

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.

INSIDER NEWS

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

WANT TO CONTRIBUTE?

Send your stories to texasteanewsletter@gmail.com or to P.O. Box 3226, San Marcos, TX 78666 to be featured in the next issue!

EDITOR'S NOTE

Greetings everyone! Apologies on the delay of this month's newsletter; life can be stressful at times. But nevertheless, here we are!

I would like to start off by thanking everyone who has sent in letters from the inside detailing recent events of the horrors of the Texas Civil Commitment Center. Because of the tremendous support and inpour of information, I have decided to dedicate the entirety of this month's issue to sharing these very stories. With that in mind, several letters were able to be published according to our printing budget. But if you do not see your own submission in this issue, look out for next month's!

Thank you again for all of the support, as this little project could not have taken off without the outcry of approval from our recipients. Let's spill the tea!



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We must accept finite
disappointment, but never
lose infinite hope.

Martin Luther King JR.

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What Medical Department?

Written by Gerald B. Wilson

Everybody is constantly always asking me to write an article on the TCCC/MTC Medical Department that is worth my time or effort. Its very simple. TCCC/MTC Medical care on the infamous Texas Civil Commitment Center is not aboutmuch worth writing about. TCCC/MTC Medical care is ugly and disgusting. No human should ever have to write about such buffoonery medicine.

I call out the medical care at the TCCC/MTC Medical Department to be "War Crimes" in a war on sex offenders! I shame you TCCC/MTC. If your offences are not stopped, and I mean real soon, just like my offences escalated, so will yours. You will harm more of my friends and more will die! Where is your humanity? Do you not have any morals? Should I write about the few nurses who seem to care and seem to do all they can? Does their care nullify all the others who turn people away that are in need If care and dying?

Should I write about all the senseless deaths and the illnesses as a result of Sick Call Requests not being respoded to? I could write about being told that "Somebody" must have lost the Sick Call Request? They should fire "Somebody", whoever they are! We are always being told that some person named "Somebody" keeps losing the Sick Call Requests and this keeps people from getting called out for any medical appointments. And then too, "Somebody" is also failing to call people down to the TCCC/MTC Medical Department for follow-ups and/or appointments.

I know what I could write about! How about the wonderful dental care we receive where the TCCC/MTC Medical Department tells and minimally contracts Dentists to only do dental extractions. How many have had to have teeth taken out and be permanently disfigured when a basic filling would have sufficed? Oh, and by the way, what ever happened to the Partial Maneuver several hundred of us were given examines for? Were we to just forget

about that? What will that escalate into?

Should I write about all the insensible deaths of the persons who sickly and struggling made several trips within a few days to the TCCC/MTC Medical Department complaining of medical issues only to die within a few days? Should I write about how most all of them, friends of mine, are in relatively very good health and suddenly, within a couple of days I get word they have been going to the TCCC/MTC Medical Department two or three times a day, for the past week begging for help and told by the TCCC/MTC Medical Department that they can't find anything wrong with them? Then the TCCC/MTC Medical Department gets a call to go get their dead body out of a shower in their living area, off the concrete of the "breezeway", or in the hallway of Delta Dorm!

Should I write about how that I look at myself, seeing myself as being in realistically very good health at 62. About how I have dreams and personal affirmations of living to be 100. About my fears and how I am scared to death

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that I might be the next person they come scrape up after spending the past few days making trips to the TCCC/MTC Medical Department complaining and begging them for help, only to receive Tylenol for constipation and Pepto-Bismal for a headache.

Do I need to write about the total lack of any oversight or accountability of the TCCC/MTC Medical Department? As such, they can get away with murder, or negligent manslaughter at best? It ain't so? I sure do wish we could find out how Daryl Holt, Robert Luna, James Gollihar and/or Donnie Bunn feel about that! I wonder what they would say?

Treatment is the Disguise and Lie

Written by a TCCC Resident

Thankfully, there is a lot of awareness building on the abuse and corruption of the Texas sex offender civil commitment (SOCC) scheme. More attention has been given to the laws and facility, but I want to raise concern about the "treatment" used to justify this political design.

The American Psychiatric Association (APA) has and continues to oppose SOCC laws because these laws are not based on medical science and treatment modalities. These laws are based solely on politics and the treatment is used to disguise societal ends. The forensic psychologists, evaluators and therapists contracted by sex offender civil commitment are carefully shopped and culled for political and societal purposes rather than medical or psychiatric integrity.

To prove SOCC is nothing more than punishment, I offer the statute that declares the fictitious "Behavioral Abnormality" diagnosis. There is no such diagnosis in the DSM-5 and it has been rejected by the APA every time it has been proposed over the past 40 years. Sex offending is a crime and "treatment" is as effective as it is ever going to be in prison and continued parole sentence.

Sex offender "treatment" is nothing more than a little education in sociology and encouragement to change, it is what some would consider below marriage or diet counseling.

Even AA may be more effective treatment. The treatment has not changed any empirical or objective statistic in the sex offender actuarial's presented in the past 40 years. The re-offenses reported through the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS), U.S. Dept. of Justice and every state sex offender registry suggests extremely low re-offense rates, with or without the treatment. The purported "dangerousness" of the small group of sex offenders committed to treatment is unsupported by any science, medical psychiatry or criminal statistics and remains unchanged by any treatment. Politics is the door in SOCC and politics is the only way out of it for the vast majority of SOCC inmates.

The Texas Civil Commitment Office (TCCO) is the state agency positioned within Texas Health and Human Services connected to the Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT) in the Texas Dept. of Criminal Justice. Neither TCCO or the MDT is managed by Medical or Psychiatric staff or have a single Medical or Psychiatric professional on staff.

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The so-called treatment and treatment staff at the sex offender civil commitment facility are counselors and therapists directed by one clinical director with a Ph.D. It is hardly appropriate credentials for a clinical treatment facility providing treatment to the so-called 400 most dangerous sex offenders in the state. The least the state could do is provide legitimate psychiatric treatment in the program.

The six hours a week of group sessions and endless assignments being changed and added to weekly make up the hamster-wheel treatment that has kept all but five inmates here for the past six years. In that same time 26 inmates have died in the fake treatment. The prison facility and operations shadow the faux treatment 27 times over. The thousands of facility rules and policies present more of a challenge to program success than treatment. Sadly, unrelated rule violations are used to judge treatment progress and hinder treatment goals. The prison facility and lifestyle is counter-productive and psychologically harmful to

every inmate trying to succeed. Concrete and steel, bunks and isolation from social support is hard on the aged and aging bodies committed in the program.

I hope you can see beyond the hated offenses of these criminals to support justice and stop the state's retribution and waste of social resources. No one condones sex offending and every one wants sex offenders to suffer the consequences of their crime. All of the sex offender civil commitment inmates have served the full sentence for their crimes. However, SOCC does not help victims or create public safety. On the contrary, it takes much needed resources from public safety, neglects victim rehabilitation and fails to build protections in the homes, neighborhoods and communities where these crimes are committed. Texas Legislators have spent about \$2.5 Billion on SOCC since 1999 that has not trained a single parent, teacher, doctor or first responder to notice offending behaviors, add a single camera or panic button in neighborhoods or

help victims to recover from these horrible offenses. Politicians like Sen. Whitmire, TCCO Director Marsha McLane and their contractors know that they can wield the power of \$20 Million a year without giving one cent to empower parents, teachers, doctors, first responders or victims.

The only people benefiting from SOCC is politicians and contractors. The counterfeit treatment scheme is a very effective political tool to exploit fear for profit. TREATMENT IS THE DISGUISE AND LIE.

Actions Leading Up to the Death of Donnie Bunn on March 13th, 2022 at the Texas Civil Commitment Center

Information Compiled by a TCCC Resident

Wednesday March 09, 2022

Donnie was a relatively seemingly healthy white Caucasian of fifty-six (56) years old. Donnie was obese, at about 235-250 lbs. or so, at about five (5) foot eight or nine (8-9).

Donnie most always had a steady smile and a positive manner about him. Donnie

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had the typical emotional and cognitive issues, normally seen amongst the general population here at TCCC.

Donnie attended our therapy group session from 8:00-11:15 AM. Donnie basically seemed to be in his usual self, but he did state that he was not feeling good and did complain of slight chest pain. He stated that the MTC/TCCC medical clinic staff was giving him "Milk of Magnesia" to prevent constipation and "Benedryl" for cold like symptoms.

Thad Stratton's Statement:

Thad says that about 3:00-4:00 PM Donnie told him he was feeling out of energy and out of breath. Donnie then told Thad he had been to medical and they checked Donnie's blood pressure and told him he was fine and told him to go to the house.

Thursday March 10, 2020

Thad Stratton's Statement:

Commissary had been issued to D-1 about 1:00-2:00 PM. Thad says that about 3:00-4:00 PM, he asked Donnie if he had gotten any commissary. Donnie replied that he did

not and it was a good thing because he would not of had the energy to go get it anyway.

Friday March 11, 2022

Donnie went to the medical clinic complaining of chronic shortness of breath and chronic fatigue/tiredness after walking short distances [About 50'-100']. Donnie stated that medical staff took his temperature, blood pressure and oxygen level. Medical staff claimed they could not find anything wrong with Donnie and told him to go back to his living area and lay down and rest. I do not know that any medications were given or prescribed to Donnie at this time.

Thad Stratton's Statement:

Thad says that Donnie had told him, multiple times during the day, that he was out of energy. Thad told Donnie that he needed to go get that checked out.

Saturday March 12, 2022

Resident Frederick King pushed Donnie to the MC/TCCC medical clinic, about 5:00-7:00 PM complaining of chronic shortness of breath and

chronic fatigue/tiredness after walking short distances [About 50'-100']. Donnie again stated that medical again claimed they could not find anything wrong with Donnie and told him to go back to his living area and lay down and rest. I do not know that any medications were given or prescribed to Donnie at this time.

Sunday March 13, 2022

Thad Stratton's Statement:

Thad says about 9:00-10:00 AM, he told Donnie to come get Thad's P/S Game Player System about 11:00-11:30 AM to play games on that afternoon in the dorm [D-1]. Donnie never came to get Thad's game system. Thad noted that as being very odd for Donnie because Donnie is normally always eager and excited to play games on a P/S Game Player System.

Thad says he later saw Donnie on the recreation yard about 1:30 PM and sitting at the corner of the outside of D-1. Knowing Donnie normally always sits behind the baseball field's diamond, about another 200' away, Thad questioned Donnie about his sitting there.

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Donnie told Thad that it was as far as he could walk and had ran out of breath. Thad told Donnie to go to the Clinic and don't leave until they do something for him.

About 9:00-10:00 AM, I and a couple of other Residents of D-1 were having a conversation with Donnie about how he was feeling. He was complaining of having some breathing problems. His demeanor was seemingly soulless/sluggish. He complained of being very fatigued.

Donnie spoke about being invited to and wanting to go out to recreation at about 1:00 PM to a "spread" being put on by some of his friends, but he did not know if he was going to be able to. I asked him about playing soft ball and he said he did not think he was going to be able to.

About 2:00-2:30 PM, I noticed Donnie sitting in one of the white plastic rocking chairs in the day room of D-1. I asked Donnie what was up. He began to explain to me about going out to the recreation yard and when he got there he was out of breath and real tired. However, he met with

his friends and ate a little of the "spread" they prepared and watched some of the soft ball game being played and decided to come back in because he was feeling so bad.

I saw that his breathing was genuinely labored. I went out in the hall and told Security Officer: Ms. Valenzuela that Donnie was in need of going to the Clinic. She came to the D-1 Pod and spoke to Donnie a few minutes and then called the Clinic. Donnie told Ms. Valenzuela that he was not able to walk, so a Nurse brought him a wheel chair and took Donnie to the clinic.

Donnie again [a third time] went to MTC/TCCC medical clinic complaining of chronic shortness of breath and chronic fatigue/tiredness after walking short distances [About 50-100']. Once again, Donnie stated that medical again claimed they could not find anything wrong with Donnie and told him to go back to his living area and lay down and rest. I do not know if any medications given or prescribed to Donnie at this time.

Donnie returned to D-1 in a wheel chair, pushed by his roommate, Armondo Camarillo, about 4:45 PM. Donnie was hardly able to speak and had to be helped to get out of the wheel chair and get to his bed. His breathing was unmistakably labored and very short. I and my roommate, Gerard Matzan, looked in on Donnie multiple times through the evening and night to see that he was still breathing.

Armondo Camarillo's Statement.

About 11:00-11:30 PM while Donnie was in his bed, he told his roommate, Armondo, that he was having trouble breathing. Donnie asked Armondo to hold his hand. Armondo noticed that Donnie's hand was extremely cold and Donnie's face looked blue and purple. Donnie pointed up to a picture on the wall of his late father and said: "My father is waiting for me in Heaven!" Armondo ran out of the room and told the Security Officer in the hall [Name unknown] that Donnie needed help. Meanwhile, Donnie had gotten himself up and into his wheel chair and went out to the D-1 dayroom,

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outside of his room [#6/242] crying out that he could not breathe.

Daniel Bocanegra, Jr.'s Statement:

Daniel says he was awakened about 11:00-11:30 PM to the sound of Donnie in the D-1 dayroom, crying out that he could not breathe. Daniel got out of his bed and went to see what was happening. Daniel saw Donnie outside of his room [#6/242] in his wheel chair and ran over to Donnie. Daniel noticed that Donnie's face looked blue and purple. Daniel pushed Donnie over to the center of the dayroom and waited about 15-20 minutes for help to come. Daniel then pushed Donnie, in his wheel chair, out to the hall way and waited about another 15 minutes before Sgt. Martinez finally arrived. The Sgt. checked Donnie's vitals and then waited about another 10 minutes until Captain Pierce arrived. Daniel says that he is sure that it was during the time Donnie was in the hallway that he saw Donnie pass away. Captain Pierce removed Donnie from the wheelchair to a gurney and began chest compressions.

At that time, they left with Donnie on the gurney.

We offer the above statements, to the very best of our knowledge and understanding as being completely true and as accurate as possible.

The stories, accounts, and information submitted to the "Insider News" columns are not edited in any way. In certain situations, 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

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