

SHU Advocacy Post-Ashker

Presenters:
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Goals for This Evening

- Leave with a better understanding of the Ashker Settlement
- Understand what is currently happening with the settlement
- Learn where most of the problems seem to be
- Develop strategies for helping people navigate through the problems

Ashker Settlement Summary

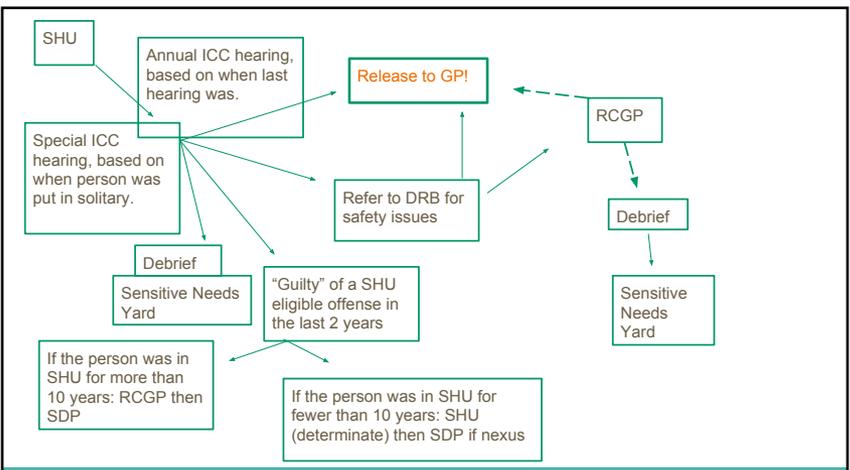
Background:

- Pre-2011 Hunger Strike
- 2012-2015 ["Pilot Program" / "new regs"]
- Settlement: no indeterminate SHU for gang membership only

CDCr must review all people for release to GP by October 2016

- Special and annual ICC hearings
- DRB referrals

Restricted Custody General Population [RCGP]



The Restrictive Custody General Population (RCGP)

Where it is.

How and why people are assigned there.

What the programs are there.

The complaints about it.



Other Provisions

- No retaliation
- Shorter Step Down Program: 2 years only, new curriculum
- Meetings and consultations with CDCR and Reps
- Guard training
- Documentation
- Court (magistrate/monitor) review
- Two year monitoring period (can be extended)

Monitoring Issues

- Delays
- Bogus safety referrals
- Actual safety issues
- Pressure to debrief
- 115 prosecutions and 1030's
- Returns to isolation -- from GP
- Returns to isolation -- from the community

Supporting People to Get Out of SHU

- Emotional support.
- ICC Delays: Contact the Ashker team, some people have been skipped over, but some are just at the end of the list.
 - Using the time to prepare for ICC placement options.
- DRB Delays: On the litigation team's front-burner.
- Challenging a DRB decision.

Questions?

- Does the 10 years in SHU apply to people who will hit 10 years in the future or only people who had already served 10 years in SHU?
- What is a "special" ICC review?
- Some people are told they will get a tele-DRB. How can we advocate for in-person DRB's?
- Others?

Problems in G.P.

The Good: Contact Visits, Yard, & Possibility of Job and Education (Priv. Group A)

The Bad:

- Lost and Damaged Property at Transfer
- No Jobs or Education (Priv. Group A2B)
- Drug and Alcohol Testing Leading to 115's (Priv. Group C)
- Harassment and/or Retaliation of Prisoners and Visitors
- Bogus Write-Ups
- Lockdowns

Parole Board Hearings

Recent parole denials based on failure to debrief, participation in the hunger strike, and lack of lengthy GP time without write-ups and with programming.

Help prepare release plan. (Like everyone else.)

Consider getting an outside psych evaluation.

In re Gomez is good news, but not a solution.

Some people are strategically postponing their hearings.

Provide hearing documentation if a loved one is denied parole.

Possible habeas petition.

General Strategies for Supporting People

- Send information in (PLO, LSPC, Title 15, other)
- Educate yourself and loved ones on the issue
- 602's (focus on the facts, no need for legal citations)
- Write advocacy letters or make calls.
- Contact the Ashker litigation team
- Habeas Petitions and §1983 actions
- Work with outside groups (Inmate-Family Council, CFASC, PHSS)
- Contact your legislator
- Media

The Most Effective Thing on Any of These Issues:

Ultimately, there needs to be a political solution to nearly all of these issues.



After Release

