SPARTACUS PROJECT OF NEVADA

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Monday, May 12, 2008

Advisory Committee on Administrative Justice Re: Realism or Smoke

To All Committee Members:

This committee's April Meeting held at High Desert State Prison, was pure nonsense and useless to the purpose of fact finding on the subject of hearing, and seeking, the real abuses of Nevada's Prison system. How shameful can one committee allow themselves to deceive the taxpayer?

Isn't it bad enough to listen to two-state-appointed-heads of penal justice, continually stretch the limits of belief by making a fool of our governor, yourselves-- all committee members, and Nevada's taxpayers. And then, when this committee is at the scene of the crime, High Desert State Prison, you duck your heads and run for cover to deprive Nevada citizen's the right to fully understand the abuses taking place in our own gulags. Did you think public wouldn't notice? What the hell is the purpose of this committee? I think Nevada has been fed enough manure. Let's get to the beef, and feed me, and the Nevada taxpayers, some valid truths.

Since when does non-elected, self-imposed legislative state bodies, make the rules to grant parole and house prisoners? Then, twist their rules to make their job all important, and feed the state officials and the taxpayers their line of crap—as truth. For example, there had been a clean-up at the prison going on for over a month to impress you at your visit. The meal was a set up. What you ate that day didn't get to the rest of the prisoners, except those that ate in the mess hall along side you visitors. (Read the enclosed partial letter.)

What about the rest of the prisoners? Tell the citizens who attend these meetings you chair—how many inmates you spoke to that April Day while you were at High Desert State Prison? On what subjects? Food, medical, dental, parole, parole hearings, schooling, trade opportunities, proper crediting of earned good time days accurately recorded? Did you ask to speak to any Ad-Seg inmates? Did you ask how long an inmate expected to stay on the street with the gate money at $21.00–if there was no family or organization to help them upon release, or to buy an out-of-state ticket home? Tell the truth: "What can you buy with $21.00?" Tell me the purpose of your visit to High Desert State Prison. As a taxpayer—I want to know. I'd like to know today!

Did the committee members ask any inmate how they felt about the Parole Board Chair-Person dragging her feet–to show the state of Nevada how much contempt she has for the state by thwarting Nevada legislator's position on releasing prisoners. (See the edited insert from May 3, 2007. Specifically, the last paragraph and the last sentence.) This non-elected state administrator is now making law in Nevada?

Was any inmate asked how they felt about the Director of Prison, Howard Skolnik, making his rules to the inmates much harder now then past administrators? Or, how fairly he was administrating to his prisons?. (Rumor has it he was a caseworker in another state, where inmates placed a gun in his mouth. Reason never stated. Is it possible he still harbors a real fear & hatred for inmates? And, is still biased today?) Does Director Skolnik still believe in calling Nevada's inmates "RATS?" As he has stated for the press on another rehearsed visit to a Northern Nevada Prison. Director Howard Skolnik certainly compliments the State of Nevada with his professionalism and concern for the Nevada taxpayer. And, "I'll volunteer to pay higher taxes. Yeah, sure!"

The Spartacus Project, and other advocates of prison & parole reform—ask that this committee recommend to the Governor that these two above-listed-administrators be replace with professional & college trained prison administrators–immediately. It is time the current inmates be relieved from the long suffering abuse of these two arrogant, self-righteous individuals. A blind person should be able to see the need for change—NOW!

Submitted.

Enclosures 2

Advisory Commission on Admin. of Justice
Exhibit J pg 1 of 3 Date: May 12, 2008
Submitted by: Donald Hinton

Keep state parole proceedings subject to Open Meeting Law

May 3, 2007

Dorla Salling, chairwoman of the Nevada Board of Parole Commissioners, received a chilly reception to the proposal to exempt the board from Nevada's Open Meeting Law. (LISA J. TOLDA/RENO GAZETTE-JOURNAL)

The Nevada Board of Parole Commissioners should remain subject to the state's open meeting laws, as is every other public commission, board and agency.

The state Supreme Court said as much twice last year when the justices answered the parole board's claim that it would cost too much and slow the decisionmaking too much to hold open hearings and that it acts as a judicial body to which the Open Meeting Law does not apply.

Lawmakers should not yield to the proposal before it (Senate Bill 496), which aims to exempt the board from compliance with the law and which has potential to favor finance over fairness. Fairness and the high court's rulings undoubtedly make up much of the reason why the Assembly has its own bill (AB61, which was rolled into AB416) that affirms the Supreme Court's rulings that the board is subject to the Open Meeting Law.

Not one of the board's protests are justification for secrecy.

Open Meeting laws are a protection for the public and for government. The fairness and justice issues, which the laws aim to preserve, can be particularly significant in parole decisionmaking, when it is possible that an inmate who has not served the full time but may have earned freedom.

The principle on which public meetings are based is that openness and transparency make for the best kind of government. It seeks to keep government honest and encourage the public's trust. Anything besides openness leaves room for inadvertent, or even deliberate, abuses and it incurs suspicion.

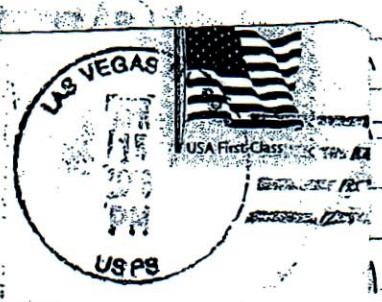
The parole board already moved in that direction when it shut down all parole hearings in response to the high court's ruling last fall. The board's chairperson, Dorla Salling, was quoted as saying, "Unless we get the stay, no one's getting out of prison."

In effect, the board held hostage the high court, the inmates and the state.

Hey Amigo!

What's going on with you?
Same shit different day, at the Funny Farm...

You missed it my friend, They had a pretty good size tour come threw here on "Friday", Rumor has it they wanted to see our "1st" meals... I've got to give it to these guys around here! They feed us a "Kings Meal" "6" pcs of fish, instead of "4" "2" corn on the cobs, instead, of "1"! "Cole slaw and potatos", instead of "1", or the other, "Cake" with "Frosting" instead of "Nothing", Fuck, they even had good juice, instead of colored water...
All Bullshit to the side, "If" that was a 1st meal! We've been at .25 to .30 a meal "way" before this "Budget cut"...
Now that I'm done Fuss'n & Carry'n on over our wounder meal yesterday...



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