Attachment 4

DATE: 05 Dec 2011

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TO: Nevada USA State Board of Prison Commissioners

RE: Public Comments 5 Dec 2011 Meeting

Honorable Commissioners:
We have not rec'd a reply to the questions that we submitted for the March 2011 meeting. Kindly reply?

DEATHS: NDOC Mission statement segment:
"Protect the public by confining convicted felons according to the law, while keeping staff and inmates safe." NV prisoners must be free from cruel and unusual punishment.

Only professional medical and mental health care and a safe prison environment can work to protect everyone of us.
Commissioners, when prisoners return to NV communities without having had basic health care needs addressed, have NDOC officials primed them to bring both infectious disease and mental instability with them. We have seen NDOC prisoners through the years doomed to fail, yes, to even die young after release.

We are deeply shaken by the latest prisoner death reports reaching us. We are requesting that you order NDOC officials to release, and to forward to us an update of Nevada prisoner death data dating from 20 May 2007, in the same format that used to be forthcoming, prior to that time.

Nevada prison sentences must not continue to become death sentences for Nevada prisoners at ages far below the normal lifespan of free citizenry because of what we have reason to believe are substandard healthcare practices combined with inefficient operational policies.

Preventing Nevada prisoner deaths are of #1 importance, in our opinion, need board review and and must be transparent to all who wish to study this data. Nondisclosure of this information, we feel, is nontransparent and unhealthy for our society.

Further, we are requesting that you require NDOC officials to present and update NV prisoner death data as part of your normal business, beginning at your next meeting.

If deaths continue without addressing and correcting medical practices after they have been presented repeatedly, is that reckless endangerment and/or homicidal neglect? Humane medical practice is better than the court cases that we read.

HIV/AIDS: HIV/AIDS is a disability under antidiscrimination law.
We read that a federal court with jurisdiction over prison officials has ordered them to provide HIV/AIDS MD specialist treatment for prisoners. We ask you to do the same in NV==before more expensive litigation.

Why wasn't money allocated for licensed HIV/AIDS specialist physicians in the 4 million dollar HIV/AIDS care contract with Renown?
(See Enclosure D.)

What logic resulted in NDOC officials' reportedly hiring a newly graduated advanced nurse practitioner ($80,000 per year?) to drive around NV seeing HIV/AIDS prisoners at the various prison facilities?

Would we free citizens feel safe in receiving treatment from a nurse with only a reported 90 day orientation on HIV/AIDS in NDOC, who is reportedly attending a future seminar in California on complex aids medications applications? No, we would not.
Is treatment of HIV/AIDS by nurse only causing mental breakdowns and death in the HIV/AIDS NDOC population?

We ask you to require NDOC officials to house All HIV/AIDS prisoners close to licensed HIV/AIDS specialist physicians in Carson City who can monitor them directly, properly. Logistics is no excuse for our HIV/AIDS prisoners not seeing doctors.

Can it be true that Mr. Jenkins, 48209, and other HIV/AIDS prisoners are not even allowed to see either of the 2 Renown infectious disease MD physicians because of housing logistics? We need your attention to this serious public health matter, Commissioners. We need you to speak up and require proper care for this important part of our NDOC population.

Do you not realize that your inaction may be spreading this horrific HIV/AIDS modern plague inside NDOC and outside to free citizens, as well, by not providing professional treatment to every NV prisoner with this dreadful disease? ,
Is it not your moral obligation to divert future HIV/AIDS contagion for the benefit of all?

Commissioners, please order licensed MD infectious disease HIV/AIDS specialists personally examine Mr. Jenkins==and every NDOC HIV/AIDS prisoner in NDOC. We ask you to put NV money into professional medical care, not into more medical lawsuits. This is long overdue.Today, President Obama has issued 35 million

We ask you, too, to see that NV HIV/AIDS prisoners, and all prisoners have access to healthy diets that prolong life. Pure grain breads and pure (not processed with added sugar) oatmeal, for example. We have asked before with no response.
Audit request question: How many in NDOC have died of HIV/AIDS?

President Obama Allocates An Additional $35 Million Toward ADAPs – In a speech on December 1, World AIDS Day, President Obama announced that the federal government will contribute an additional $35 million to state AIDS Drug Assistance Programs (ADAPs). The programs, which provide free antiretrovirals to low-income people with HIV, have faced budget shortfalls due to the economic crisis, forcing many states to tighten eligibility requirements and implement waiting lists. President Obama also allocated an additional $15 million toward HIV clinics and treatment centers. According to government officials, the funds represent a reallocation of existing Department of Health and Human Services funds rather than additional money. Source: Courtney McQueen, Beacon News Flash, 05 Dec 2011

SPECIFIC MEDICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH:
We are making the following medical and mental health inquiries to you because I (MM) have Power of Attorney for Nevada Department of Corrections disabled prisoner Ronald E. Jenkins 48209, and fear that he, too, will die young in NDOC forlack of proper HIV/AIDS treatment with complex complications, including reported untreated bleeding toes: Audit request question: How many in NDOC have toenail fungus, that a doctor has reportedly said is a cosmetic condition and you do not treat it?

HERNIAS:
Why would NDOC employ a medical staff member who has reportedly told Mr. Jenkins that his painful hernia is a cosmetic is a cosmetic condition and that NDOC does not treat cosmetic conditions? Hernias can cause excruciating pain, and yes, death.

Audit request question: How many in NDOC have gone untreated for hernias and died because of them, or their complications?

ASTHMA AND RESPIRATORY DISEASE:
Asthma, which Mr. Jenkins and others experience, may be severely aggravated by unclean air and poor air circulation in NV prison cells. We see that the current budget has $9,030 for building maintenance. Would NDOC not save a thousand times that amount in medical costs for the expensive inhalers needed to aid breathing, by a thorough yearly cleaning of ventilation ducts in every NV prison? We ask you to order vent cleaning and sanitization immediately, Commissioners. How many in NDOC suffer from respiratory conditions, including asthma? Is it not your moral duty to help Mr. Jenkins and all NDOC asthma sufferers?

We ask you now to fulfill your moral obligation as board members.
All of us deserve healthy air to breathe. It is a human right.
Audit request question: How many in NDOC have died because of respiratory disease or complications?

ISOLATION:
27% +- of NDOC prisoners have lived in isolation, ad seg, dis seg, and Level 2 general population at Ely State Prison housing for years. Research reveals that this prolonged and growing practice damages brain functions. We have presented studies pointing this out at prior commissioner meetings, yet, it seems that you are allowing isolation practices to continue.

Isolation literally causes death to our neurons and dendrites, a slow death to our brain.
Commissioners: please halt this expanding practice of isolating, locking down policy for the benefit of all.
Please order programming for and discontinue programming discrimination against all Nevada prisoners in isolation.

OFFICER ABUSE:
An NDOC officer has reportedly ripped meditation photos of flowers in half, yes, photos of flowers. (See Enclosures A,B,C.) Were such actions abusive to Mr. Jenkins, and distressing to the 92 year old decorated, WW 2 veteran, who is an award-winning-professional-photographer? And distressing to us, Mr. Jenkins' sponsors, Commissioners? Yes. We try to empower NV prisoner quality of life, and this happens? 1 step forward and 2 steps back is disheartening, indeed.

What mental evaluations do NDOC officials administer to NDOC officers and how often? May such an unthinkable act never, ever, again happen to another prisoner in the Nevada prison system. There are professional officers who empower prisoner wellness.We appreciate them, but not a person who would do this to a disabled prisoner.

RECIDIVISM:
In closing, a word concerning the July 2011 report on NDOC recidivism: There would be less recidivism if NDOC would halt isolation. Mr. Jenkins and others in medical isolation, as well as all NV prisoners, in isolation for years need programming stimulation to 1) promote brain wellness and 2) to have an equal chance to earn paroles and pardons. Recidivism reduction would happen if this practice were halted. It is common sense, for the benefit of all.

Yours truly,
Mercedes Maharis MA MS MA
Robert Maharis

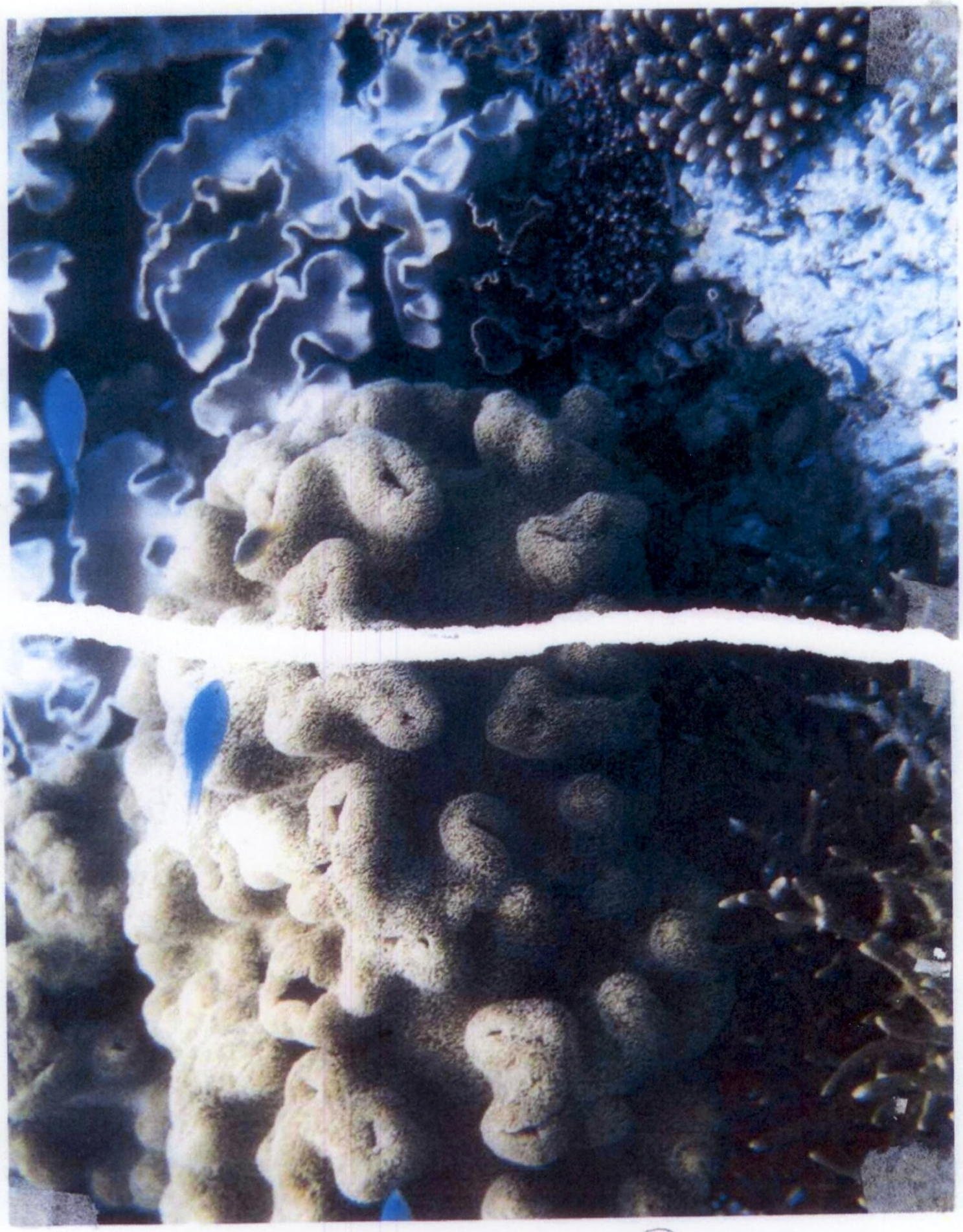
FY 2011 RENOWN HIV MONTHLY EXPENSE

	Provider Visit Fee	Travel Expense Fee	Pharmacy Prescription Fee	Pharmacy Dispensing Fee	TOTAL
July	$1,545.12	$482.46	$83,449.73	$3,120.00	$88,597.31
Aug	$1,305.00	$404.91	$71,324.17	$2,835.00	$75,869.08
Sept	$2,145.00	$555.60	$80,018.00	$3,045.00	$85,763.60
Oct	$1,722.00	$430.32	$84,175.05	$3,105.00	$89,432.37
Nov	$1,197.00	$212.02	$83,824.28	$3,090.00	$88,323.30
Dec	$1,320.00	$341.16	$106,157.99	$3,930.00	$111,749.15
Jan	$705.00	$136.49	$87,526.11	$3,300.00	$91,667.60
Feb	$2,599.80	$691.92	$89,344.48	$3,240.00	$95,876.20
Mar	$1,522.80	$272.87	$121,951.11	$4,471.00	$128,217.78
Apr	$1,491.00	$421.22	$79,495.39	$2,910.00	$84,317.61
May	$1,665.00	$494.24	$101,937.33	$3,690.00	$107,786.57
June	$1,140.00	$369.43	$96,713.57	$3,705.00	$101,928.00
TOTAL	**$18,357.72**	**$4,812.64**	**$1,085,917.21**	**$40,441.00**	**$1,149,528.57**

FY 2012 RENOWN HIV MONTHLY EXPENSE

July	$2,262.00	$620.42	$87,709.63	$3,555.00	$94,147.05
Aug	$0.00	$0.00	$122,368.65	$4,890.00	$127,258.65
TOTAL	**$2,262.00**	**620.42**	**$210,078.28**	**$8,445.00**	**$221,405.70**

EXHIBIT A



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