"Committed" to being heard

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A voice indefinitely
"Committed" to being heard
TELL ALL YOUR FRIENDS

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Check out Committed to being heard on the following website:
http://www.cure-sort.org/mn---committed-to-being-heard.html

Reintegrative Institutionalization

By: Sixx|R

Hello everyone, I hope that the beginning of your new year has gotten off to a pretty great start. Most will have continued with your life without a moments past. As for those uncivilly detained in one of America's worst behavioral conditioning institutions for preventive detention - **PUNISHMENT**. . . The new year brings great distress as a slew of new punitive reinforcing policies are imposed.

Specifically, the M$OP **C**lient Movement Inside the Secure Perimeter 410-5050-ML (Moose Lake) policy. The stated purpose of the policy is:

> To establish a movement process supporting clients in continued development of interpersonal skills, prosocial behaviors, healthy lifestyle choices, and to maintain a safe and secure therapeutic environment.

The procedures enforced are: clients move in authorized areas within the secure perimeter without staff escort to attend scheduled activities following the movement announcement made at the top and bottom of the hour;

At the top and bottom of every hour, a loud, obnoxious announcement is made, after three loud beeps, which broadcasts states:

". . . Now sending scheduled movement . . ."

As an elected unit representative for the complex cellblock 1-E, I had brought this problem forward to the administration meeting, or I attempted to when the M$OP Assistant Facility Director—Ann Linkert, had me removed from the position. Simply for efforts to correct the narrative of the institution unit representatives whose agendas were focused on issues that reinforce institutionalization:

Client Concerns: Update on X-box. Administration Response: We do not have any updates on Xbox's currently.

All Units Concern - Lack of Treatment. Administrations response:

> MSOP has two staff working as recruiters to attract more staff. They attend job fairs and go to colleges as well as posting positions online.

(Reintegration continued on page 3)

"Difficulties defeat the weak, develop the strong."
B.C. Forbes

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➥MISSION STATEMENT➥

This newsletter has the full intent and purpose of presenting a continuous uncensored, thought provoking informative service within the space it resides in. Its functions are to spread a message which offers a better understanding of what transpires within the Minnesota Sex Offender Program ("M$OP"). We believe every individual ultimately possess a natural ability to overcome every negative force which impacts their daily life. Through understanding and obedience of Universal Law we are afforded a more informed "freedom of choice". Freedom of choice allows each of us to encircle ourselves with those who share the same interests and values. Freedom of choice is making decisions for yourself; decisions which does not inflict harm upon another human being.

Disclaimer:

Statements, viewpoints and opinions expressed in articles, letters to the editor, or from other writers, are those of that individual author; and **do not** reflect the position/opinion of this newsletter. All submissions become the property of "Committed" to being heard and may be eligible for reprint without that authors consent.

Guidelines: This newsletter will attempt to perform research, conduct interviews and gather information in an effort to create content that will inform and educate its readers about activities, events of interest which transpire throughout the M$OP's detention facility. We possess the right to not publish any submitted materials. As editor(s), We may edit any submitted materials to bring the material into conformance with acceptable journalistic standards to the best of our knowledge, ability, and/or available space. This newsletter reserve the right to publish employees name based upon their relevant involvement to the circumstances pertaining to identified articles. All articles submitted for publication must include the authors first and last name. The editor(s) reserve the right to submit questions for reader's views and comments on any subject matter published within these pages.

Minnesota Constitution
ARTICLE I—BILL OF RIGHTS

Sec. 3. **Liberty of the press.** The liberty of the press shall forever remain inviolate, and all persons may freely speak, write and publish their sentiments on all subjects, being responsible for the abuse of such right.

Thought for the Month

When a man seeks to climb so high that he loses touch with the rest of mankind, he becomes isolated, and this necessarily leads to failure. This line warns against titanic aspirations that exceed one's power. A precipitous fall would follow.

The Creative pgs. 10 of the "Book of Changes" by Wilhelm/Baynes

"By perseverance, study, and eternal desire, any man can be great."
George Patton

Commentaries
By: Terry Branson

- *Supposedly another MSOP employee has been dismissed for misappropriation of funds. I heard $19,000 was misplaced.*
- *A survey was passed out via the mailroom. The issue was increasing Walkenhorsts orders to $180 per month and decreasing Turnkey. The majority of patients wanted voted to increase the Walkenhorsts orders. Guess what? MSOP's administration decided against it. So why was the surveys distributed? I know, just so someone in power could demonstrate that the patients voices will never be heard!*
- *M$OP's new "movement" policy reinforces institutionalization, deliberately. The announcement blares: "Now sending scheduled movement" Which it literally means: "Now managing controlled movement." Multiple problems have arose because of this punishing tactic to instigate and aggravate M$OP's detainees.*
- *For some unknown reason MSOP's property department is now confiscating all checks/money orders that are sent to residents and classifying them as contraband. To deposit the check/money order a person has to go to property and stand in an even longer line to submit a deposit form and sign the back of the check/money order. For a program that is supposed to be teaching individuals accountability and how to take care of one-self, they sure have a problem of comprehending what it means to be responsible.*

(Maltreatment continued from page 1)

Clients are encouraged to utilize their 1 to 1 time with their clinicians to work on their treatment goals. They can also demonstrate their treatment skills outside of group, ask for additional treatment assignments, and attend independent study groups.

The second part of administrations response was an idea I actually introduced and their plagiarized for their narrative and agenda. The so-called "independents studies" well, it's a class their just winging to give the perception that their offering clinical.

With the recent policy implementations, the population has suffered more aggression, some leading to physical altercations. "Random" room searches to aggravate have increased. Clinical "programming" has been cut to 2 hours per week, if that, because groups have been cancelled due to "shortages in staff."

Listen, this article could go on for several pages. In the M$OP, history repeats itself, the culture of M$OP employees believe and reinforce that the population is here for punishment. So much so that even the clients reinforce this mentality through what is known as "status degradation." We fail to learn from our failures. I again, reaffirm the stance—"I'm not going to downplay my strengths so you feel less shitty about your own shortcomings." Iliza Shlesinger

Have you finished reading your copy of "Committed" to being heard?
Why don't you give it to someone you know; let them read it; and keep sharing it. Leave it behind at the laundry mat, grocery store, bulletin board, or courthouse. Why not mail it to a friend. If you are interested in getting your own copy you can leave me a voice message at 218-351-1900 ext. 97666 or you can write me at the address listed on the front page. Your support is greatly appreciated.

"NO" Contraband Found!

By: Terry Branson

Everyone continuously tells me that I am not here for the purpose of punishment. I once again call **bullshit**! If I wasn't subjected to being punished then half of the tasks that these people do would make sense. Instead I've repeatedly demonstrated how they've done nothing beyond hindering my personal development and growth.

In November and December of 2024 MSOP security did an intense search of my cell; taking my personal property down to be X-rayed in an effort to find some unknown contraband. In both of these instances they wrote in their incident reports "no contraband found". In between the December November shakedowns they had a facility wide lockdown for the purpose of ensuring that everyone's property would fit into the three bin limits. On that December 17, 2024 search after the security staff who searched my cell identified that no contraband found in my possession or in my property, they afterwards seized all my media apparently identifying that I had contraband in my possession. They again decided this month to perform another unit 1-E search lasting for another four days and, once again "no contraband was found"!

They chose to let my media sit in the clinical supervisors office (Dr. Mindy Seigert -Horgeshimer) for two weeks without her reviewing any of the media. It was then transferred to the media review committee for review which lasted another two weeks. And, although I received all my media back, I was not provided with any documentation identifying that my media had been inventoried or cataloged into my permanent records demonstrating that all the media I possess was updated as being appropriate viewing for someone civilly committed as a "sex offender". Apparently this was to much work for those who hide themselves behind closed doors and are constantly on the internet searching for who knows what. Maybe since they couldn't view what they wanted through searching my media, that is what they are reviewing behind these closed doors.

I know for a fact that most of the staff who have offices comes straight into the facility and go straight into their offices to hide.

Nobody will tell me who reviewed the media that they'd been assigned to review. Why? Is this top secret information? I do know that all my 4K Ultra High Definition movies had a slip of paper on them identifying them as unknown content. Where they incapable of reviewing these movies?

A month of detaining my movies and those employed at MSOP cannot identify why my movies was seized or why they chose to hold them for a month. Shouldn't someone be providing me some form of information?

(No contraband continued on page 5)

(No contraband continued from page 4)

I'm thinking about how incompetent most of these people are through their demonstrations when performing their duties. Think about in a month when someone comes once again to my cell and takes all my movies again searching for contraband. If nobody made an itemized list of the movies that I currently possess, and that they already reviewed on multiple occasions and tell clinical to once again review those movies, are they going to once again sit in Mindy's office again unattended?

All my movies have entered into this facility through the proper procedures. They was ordered by me, the movies was shipped to me and processed through the property department, the property department distributed them to me, and those movies that was considered contraband was properly challenged through the appropriate channels and then approved to be in my possession.

Why haven't those who took my movies (security counselor Amanda Sjoberg) charged with wasting resources? I know why! Because MSOP doesn't hold its employees accountable when they violate someone's rights. They reward those who punish those civilly committed to MSOP!!

And, now I've discovered that some of the sleeves that I keep my movies in are empty. I received no notice that contraband was found. I received no notice of what movie(s) were taken. This is just another demonstration of how MSOP employees can do whatever they want and they don't have to document what they are doing when violating individuals statutory and/or constitutional rights.

Out of Work for over 30 years

By: Terry L. Branson

Now that I'm faced with the possibility of obtaining my freedom, I am thinking about the future and what I will do for employment. I've always loved traveling and driving. So I believe that I'm going to attempt to get a CDL license and drive a truck cross country.

I've found that I'm starting to think more and more about family, and what I can do towards enhancing their lives. I've been a lousy father and need to make amends for the many past failures that I've caused.

Hopefully I'll be able to get back into the work force and succeed in being a better more positive support to my family.

I do know that constantly battling with MSOP employees and succeeding - for the most part - has taught me that I can achieve success regardless of the number of obstacles placed in my path.

60.02

By: Terry Branson

Something that I've come to realize for quite awhile now. I am a very blessed individual. I am fortunate enough to have others in here who are also doing legal work in an attempt to correct the erroneous errors occurring during our civil commitments.

So a friend of mine went to a Court Appeal Panel (CAP) hearing and raised a question. The question raised at the CAP was whether he could represent himself. He'd been approved at one hearing to represent himself, but then limitations was placed upon how the issues could be raised. If his attorney raised an issue then he would be precluded from further addressing that issue. So he challenged the judges ruling. And, low and behold he ended up taking the issue to the Minn. Supreme Court, and won!

But this also raised another issue based upon the Minn. Sup. Ct. ruling. The Supreme Ct. stated that all civilly committed individuals could represent themselves from the very beginning, and failure to offer a waiver for self-representation was a structural error. So what my friend did was create a loophole for anyone to file a 60.02 motion back into the original court requesting his/her right to self-representation and its an automatic vacating of the original order where the court appointed counsel.

A vast majority of individuals was never offered the waiver and therefore we have a few of us filing our 60.02's back into the original courts and asking for an expedited hearing.

What happens when we win and the court's have to vacate the original order appointing counsel? We get to self-represent ourselves and they have to have a hearing based upon the original petition. In my case that is a 15-20 years old petition. Don't misunderstand. Self-representation is not an automatic win when it comes to defeating the original petition for civil commitment. Mostly what it involves is taking what you've learned about civil commitment and using it to demonstrate that you shouldn't be civilly committed based upon current events. But you can't make that argument until after you've had the original order appointing counsel vacated by the court.

A 60.02 cannot be used to obtain release from civil commitment! It can be used to correct a structural error that cannot be resolved in any other fashion. And, structural error is not classified as harmless error. Harmless error has no significant impact on the outcome a courts' ruling. Structural error has only one resolve upon discover. Vacating the order.

"Un-Insured"

By: Terry Branson

For over a year now I've been uninsured. How can that be? I am a ward of the state through the states decision to civilly commit me once I completed my prison sentences. So for the past year the following health problems have been identified and gone untreated for the most part.

Eye Problems - I've had an ongoing problem with my eyes due to being a machinist where metal shavings have damaged my eyes. My eyes also get dry (due to the environment within the facility) and I have been medicated prescribed eye drops to help resolve my existing eye problems.

Hearing Aids - For several years I've been in need of hearing aids. Due to Anoka County not providing me with medical coverage I've not been able to get hearing aids. I therefore continue being at a disadvantage as I don't always here what is being said around me.

Cancer - Although the diagnosis isn't finalized, I may have cancer in both armpits. I've received a scan, and had blood tests drawn, but I've not had a biopsy due to the fact that I don't have insurance. So all proceedings have stopped based upon the MSOP not wanting to have to cover the potential financial burden that may be imposed upon them due to further testing.

Diabetic Care - I'm diabetic. This is due to the unhealthy food that is constantly being served here at the MSOP facility. The dietician allows the kitchen and kitchen supervisors to serve the exact same meals that are served to inmates who are serving prison time as punishment. Her signature appears nowhere on the menus. I've often observed her going from somewhere other than the kitchen to her office. I know that when I worked in the kitchen that she rarely made an appearance in the kitchen, and she never checked the food that was being prepared or served.

And, although I have medical coverage through the Veterans Administration, I can't use it due to MSOP's blanketed policies and procedures which require me to pay for any transportation costs. Yet MSOP will cover all costs as long as I go to one of their approved health care providers. I wonder if there isn't someone who in some form isn't receiving a kick back from these health care providers. Why else would the only approved vendor to obtain medication and medical supplies be Thrifty White Pharmacy?

And to top it all off, now that I've got insurance the county wants me to drop the appeal request. That's not going to happen! I want answers!

And, another question is when am I going to get to go for hearing aids, or to have a biopsy done?

"If your heart is right, everything will turn out right." B.C. Forbes

Another New Year

By: Terry Branson

So everyone survived 2024 and have made all sorts of plans for 2025. My own plans haven't changed all that much. One thing that did change is I'm a year older (70) this month. I don't look it, and don't always feel that old.

I'm still going to attempt to obtain my freedom from the clutches of civil commitment. I'm not doing anything with groups as there isn't any real justification for me to torture myself by attending treatment groups which accomplish absolutely nothing.

I've accomplished more on my own than I have attending these core groups which continuously only focus on past behaviors that occurred over 30 years ago. I'm focused on the here and now. F*ck the past and the people who only want to stay focused upon the past!! I wonder how many of them are willing to talk about their own past experiences that brought them some form of shame.

I've achieved a lot of positive things to demonstrate my ability at progressing towards positive success, and in most instances MSOP's policies and procedures have done more towards hindering that development. In fact, due to my own level of persistence and refusing to listen to various MSOP employees I've achieved - successfully opening a checking account, savings account, credit cards, building a good credit score and obtaining a state I.D. card.

Whenever I've asked MSOP employees for their assistance (with the exception of one person who no longer works here) I've been discouraged from attempting to achieve that objective. Such actions demonstrate that I do have the ability to take care of myself and don't have to rely upon another person to succeed. It is well known that MSOPs' employees are encouraged to hinder all efforts towards demonstrating any ability at achieving independent success. That's what is utilized in MSOP's release process towards demonstrating that you aren't capable of taking care of yourself and incapable of demonstrating positive changes.

Every year I attempt to think of something different to bring to this newsletter. I've found myself somewhat stuck in a repetitive cycle that I need to break out of. So as the year progresses, I hope to be able to move forward in a different direction that will encourage more readers to connect with my newsletter.

All I can say is Happy New Year, and I hope this is the year I achieve greatness!!

Russell Jake Hatten Reed

Blog Dedicated to Healing

sohealing.blogspot.com

"Once social change begins, it cannot be reversed. You cannot uneducate the person who has learned to read. You cannot humiliate the person who feels pride. You cannot oppress the people who are not afraid anymore." *Cesar Chavez*