RE: PBSP-SHU - D-FAC CORRIDOR HUNGER STRIKE
PROTEST TO END TORTURE & IMPROVE CONDITIONS

Attention - beginning July 1, 2011, several inmates housed indefinitely in PBSP-SHU, D-FAC, Corridor Isolation, will begin an indefinite hunger strike in order to draw attention to, and to peacefully protest, 25 years of torture via CDCR's arbitrary, illegal, progressively more punitive policies & practices, as summarized in the accompanying "Formal Complaint."

PBSP-SHU, D-FAC, Corridor inmates' hunger-strike protest is to continue indefinitely, until the below changes are made [Our(5) Core Demands]

1) Individual Accountability - This is in response to CDCR-PBSP's application of "group-punishment" as a means to address individual inmate's rule violations. This includes the administration's abusive, pretextual use of "safety & security" to justify what are unnecessary punitive acts, & it has been applied in the context of justifying indefinite SHU-status, & to progressively restrict our programming & privileges.

2) Abolish the Debriefing Policy, & modify active/inactive gang-status criteria - The debriefing policy is illegal & redundant, as pointed out in above section[IVA, at page #7]. The active/inactive gang status criteria must be modified in order to comply with state law & applicable CDCR rules & regulations [e.g., see above page #7 at section IVB], as follows: (A) cease any use of innocuous association to deny inactive status. (B) cease the use of informant/debriefer allegations of illegal gang
Activity to deny inactive status—unless such allegations are also supported by factual corroborating evidence—in which case, CDCR-PSFP staff shall & must follow the regulations by issuing a rule violation report & affording the inmate his due process required by law.

3) Comply with U.S. Commission 2006 Recommendations re: an end to long term solitary confinement—CDER-Shall implement the findings & recommendations of the U.S. Commission on Safety & Abuse in America’s Prisons Final 2006 report regarding CDER-Sho-facilities as follows:

A. End conditions of isolation (Page 14) ensure that prisoners in SHU and AD/SEQ have regular—meaningful contact, and freedom from extreme physical deprivations that are known to cause lasting harm (Pp 52-57)

B. Make segregation a last resort (p. 14). Create a more productive form of confinement, in the areas of allowing inmates in SHU and AD/SEQ the opportunity to engage in meaningful self-help treatment, work, education, religious, and other productive activities relating to having a sense of being a part of the community

C. End long term solitary confinement & release inmates to the general prison population, who have been warehoused indefinitely in SHU for the last 10 to 40 years (and counting).

D. Provide SHU inmates immediate—meaningful access to: adequate natural sunlight; quality health care & treatment— including the mandate of transferring all PSFP-SHU inmates with chronic health care problems to the new Folsom Medical SHU
facility

4) **Provide Adequate Food** - Cease the practice of denying adequate food, and provide wholesome nutritional meals - including special diet meals, and allow inmates to purchase additional vitamin supplements also.  

A) **PBSP Staff must cease their use of food as a tool to punish SHU inmates.**  

B) **Provide a SQI/LT. to independently observe the serving of each meal, and ensure each tray has the complete issue of food on it.**  

C) **Feed the inmates whose job it is to serve SHU meals, with meals that are separate from the pans of food sent from kitchen for SHU meals.**

5) **Expand and provide constructive programming and privileges for Indefinite SHU Status inmates** - Examples are:  

A) **Expand visiting re: Amount of time and adding 1 day per week;**  

B) **One photo per year;**  

C) **A weekly phone call;**  

D) **Two (2) Annual packages per year - (30)lb pkgs based on "item" weight, and not packaging and box weight;**  

E) **Expand canteen (and pkg) items allowed; allow us to have the items in their original packaging [and, the costs for the cosmetics, stationery, envelopes, should not count towards the max. draw limit];**  

F) **More T.V. channels;**  

G) **T.V./Radio combinations, or T.V. & A small battery operated radio;**  

H) **Hobby craft items - art paper, colored pens, small pieces of colored pencils, water colors, chalk, etc;**  

I) **Sweat suits and watch caps;**  

J) **Wall calendars;**  

K) **Install pull up/dip bars on SHU yards;**  

L) **Allow correspondence courses that require proctored exams.**
Note: The above examples of programs/privileges are all similar to what's allowed in other supermax prisons (e.g., Federal Florence, Colorado and Ohio), which supports our position that CDCR-PBSP staff claims that such are a threat to safety and security are exaggerations.

Dated: April 3, 2011

Submitted by,

T. Ashken & D. Irwin
Todd Ashken Danny Irwin
On behalf of themselves and similarly situated participants

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