

① Attorneys on death row cases tend to push LWOP as an option. Death row v. lingering one. We aren't a monolith on the Row & some take this option. A wouldn't.

② Visiting Pay - new airport screener the airport is no longer allowed to use. Safety issues but still they come. Really appreciate that by good people. Gary Love

Come

3

But that is not I want to write about.

We had a guy throw hot water on an officer two weeks ago while group meal was being held. The officer was scalded with water heated in the microwave and the inmate was locked up for infraction.

The reason the inmate went off was that coffee pots were confiscated several months ago and pitchers of hot water were being substituted for the loss of pots at each meal and several times a day as the officers or kitchen workers felt capable of spending the time it took to fill a pitcher and give it to the pod officer for distribution. Not an arduous task and the program worked. Eventually a microwave was brought to the pod to heat kosher meals and snacks sold on the commissary and as a new rule to heat cups of water when the inmates were out of the cells at mealtime usually. If it was group meal this was not a problem but when no group meal was available time constraints made time a concern as officers fed meals and needed to leave the pod immediately or sooner according to them. We asked that pitchers of hot water be reinstated as a stopgap measure and the kitchen workers said that was a hardship for them. The unit staff agreed with the kitchen workers and no more hot water came to the pods. The guy who threw the hot water on the officer asked for a cup of hot water or chance to make some in the microwave and was put off while other activities were going on. He then cursed the guard not letting him fix water and hollered at the corporal and sergeant and then stopped telling the guards to stay away from him. Several hours later the incident of thrown water occurred. This is a tragedy of errors which could have been prevented with a better plan to distribute water and understanding of the mentality of who you are speaking with.

a tragedy of errors which could have been prevented with a better plan to distribute water and understanding of the mentality of who you are speaking with.

The first response was to take thermal jugs which hold several cups of warm liquids. Then we were all locked down even though this was an action by one inmate and we are all on a level system. What kind of level system punishes everyone for the actions of one person?

Cone
4

Two days into the lockdown, where we were all moved in full restraints consisting of handcuffs behind the back and leg shackles while on the move to showers and exercise yard which had now desolved to one hour on the yard in an individual cage. Hot water only at breakfast meal and no other movement to workplace. Any visit would be done in the C level rooms behind glass for one hour. Then the maintenance people came and took the microwave from the pod. Things were looking more depressing by the minute. How long would this continue was the main topic of conversation between exercise cages. Imagination began to take over as dire consequences were spouted by people who knew no more than the next guy but planted in the psyche. Eventually the saner faction of the department of Corrections or word from above or divine providence led to an end to the lockdown. Fewer people in groups, more controlled movement from now on and hot water brought each meal and when and if individual officers wanted to pass out more they could.

Guards went from friendly to less so in a matter of days. Prisoners went from relative freedom of movement to solitary mode in hours. This was a surprising outcome to me. I have done lockdown for long periods of time before but this felt

behind glass for one hour. Then the maintenance people came and took the microwave from the pod. Things were looking more depressing by the minute. How long would this continue was the main topic of conversation between exercise cages. Imagination began to take over as dire consequences were spouted by people who knew no more than the next guy but planted in the psyche. Eventually the saner faction of the department of Corrections or word from above or divine providence led to an end to the lockdown. Fewer people in groups, more controlled movement from now on and hot water brought each meal and when and if individual officers wanted to pass out more they could.

Guards went from friendly to less so in a matter of days. Prisoners went from relative freedom of movement to solitary mode in hours. This was a surprising outcome to me. I have done lockdown for long periods of time before but this felt different. Maybe it was the fact that the past year had been time spent in programs with outside groups in philosophy, art and this creative writing class but the loss of these indefinitely and perhaps forever was stunningly painful. Now some people might think this an overreaction but what do I have to use as a reference point in the degree a mad cadre of officers would pounce on a group so disliked by the world? I'm glad that we can return to a new normal after the short stoppage of the way things were, but I'll be looking at this new time as limited by conditions beyond my control and that is not a good feeling.