

TEXAS TEA NEWSLETTER



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OUR GOAL

With each issue of the Texas Tea Newsletter, we are determined to provide news articles and information for those currently held in Civil Commitment in Texas and other states across the country. We hope to bring awareness to the differences between

what lawmakers portray Civil Commitment to be and the harsh reality that is kept from the public. Through the efforts of the released, loved ones, and those still kept behind razor wire fences, we will shed light upon the unjust situations within these "treatment facilities".

EDITOR'S CORNER

Hear what the editor has to say about this month's issue, encouraging words, and updates on future releases.

WHAT IS BREWING THIS MONTH?

Check out an array of articles, cartoons, and what is new in the latest edition of Texas Tea Newsletter.

INSIDER NEWS

Read first-hand accounts of the atrocities within the Texas Civil Commitment Center in Littlefield, Texas.

EDITOR'S NOTE

"Together we can do this to inspire changes."

Greetings, and welcome to another issue of the Texas Tea Newsletter! I want to apologize for being a little late, but it has been a busy time. January and February were full of NEW things as we moved across the state. We now have a new "headquarters" and address listed below in the "INSIDER NEWS" section.

This may not be much of an editorial, but more of a rambling. I have received so much more mail and correspondence from Littlefield than I ever expected, and our group of readers is increasing every issue. I thank everyone that supports the Texas Tea Newsletter and our journey!

I was deeply saddened to get word of the passing of two Littlefield residents in the month of February, Mr. James Gollihar and Mr. Lorne Clark. This news brought me great sadness, as I remembered both being very kind to me when I was there. This made me recall the first time I heard Resident Mr. George Pickens tell me a man had gotten his Tier 6. I asked what he meant by that, to which he said, "The only way to get out is with a toe tag and 6 ft. under."

I want to continue to STRESS this is an election year for the office of the Texas Governor. Remember all that has taken place with civil commitment in the years that Greg Abbott has been in office (2015 - Present). I am encouraging everyone to write letters to him, his opponents, and other elected officials detailing the situation of the Littlefield facility. A hundred letters from men inside and their families speaks LOUDER than my one newsletter.

As always, please continue to document and report anything and everything. I cannot get the news out there without your help. Now here is this month's tea!

MAILING ADDRESSES FOR CHANGE

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Beto for Texas

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Austin, Texas 78703

Texas Sunset Advisory Commission

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ACLU SUES MICHIGAN AGAIN OVER SEX OFFENDER REGISTRY

BY AN AP NEWS JOURNALIST
FEB. 2ND, 2022

The American Civil Liberties Union of Michigan sued the state Wednesday over the latest version of the sex offender registry, arguing that it violates the rights of people who must live under unconstitutional restrictions.

The ACLU has repeatedly won key decisions in state and federal courts over Michigan's registry. But the group said lawmakers and Gov. Gretchen Whitmer responded with a new edition that still isn't acceptable.

"What we're asking for is very simple: Consider the facts in each case before someone is tarred as a sex offender for life. Dying shouldn't be the only way a person can get off the registry," ACLU attorney Miriam Aukerman said.

The Michigan Supreme Court last year said a 2011 version of the registry was unconstitutional when applied retroactively to certain offenders. The decision followed similar rulings from federal courts.

The lawsuit said the new law fails to provide any individual review or opportunity to be removed from the registry. It said the law retroactively extends registration rules for thousands of people.

The plaintiffs include a man who was never charged or convicted of a sex offense. He pleaded no contest to kidnapping for forcing a McDonald's manager and her teen son into the restaurant to open a safe. He's required to register as a sex offender, the ACLU said.

The new law eliminated restrictions about living near a school and attending school events.

A HOUSTON-AREA DISTRICT CLERK IMPROPERLY SORTED JURORS BY RACE FOR YEARS. WHY WASN'T SHE CHARGED?

BY ANNA BOUMAN
FEB. 3RD, 2022

A Brazoria County district clerk who retired last year amid allegations of jury tampering spent years improperly sorting potential jurors by their race and address as she assembled jury panels, a Texas Rangers investigation found.

A grand jury in December declined to bring

charges against the former clerk, Rhonda Barchak, or any of her employees who participated in or witnessed the jury-selection process, said Tom Selleck, the county's district attorney.

The investigation, which was completed in November, found Barchak failed to use a random jury-selection process as required by Texas statute, Selleck said. But he added that state law does not provide a penalty for violators.

"Bottom line is she didn't follow the statute — but there's no consequence as far as criminal penalty," Selleck said. "The consequence, though, is the tarnishing of the reputation of the justice system in the county."

The jury tampering scandal has shaken confidence in the legal system in the rural county south of Houston, halted proceedings and contributed to a backlog of thousands of cases. At least one murder defendant wants a new trial, though predictions of a wave of cases that would need to be tossed did not come to pass. The allegations initially prompted calls for racial justice and stirred speculation of political maneuvering.

According to the 177-page report from the Texas Rangers' investigation, a copy of which was obtained by the Chronicle on Tuesday through an open records request, Barchak acknowledged that she sorted potential jurors into four categories: white Pearland residents, non-white Pearland residents, white people who did not live in that city, and non-white people who resided outside of it.

Pearland is a city of more than 120,000 residents that is mostly located in Brazoria County but also extends into Harris and Fort Bend counties.

Barchak, a local Republican elected in 2010, devised the unusual system with no input from other district clerks, conferences, training or government codes, according to the report. In fact, the Rangers found, she was not aware until more than halfway through her time in office that the county commissioners court had an approved jury-selection plan, which required the random selection of jury panels.

As news of the alleged jury tampering came out last fall, some community leaders and activists accused Barchak of discriminating against people of color by excluding them from jury service.

But Barchak's attorney, Chip Lewis, said the district clerk's goal was the opposite: to create geographically and racially diverse juries.

Lewis said the criticism was politically motivated and arose from a "lack of understanding of her process."

"Rhonda never discriminated against any minority," Lewis wrote in an email to the Chronicle. "To the contrary, her goal was to ensure inclusion of minorities to avoid all white juries sitting in judgment of Brazoria County citizens."

Barchak declined an interview request through her attorney. But the Texas Rangers' report provides the following account of how her practice came under scrutiny:

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the jury-selection process in Brazoria County moved from the courthouse in Angleton to a gym across the street.

It was during this time that Tracy Read, a bailiff for the 412th District Court in Brazoria County, noticed Barchak and her deputy chief, Cayla Meyers, taking informational sheets from potential jurors and sorting them into separate stacks in a back room.

Before the pandemic, this process often happened in a locked jury room, he said.

He thought this was unusual and started asking questions.

One employee told Read she didn't approve of what they were doing but said she couldn't talk to him about it, according to the investigation report.

"I need my job," she said.

He asked another employee what criteria the district clerk used to select jury panels.

"Race and where they live," she responded, confirming his suspicions.

The bailiff texted another employee while sitting in church, according to the report, saying "I am struggling with what God has put on my heart. I know the truth."

On Aug. 17, 2021, Read came forward with what he had learned. He told District Judge Justin Gilbert that he had been having trouble sleeping and grabbed his badge, saying, "This means something to me," according to the report.

Gilbert called Judge Patrick Sebesta of the 239th Judicial District Court, who notified the Brazoria County District Attorney's Office and then requested a meeting with Barchak.

The next morning, Sebesta told investigators, Barchak explained to him that she sorted potential jurors by race and geography with the intention of diversifying the panels, and that she had been doing this for her entire decade in office.

"I instructed her at that time that she could not do that," Sebesta said in a written statement to investigators. "And she said that she would quit."

The district attorney's office began reviewing the allegations, and Selleck, a Republican, reached out to the Texas Rangers on Aug. 26, 2021, to request a formal criminal investigation.

Barchak retired that day.

Thomas Norsworthy, a Texas Ranger and former sheriff, was assigned to the case.

He and prosecutors from the Brazoria County DA's office interviewed nearly 70 people and collected more than 130 pieces of evidence during the course of an investigation that spanned more than three months.

Most employees said they were not involved in the jury-selection process, but a handful of employees told investigators that Barchak taught them how to sort jury cards — the informational sheets that each potential juror must fill out and bring to court — into four stacks based on race and geography.

The clerks then took one card from the top of each category and placed them in a new stack, and repeated that process until the four piles were distributed. They then placed those stacks on top of each other and assembled jury lists according to the order of that stack. It's unclear why she focused on residency in Pearland.

One employee said she felt uneasy about this process, but worried about incriminating herself. Others said they believed it was not criminal or malicious, and never asked questions or researched how jury empanelment should be done. The method was not used before Barchak became district clerk, employees said.

When investigators asked Barchak why she didn't seek guidance on her selection process, she said: "Because I knew it was supposed to be random, and I thought that's what I was doing, was being random."

Barchak said she never worked behind a locked door and did not use her race-based sorting process when panel selection took place at the gym during the pandemic, according to the report. She said she created her system in 2015 or 2016.

Some employees said Barchak automatically placed a person on a jury panel if they forgot or had to correct their information card; meanwhile, she set aside the jury cards of those people who arrived first, reportedly saying it was "a perk of showing up early."

Barchak gave an unclear answer when investigators asked why she did this.

Patrick Mizell, a Houston attorney and former Harris County judge, said he has never heard of a clerk assembling jury panels in such a manner. In Harris County, the district clerk uses a computerized system that randomly selects names from the pool of potential jurors.

Chapter 35 of the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure requires random selection of jury panels.

"You either have to shuffle it like a deck of cards or let the computer randomly assign it, but you can't on your own balance it out in any way," Mizell said.

He said Barchak's method is "clearly not random," but the statute does not create criminal penalties for failure to follow the code.

Questions about the whistleblower's political motivations also came up during the investigation.

Several employees reported that Read, a Republican who is running for a Brazoria County justice-of-the-peace position this year, had made comments about firing Barchak and her top staffers, and promised someone a job within the district clerk's office in exchange for political support.

Read, who does not have authority over hiring and firing in the clerk's office, denied this allegation in his interview with investigators.

His wife, Dana Read, is running for district clerk in the March 1 GOP primary election. She told investigators that she spoke with her husband on several occasions about the jury-tampering allegations, but did not ask for details because of her campaign.

Meyers, the chief deputy who worked closely with Barchak, is also running for district clerk, although she left her position at the office shortly after the jury tampering investigation began.

Barchak seemed to endorse Meyers in an email to her staff regarding her retirement.

"I know Cayla can do the job because, frankly, I've had her learning everything that the job entails," Barchak said.

Jury trials were paused from late August to December last year as officials investigated the allegations, according to Selleck, who was appointed to his post in October 2020 by Gov. Greg Abbott.

Now, Selleck said, he's facing nearly 9,000 active criminal cases and 4,500 family law cases, with more coming in each day, putting the courts system years behind. The pandemic contributed to the slowdown, too.

"It's a mess right now," he said. "We're working through it."

The district clerk's office is no longer using Barchak's sorting system, Selleck said, and much of the process has been digitized. Commissioners last year appointed Donna Starkey as interim district clerk. She did not respond to a request for comment.

Prosecutors are no longer reviewing cases affected by Barchak's selection process, he said, because it did not appear to have an impact on the racial composition of juries examined by investigators.

Investigators conducted an audit of a dozen jury panels selected between October 2020 and August 2021. A statistics professor reviewed the data and found that each race category was within acceptable or expected ranges based on the county's population.

The county's population is roughly 45 percent white, 32 percent Hispanic, 15 percent Black and 7 percent Asian, according to the U.S. Census Bureau.

Still, one defendant is pushing for a new trial.

Darrell Anthony Adell, Jr. was convicted of murder last August by a majority-white jury and sentenced to life in prison. His attorneys last September motioned for a new trial on the basis of the jury-tampering allegations against Barchak.

"It's very basic — you can't do anything based on race, no matter whether you have good intentions or bad intentions," said Stanley Schneider, an attorney representing Adell. "To me, it undermines the entire framework of the trial. The integrity of the proceedings was tainted from the beginning."

Judge Terri Holder of the 149th District Court denied Adell's request. But Schneider is asking the courts for a hearing with a different judge because Holder, in fact, was a witness in the Texas Rangers investigation into Barchak. Holder is not seeking reelection.

Some community members remain unsatisfied with the results of the investigation.

Quanell X, a community activist who leads the New Black Panther Party and organized a rally last fall to protest Brazoria County's jury selection practices, said he does not trust the investigation conducted by the Texas Rangers and prosecutors. Members of both agencies work too closely with the office they were investigating and stand to benefit from the outcome, he said.

He and other community activists still want the FBI or Department of Justice to look into the matter.

"It's ridiculous. It's sad. But I'm not surprised, not at Brazoria County, Texas," he said.

SOTOMAYOR SAYS 'COURTS MUST STEP IN' TO PROTECT CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS, URGES N.Y. TO END POLICY OF 'INDEFINITE INCARCERATION' FOR SEX OFFENDERS

BY COLIN KALMBACHER
FEB. 22ND, 2022

Justice Sonia Sotomayor penned a statement related to an order on Tuesday in a case about the alleged deprivation of constitutional rights for sex offenders. The case surrounded a sex offender who finished serving his sentence but who remained behind bars because he couldn't find compliant housing when he was allowed to leave prison.

According to Sotomayor, Angel Ortiz served out most of his prison sentence and was eligible for good time credits — entitling him to conditional release under state law. Because he was categorized as a "level three sex offender," he had to assure authorities he would not reside within 1,000 feet of any school. That requirement was based on an interpretation of a law that says an "offender shall refrain from knowingly entering into or upon any school grounds." Since Ortiz and his family (with whom he would have lived post-prison) were from New York City, the most densely populated large city in the country, this requirement proved to be an impossible task, the case revealed.

The broader court apparently concluded that Ortiz's petition didn't raise sufficient constitutional questions to warrant a review. Sotomayor wrote separately. In her statement, Sotomayor respected the full court's decision not to grant certiorari in the case, but she did use the occasion to urge the State of New York to change its policy on post-release restrictions for sex offenders.

"I write to emphasize that New York's residential prohibition, as applied to New York City, raises serious constitutional concerns," Sotomayor's six-page statement argues.

"Ortiz . . . proposed dozens of other release addresses, including various homeless shelters, but [New York's Department of Corrections and Community Supervision] rejected each one," Sotomayor's statement explains. "As a result, Ortiz spent the entirety of his 17 months of conditional release in prison."

Even though Ortiz was supposed to have been released from prison after effectively

being denied his good time credits because of his housing situation, the state then put him into a so-called "Residential Treatment Facility" (which was actually just another state prison) to begin serving his five-year post-release supervision sentence, Ortiz claimed.

"Ortiz spent eight months in two of these facilities, where he lived behind barbed wire, in a general prison population, in conditions nearly identical to those in which he served his sentence," the statement notes. "All told, because of New York's residency prohibition, Ortiz was imprisoned for over two years longer than he otherwise would have been."

In turn, Ortiz filed a petition for a writ of habeas corpus but was summarily frustrated by each of several New York State courts on the grounds that he had not found "compliant community housing."

"In effect, New York's policy requires indefinite incarceration for some indigent people judged to be sex offenders," Sotomayor argues. "The within-1,000-feet-of-a-school ban makes residency for Ortiz and others practically impossible in New York City, where the city's density guarantees close proximity of schools. Rather than tailor its policy to the geography of New York City or provide shelter options for this group, New York has chosen to imprison people who cannot afford compliant housing past both their conditional release date and the expiration of their maximum sentences."

The upshot of the state's interpretation of the law, Sotomayor concluded, is the deprivation of protected liberty interests by way of a ban on housing opportunities for many offenders who have otherwise paid their debts to society.

"Ortiz may well have held a liberty interest at the point that he became entitled to conditional release," the statement argued — citing to state law and two lower court dissents. "At the very least, however, Ortiz indisputably held a liberty interest in his release at the expiration of his full sentence."

And that, the justice says, "demands heightened scrutiny" of the ban because that practical impact of the state law may fail various forms of constitutional review used to determine such issues by the high court.

"New York's policy of indefinite detention may not withstand even rational-basis review," Sotomayor argued — referring to the lowest level of constitutional scrutiny. "No one doubts that New York's goal of preventing sexual violence toward children is legitimate and compelling, but New York nonetheless must advance that objective through rational means. Courts, law enforcement agencies, and scholars all have acknowledged that residency restrictions do not reduce recidivism and may actually increase the risk of reoffending."

The justice then goes on, for several pages, to catalogue numerous citations, studies and statements from courts, cops and colleges that suggest restrictive residency requirements actually make sex offender much more likely to re-commit sex crimes.

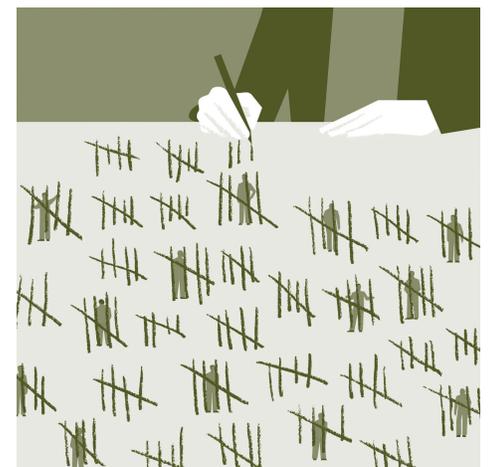
"[S]cholars have explained that by banishing returning individuals to the margins of society, residency restrictions may lead to homelessness, unemployment, isolation, and other conditions associated with an increased risk of recidivism," Sotomayor's survey of the literature concluded.

But, the justice acknowledged, rights for sex offenders isn't a particularly popular cause — or an issue that public officials are even really willing to countenance a change in perspective towards.

"Despite the empirical evidence, legislatures and agencies are often not receptive to the plight of people convicted of sex offenses and their struggles in returning to their communities," she noted. "Nevertheless, the Constitution protects all people, and it prohibits the deprivation of liberty based solely on speculation and fear."

"When the political branches fall short in protecting these guarantees, the courts must step in," Sotomayor continued — but she also noted there isn't a circuit split on the issue that requires the full court's attention.

Then, in closing, Sotomayor implored politicians in New York to make a change without waiting on the nine justices: New York should not wait for this Court to resolve the question whether a State can jail someone beyond their parole eligibility date, or even beyond their mandatory release date, solely because they cannot comply with a restrictive residency requirement. I hope that New York will choose to reevaluate its policy in a manner that gives due regard to the constitutional liberty interests of people like Ortiz.



INSIDER NEWS

From a Mother of a Civally Committed Man

My name is Lonnell Hanks, I have a son that has been Civilly Commitment. Let me tell you he is not complacent. He calls them on any Civil Right they violate, any law they break ect. He has been held back in tier purposely because he has filed suits against TCCO as a whole and individually, Correct Care Solutions and MCT. He has not had his property since 2015 they always find a reason not to give it to him. They have kept him in segregation up to eleven months, but he still won't cave. Now since he had a excessive force case overturned he has be threatened and now he has had excessive force used on him again and they filed on him for assault but still is not deterred. The law enforcement in that County will always side with the center. But that doesn't necessarily mean they will win every time. Hell, the court system is afraid. But we can't be, They have taken everything from you how much more are you willing to give. They can't take what you know is right in your heart and in your mind unless you let them. They can bend your will, but they can't break your will. To each-and-every one of you we are out here fighting for your freedom. We can't do it alone we need you to help us help you. We are a small group, but we are fierce. Always remember you have a voice if you are not on probation or parole you are eligible to register to vote so you do have a voice. Don't let anyone tell you any different. They can't have it both ways. Here is the Code then follows the Notice to voter information from the Texas Secretary of State. We are louder in NUMBERS!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE
TITLE 11. CIVIL COMMITMENT OF SEXUALLY VIOLENT PREDATORS
CHAPTER 841. CIVIL COMMITMENT OF SEXUALLY VIOLENT PREDATORS
SUBCHAPTER A. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Sec. 841.001. LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS. The legislature finds that a small but extremely dangerous group of sexually violent predators exists and that those predators have a behavioral abnormality that is not amenable to traditional mental illness treatment modalities and that makes the predators likely to engage in repeated predatory acts of sexual violence. The legislature finds that the existing involuntary commitment provisions of Subtitle C, Title 7, are inadequate to address the risk of repeated predatory behavior that sexually violent predators pose to society. The legislature further finds that treatment modalities for sexually violent predators are different from the traditional treatment modalities for persons appropriate for involuntary commitment under Subtitle C, Title 7. Thus, the legislature finds that a civil

commitment procedure for the long-term supervision and treatment of sexually violent is necessary and in the interest of the state.

Added by Acts 1999, 76th Leg., ch. 1188, Sec. 4.01, eff. Sept. 1, 1999.

NOTICE TO VOTER You may vote at this polling location only if: 1. You are at least 18 years old on Election Day; 2. You are registered to vote in the precinct in which you are attempting to vote and you are a resident of the territory covered by the election; 3. You are a United States citizen; 4. You are not a convicted felon (you may be eligible to vote if you have completed your sentence, probation, and parole); and 5. You have not been declared by a court of law to be either totally mentally incapacitated or partially mentally incapacitated without the right to vote. x It is a third degree felony to vote illegally or knowingly impersonate another person or to vote as the impersonated person and it is a Class A misdemeanor to attempt any of these activities. Tex. Elec. Code Ann. § 64.012. x For questions about voter qualifications, the Secretary of State's Office may be contacted toll-free at 1-800-252-VOTE (8683), via e-mail at elections@sos.state.tx.us, and by mail at: Elections Division, P.O. Box 12060, Austin, Texas 78711.

Lonnell Hanks

From a Civilly Committed Man

The Fight We Face

I am affluent in the law. I spend my life in study for my life. I have had success against the C.C.R.S., Littlefield Chief of Police, Lamb County Jail, and Lubbock County Jail. I had challenged the law that has so affected our lives. The grounds of the challenge has never been considered by any court, likewise, I had attacked the law upon grounds that were specifically approved by the United States Supreme Court, yet, the Texas Law is completely contrary to what the Supreme Court had determined to be Constitutional. I took these issues on appeal to the Fifth Circuit. What did I get in response for my efforts? Threats! Through the right to challenge the law on grounds never reviewed and on changes to the statute is well settled by the United States Supreme Court, the Fifth Circuit threatened with with sanction if I ever challenged the Texas Health and Safety Code 841 again. Undeterred, I have prepared a certiorari to the United States Supreme Court. It is to be determined. What is truly scary, however, is the fact that

the Fifth Circuit refused to even review the challenge. What can we do when those with power refuse to apply the law as written? Originally, I was so sick that I did not want to ever look at the law again. Only that would give in to a bully. There are other means as well within everyone who is civally committed disposal. Though it would take something none of us have ever done before, and that is to come together. The powerful are united to deprive you of all that makes life with living, family, friends, choices, freedom, of determination, or put another way the very essence of life itself. The lesson that I've learned is that I cannot do it alone! One thing we should all remember is that "Freedom is not granted by the oppressor, but demanded by the oppressed." – Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Soon, I will be returning to the center. When I arrive I hope to find a population of people ready to demand their freedom, the alternative is to resign to live as the oppressed!

Respectfully,

Lonnie Kade Welsh

"ONE DOESN'T HAVE TO OPERATE WITH GREAT MALICE TO DO GREAT HARM. THE ABSENCE OF EMPATHY & UNDERSTANDING ARE SUFFICIENT."

CHARLES M. BLOW

Texas Civil Commitment Center
2600 South Sunset Avenue
Littlefield, TX 79339

DISTANCING

By A TCCC Resident

The Texas Civil Commitment office is moving further away from its clientele. When this new and improved version of civil commitment began in late 2015, TCCO case managers "visited" each offender twice a month, called a collateral contact every month and every offender had a

INSIDER NEWS CONT.

one-on-one with the sex offender treatment provider every month.

The very first change of pace in that very close management and control scheme reduced one-on-ones with the treatment provider to once every three months. That reduction alone saved thousands of dollars on monthly treatment expenses. The next step back they took was stop calling collateral contacts. Then the pandemic hit us hard and TCCO used HIPPA laws to prevent family and outsiders from knowing what was going on in the program, facility and with offenders. Nine of us died without family emergency contact notification. Then, TCCO decided that case management "visiting" confined offenders in the facility twice a month was not necessary, so they changed that to once a month. Now, the newest change to date no longer requires cost recovery assessment sheets every month. This is probably the most interesting since the latest legislation requires even more financial disclosure than ever before.

See a pattern here? TCCO is distancing itself from us and creating more concealment. This is the Agency Director, Marsha McLane who publicly promised more transparency and integrity. She and her echelon of upper management have illegally arrested, transported and incarcerated outpatient clients. They've taken illegal monies from inheritances, settlements, and the families of offenders by taxing packages. They've held offenders back from tier advancement and even tiered offenders down for delinquent TCCO fees. Among many other punitive things, they've denied basic health and dental care resulting in 25 deaths since putting McLane at the helm of this program.

TCCO's purpose is becoming less treatment and more prison punishment. And, it's only going to get a lot worse as TCCO distances itself further away from clientele treatment success.

Excerpts from Two Resident Letters

One resident of the Littlefield facility writes...

"I was lied to, 'You'll be evaluated and return to your county of conviction in 90 days.' That was in 2015." He continues to state he has

been over-punished for who he is friends with. He is "guilty by association", even if the other resident fully confessed to breaking the "TCCO Rule". He continues by asking where in the world is there a treatment program that lasts a lifetime?

Excerpt from a Resident Letter

One resident of the Littlefield facility writes...

"I have been here for four years now." He states the program was "sold to us while we were still in TDCJ as a 'wonderful facility where we will get the best treatment'." The man states he is on his 27th therapist since his arrival on December 1st, 2017. He stresses the inadequate medical treatment and the many deaths that have occurred during his time there. The resident goes on by saying as "freeworld citizens" they deserve so much more from MTC and TCCO. Everything the men say and do is recorded and used against them during reviews.

The stories, accounts, and information submitted to the "Insider News" columns are not edited in any way. To save on paper, ink, and other supplies, excerpts may be taken from longer submissions. These inserts are for informational purposes, and are unique to every individual that chooses to write to the Texas Tea Newsletter. To include your own account in the next issue, please send your story and contact information to

Texas Tea Newsletter

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