Email
Correspondence
April,

I'm sorry to learn he cannot be helped. He has done RCP but it did not prepare him for getting out on the streets. Without a job opportunity or skills to live in society, he may never be released from the cycle of substance abuse, crime and jail. Too bad, because he does have a lot of potential to be a productive member of society.

father, my ex-husband, abandoned him when he was five years old. Although I remarried and was adopted by my husband, he never got over the abandonment. His father came in and out of his life. My husband and I had many years of financial difficulties and stress from my husband's daughter and his ex-wife. We had horrible fights. was sensitive and affected by this more than I realized. We took him to counseling and went to family counseling. After he took accutane when he was 15, was never the same. He became depressed. We tried to work with him. I think that is when he tried to self medicate by experimenting with drugs. His family has tried to help him through the years. We are getting older and some are ill or gone. My fear is that he will die on the streets or in jail/prison. I believe he is too good to let go. Please reconsider. Thank you.

On Fri, Jan 15, 2016 at 2:13 PM, McHugh, April <April.McHugh@doc.sccgov.org> wrote:

Thank you for your email. I have followed your son’s case plan and I am glad he is doing well in Industries.

Since your son is an adult, I cannot discuss his housing, treatment or decisions in regards to those matters, but I will tell you I made the final decision regarding his case plan and have advised your son of that decision in writing. This would qualify as a higher level review of his grievance. The courts do not direct the programs, they just advise us if they approve the adjudicated person to participate in programs they are eligible for. We determine eligibility and appropriateness on an individual basis for each inmate.

Your son has the option of leaving Industries and participating in the other in-custody treatment programs available including RCP.

Thank you,
My son, [redacted] [redacted] [redacted], was deemed fully eligible for all programs by the courts. He has spent the last two years at Elmwood fighting for his chance. He has successfully completed every program Elmwood has to offer. [redacted] is currently the top man in industries laser room, which was featured on KTVU news promoting programs. He was told he is permanently denied treatment programs that the courts said yes to. Why is he the only being denied a chance at treatment? He filed a grievance on the issue with no clear response given and no higher level to review the grievance. He needs help and drug treatment. We cannot allow inmates to be set free without the skills to make it on the outside.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best regards,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]
Thank you for the information.

Captain McHugh
Sent from my iPad

On Jan 27, 2016, at 9:43 AM, [Name Redacted] wrote:

April,
I'm sorry to learn he cannot be helped. He has done RCP but it did not prepare him for getting out on the streets. Without a job opportunity or skills to live in society, he may never be released from the cycle of substance abuse, crime and jail. Too bad, because he does have a lot of potential to be a productive member of society.

His father, my ex-husband, abandoned him when he was five years old. Although I remarried and was adopted by my husband, he never got over the abandonment. His father came in and out of his life. My husband and I had many years of financial difficulties and stress from my husband's daughter and his ex-wife. We had horrible fights. [Name Redacted] was sensitive and affected by this more than I realized. We took him to counseling and went to family counseling. After he took accutane when he was 15, [Name Redacted] was never the same. He became depressed. We tried to work with him. I think that is when he tried to self medicate by experimenting with drugs. His family has tried to help him through the years. We are getting older and some are ill or gone. My fear is that he will die on the streets or in jail/prison. I believe he is too good to let go.
Please reconsider. Thank you.

[Name Redacted]

On Fri, Jan 15, 2016 at 2:13 PM, McHugh, April <April.McHugh@doc.sccgov.org> wrote:

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Your son has the option of leaving Industries and participating in the other in-custody treatment programs available including RCP.

Thank you,

Captain A. McHugh
Support Services Division Commander
Office of the Sheriff
Santa Clara County

Direct 408-808-4151/Cellular 408-499-7505
Fax 408-808-3656

Privileged and Confidential Communication: This email message and/or its attachments may contain information that is confidential or restricted. It is intended only for the individuals named as recipients in the message. If you are NOT an authorized recipient, you are prohibited from using, delivering, distributing, printing, copying, or disclosing, the message or contents to others and must delete the message from your computer. If you have received this message in error, please notify the sender by return e-mail.

From: [Redacted] Sent: Friday, January 15, 2016 10:53 AM
To: april.mchugh@sheriff.sccgov.org
Cc: McHugh, April; Beliveau, Troy; Beliveau, Troy; custodyopcommission@cob.sccgov.org; Harman, Craig
Subject: Inmate [Redacted] - [Redacted]

My son, [Redacted] [Redacted] [Redacted] was deemed fully eligible for all programs by the courts. He has spent the last two years at Elmwood fighting for his chance. He has successfully completed every program Elmwood has to offer. [Redacted] is currently the top man in industries laser room, which was featured on KTVU news promoting programs. He was told he is permanently denied treatment programs that the courts said yes to. Why is he the only being denied a chance at treatment? He filed a grievance on the issue with no clear response given and no higher level to review the grievance. He needs help and drug treatment. We cannot allow inmates to be set free without the skills to make it on the outside.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best regards,
US Mail
Correspondence
Good afternoon/morning,

- The Clerk of the Board’s Office received the attached correspondence. This document is being forwarded to you for appropriate action. The original document will be on file in the Clerk of the Board’s Records Unit for a maximum of 2 years from the date received.

Thank you,

Jessica Schmidt
Office Specialist III- Confidential Clerk
Clerk of the Board
70. W Hedding St 10th Floor
San Jose, CA 95110
I. Exhaustion of Administrative Remedies.

Note: You must exhaust available administrative remedies before your claim can go forward. The court will dismiss any unexhausted claims.

A. Place of present confinement: Santa Clara County Jail - El Reno

B. Is there a grievance procedure in this institution? YES ☐ NO ☐

C. If so, did you present the facts in your complaint for review through the grievance procedure? YES ☐ NO ☐

D. If your answer is YES, list the appeal number and the date and result of the appeal at each level of review. If you did not pursue any available level of appeal, explain why.

   1. Informal appeal: Appeal/Review log 
      This step was bypassed
Doris Cordell,

Please, PLEASE help. I know you don't know me but you are the judge that did my adoption 20 years ago. For that I'm so grateful as I have the best parents ever. But I am begging for your help one more time. This is the 3rd letter I've sent to the blue ribbon, I hope you are getting them. My family is even trying to E-mail blue ribbon about my current situation of discrimination from treatment programs.

I'm a mental health inmate who struggles with addiction. I am NOT violent, no history of violence, no gang ties (I'm from Willow Glen). I have a loving and supportive family. But I need treatment and spent the last 2 years I've been here fighting for it. I've completed every program Elmwood has to offer (R.C.P., M-8, 3-R's, WISE, Life Skills, Toastmasters). Now I am the top man in the industries dept. I run a $70 k laser machine. I was even featured on the news promoting the industries program a few weeks ago. All that said there is a program here called C.A.S.P. It's a drug treatment program that I've been trying to get in. The courts (Judge S. Brown) made me fully eligible for this and said she hoped I took full advantage of it. I applied for C.A.S.P. and was denied yet never given a reason why. I kept trying to request a reason with NO response. So I filed a grievance. The response was "my case factors". That is not right. I've seen guys with case factors way more extreme than mine and bad disciplinary incustody get approved. The judge and DA both assured me I would be 100% eligible for the CASP treatment program. Yet because I filed a grievance against CASP I am now permentally blocked.
That is pure retaliation for filing a grievance and the reason inmates here are scared to file them. Now I'm being totally discriminated against and denied treatment the courts made me fully eligible for cause I filed a grievance. As for the grievance well they never get heard by anyone outside the jail thus it's easy to cover up as they always do here. It's almost impossible to get our voice heard. But determined to fight for my fair shot at treatment I filed a discrimination suit in US District court Northern District of Ca. (450 Golden Gate ave San Francisco) under civil rights act, 42 U.S.C. § 1983. And to my surprise it was excepted and I got a proof of file copy along with a case number.

I don't know what else to do so I'm asking/begging you for help. Please help me. I just want a chance at treatment. I've never had that. I wish I could at least get my voice and story heard. I actually wanted to talk to Sheriff Laurie Smith or Asst Sheriff Troy Beliveau about it. Please help me. Thank you for your time.

P.S. Enclosed is a copy of suit I filed for discrimination against the jail with case number and file date.

Sincerely,
To: Blue Ribbon Commission
Improving Custody Opps.
County of Santa Clara
Attn: LaDoris Cordell
70 W. Hedding st. 10th floor
San Jose, Ca. 95110
Good afternoon/morning,

- The Clerk of the Board’s Office received the attached correspondence. This document is being forwarded to you for appropriate action. The original document will be on file in the Clerk of the Board’s Records Unit for a maximum of 2 years from the date received.

Thank you,
Jessica Schmidt
Office Specialist III- Confidential Clerk
Clerk of the Board
70. W Hedding St 10th Floor
San Jose, CA 95110
Dear Blue Ribbon,

I don't know who else to write to about my situation. I have seen mental health, talk to my lawyer and sent letters to mental health legal advocacy only to be told they don't deal with criminal cases.

I have a long history of mental health disorders, Bipolar I, PTSD, ADHD, and alcohol abuse disorder. I saw a mental health doctor in San Mateo County from 2012 to 2015 and while here in County Jail off and on since 2002.

I am also a veteran and child of a veteran making me eligible for Veterans Treatment Court.

My issue is while I am here at Elmwood I am not receiving adequate treatment for my mental health. I get Remeron 40mg to put me to sleep at night but no other treatment to stabilize my mood or bipolar or PTSD. Furthermore, the jail is denying me visits with my daughter thru the PACT parenting program and won't tell me in detail why I can't have the visits but
My charges want let me be down class to the farm although they allow several men from my same (MBE) housing unit to have their PACT parenting visits each week. If someone from my housing unit has clearance to have the visits so should I. That I feel is discrimination.

The Court Dept to Jacqueline Arrigo ordered that I be allowed to see my daughter a minimum of once a month through the PACT Parenting program and the jail says program manager Ms. Wadhawan says she is waiting to see what happens in my Criminal Court case. I have no protective orders, my current case is non-violent charges less a 26-year-old juvenile strike prior.

In the 12 years I've been coming to Santa Clara County Jail I've never received one negative disciplinary write up, but they allow men past and present waiting for person to have these visits, I can't receive regular visits with my children because both of the mothers of my children are on probation.
and can't get approved to visit. I feel that the visiting should be looked at on a case by case basis.

As for my mental health, my Criminal Court lawyer is not explaining things to me. I asked her to ask my trial court judge to refer me to Dept 64 for veterans/mental treatment court. She said Bipolar I PTSD ADHD are not disorders the court looks at for treatment in Dept 64. I know she is wrong because my daughter's mother is being treated in that court for Bipolar I and PTSD. My family has created a Facebook page documenting my treatment and asking for support. Facebook.com [redacted] 3/03/15

what I am looking for is help on these issues, I don't want a get out of jail card. I want treatment while I am here. I want to see my daughter before she is put up for adoption 4/5/2016 and I want someone that will advocate for me and other men who are struggling with similar issues.
There is no speed dial #
or away for me to reach the
County Clerk in Dept 70
so I can go back on calendar
and handle this matter myself.
Please help me or advise
me how I can help myself.

Sincerely

701 S Abel St
Morgan Hill, CA 95035
701 S Abel St
Milpitas CA 95035

Blue Ribbon Commission
70 West Hedding 10th fl
San Jose CA

ATT: LA Doris Cordell