisoners to over 5,000 prisoners. The facility that I am housed at, SCI Mahanoy, has about 2,000 prisoners.

BB: No, Pennsylvania doesn't have work camps like in the movie "Cool Hand Luke". There are some community work programs at some prisons but its not like in the film.

Donny: The little drawings of girls that I use for fillers are ink. I tried shading with colored pencils but pencil won't copy correctly on our copier. I don't have colored ink to use for shading, only black ink.

Ski: When prisoners are released, they often have somebody pick them up. If there is nobody to come for them, the prison will drop the prisoner off at the nearest bus station. They don't just open the door and let prisoners walk out. I guess the idea is that they want to make sure that the prisoner is going away from the prison. The one except that I know of is SCI-Chester. They walk departing prisoners out to the street on the side of the prison and turn them loose. There is a bus/train station a block away and most prisoners head for there.

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### Prison Reform

I've found that there seems to be some confusion about the concept of recidivism. This is likely due to intentional misuse of the term by those with an agenda in the criminal justice system.

Recidivism refers to those that return to incarceration after having been released. While that seems like a fairly straightforward concept, there is significant latitude in defining two of its elements: why somebody may be returned to incarceration and when they are returned to incarceration. These elements are important because they give context to understanding true rates of recidivism, and thus a better understanding of why somebody may be citing them in an attempt to sway an argument. The following examples illustrate the different uses of the term recidivism.

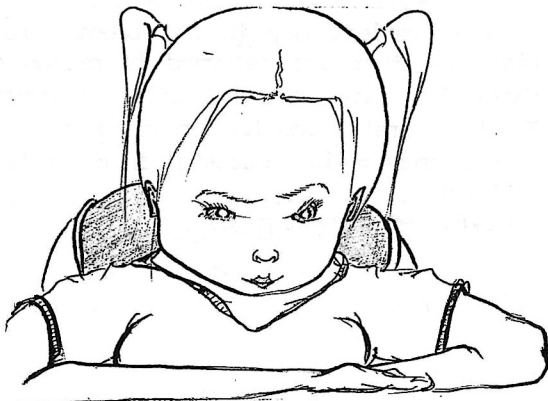
Incarceration is big business. Many companies attempt to sell prison systems rehabilitational programs and one of the biggest selling points is massive reduction in recidivism. The amount by which companies claim to be reducing recidivism are simply impossible; 99% reduction in recidivism would mean that almost nobody is returning to prison. In researching those figures, it becomes clear that the elements defining recidivism have been stretched in a beneficial manner. The companies selling the programing limit the duration to 30 days after release and only count re-conviction for reoccurrence of original offense. This is a convenient way to not count parole violators that are returned to prison or those that are returned after a month. That's a pretty low bar to clear to show that a program is successful in mitigating recidivism.

(continued on next page)



On the other end of the spectrum are organizations that are attempting to convince the public that there is crime crisis in this county, usually law enforcement organizations or the vendors that supply them. In an attempt to show that every person that has ever been incarcerated will end up back behind bars, they stretch the elements defining recidivism to include any return to custody over a period of a lifetime. Under this definition, a parolee that is returned to custody, even for a few days, for a minor technical violation of the term of their parole, will be counted for recidivism. An individual that falls behind on paying court costs and fines, even for a petty crime such as disorderly conduct, might end up incarcerated for only a few days yet they also would be counted for recidivism. Such re-incarcerations may occur years after the individual was first released from custody and may not entail the commission of any additional crime but in an attempt to argue that recidivism rates are very high, they will be included using extreme definitions of the term recidivism.

Because of the degree to which the term may be misused in an effort to support one's objectives, it is important to ask the term's users for the elements that they are using to define it. Any honest user of the term will define it using elements that are relative and meaningful to their position.



### *Scumbag Informants of the Month*

This month we feature the Orange County District Attorney's Office and the Orange County Sheriff's Department. According to a U.S. Department of Justice report issued Oct. 13, 2022, they "systematically violated criminal defendants' Sixth Amendment right to counsel and Fourteenth Amendment right to due process of law" by using jailhouse informers to unlawfully obtain evidence for nine years. The District Attorney's Office arranged for the Sheriff's Department, who operated the county jail, to place informers and defendants into cells together to enable the informants to obtain information. Informants received privileges such as increased access to telephones and television room. Defendants and defense attorneys were not told how the information that would be used against them was obtained.

We feature this issue for two reasons. First, it reminds us that those individuals charged with upholding the law seem to have no qualms about breaking it when doing so serves their needs. Remember, next time you see a candidate running for sheriff or district attorney and they are proselytizing about upholding the law, be sure to ask them if that applies to everybody or just to you.

Secondly, it is difficult to understand when an informant becomes an agent of law enforcement. That is an important distinction because an agent of law enforcement must ensure that a suspect and/or defendant understands that they have a right to legal counsel during interviews. It is beyond the scope of this article to get into the nuances of when an informer becomes an agent of law enforcement but a general guideline is that they are such an agent anytime that they are being compensated for their actions. This varies quite a bit from state to state so you'll have to do some research at the law library to learn the finer points of the issue.

Our advise is this, if you're in a jailcell and you're cellmate is asking a lot of questions, you might want to look into a cell change.