

Coalition For Prisoners' Rights Newsletter

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PO Box 1911, Santa Fe NM 87504

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Dedication to the Principle of Struggle

"One should not be lured into a false sense of the ease with which one will dismantle the carceral state. Our current population, you know, in our jails and prisons, is roughly 10 times what it was in 1970....We are talking about a system that has basically been in place since 1619, (with) Black men comprising roughly 8 percent of the world's imprisoned population....We are in a state of emergency....Police violence is the tip of the iceberg when it relates to the conditions overall of Black people across the globe" as was pointed out recently by Ta-Nehisi Coates. Ours is a country which has one million Black people living inside of its jails and prisons.

On its web site, *Black Lives Matter* has posted the following national demands:

- > to seek justice for Michael Brown of Ferguson MO's family.
- > to help develop a network of organizations and advocates to form a national policy specifically aimed at redressing the systemic pattern of anti-Black law enforcement violence in the US
- > to demand that the federal government discontinue its supply of military

WHILE ACROSS TOWN

In 2014, total compensation for the 200 highest paid chief executives at U.S. public companies with a market capitalization of at least \$1 billion ranged from a high of \$156 million to a low of \$13 million. The average was \$23 million.

At Comcast, for example, its chief executive received \$33 million. The 10 members of its board of directors, receive payments ranging from a high of \$901,000 to a low of \$316,000. No information was available regarding how many hours any of them worked in these part-time positions.

In the U.S. there is currently a range of payment from the lowest to the highest paid employees of from 600 to 900 times as much.

weaponry and equipment to local law enforcement.

> to call on the U.S. attorney general to release the names of all officers involved in killing Black people within the last five years.

> to advocate for a decrease in law-enforcement spending at local, state and federal levels and a reinvestment of that budgeted money into the Black communities most devastated by poverty.

Following is a list of organizations which have postal addresses, and are currently active in the struggle for justice now underway:

Truth and Reinvestment of the Ella Baker Center for Human Rights, 1970 Broadway, suite 1125, Oakland CA 94612;

Dignity and Power Now, 3655 South Grand Avenue, suite 240, Los Angeles CA 90001;

National Domestic Workers Alliance, 395 Hudson St, 4th floor, New York NY 10014 and at 436 14th St, 5th floor, Oakland CA 94612;

Black Alliance for Just Immigration, Brooklyn NY, phone: 347-410-5312;

Hands Up United, 224 North Highway 67, suite 226, Florissant MO 63031 and

Prison Ecology, a project of the *Human Rights Defense Center*, PO Box 1154, Lake Worth FL 33460.

AND BACK ON OUR SIDE

In June, New Mexico prisoners became able to apply for Medicaid under a new law. The law makes it possible for thousands of those imprisoned to apply for Medicaid and to receive services once they are released. Medicaid will also pay for some inpatient hospital stays under the new law. Basic health costs aren't included.

CURE LIFE-LONG

Is an issue"chapter for those with sentences of 25 years to mandatory life. There is a quarterly Newsletter for \$5 a year to prisoners. Write - Cure: Life-Long, 665 W. Willis Street, Suite B-1, Detroit MI 48201.

¿No se infringió ninguna ley?

El gobierno de Texas dice que "no hay evidencia" de que se haya cometido un delito ante el descubrimiento de fosas comunes llenas de cuerpos de inmigrantes, kilómetros adentro de la frontera de México y Estados Unidos. Los cadáveres fueron juntados en el desierto, en los alrededores de un puesto de vigilancia en Falfurrias TX. La existencia de las fosas comunes fue revelada en noviembre del año pasado por un documental realizado por The Weather Channel en colaboración con Telemundo y The Investigative Fund. A partir de esto, se inició una investigación sobre el tema. Otra cuestión que aparece en el informe es que muchos de estos inmigrantes murieron luego de cruzar la frontera estadounidense y esperar horas a que la Patrulla Fronteriza respondiera sus llamadas de emergencia.

EN LA UNION ESTA LA FUERZA

To receive your Newsletter by postal mail monthly, send us self-addressed, stamped envelopes (with the CPR return address) -- up to 12 at one time.

Please continue to send us address changes and renewal requests, in order to be sent the yearly holiday card/ new calendar each January.

Also, please note that the only address to use to be sure to reach us continues to be: PO Box 1911, Santa Fe NM 87504. There are resource listings which, unfortunately, use an incorrect address.

Remember: NONE OF US ARE LAWYERS OR LEGAL WORKERS. It is important not to mark any envelopes sent to us as "legal mail."

Many, many thanks to the Real Cost of Prisons Project for making our Newsletter available on-line for free downloading and distribution. It is at: <http://www.realcostofprisonsproject.org/coalition.html> --this is a GREAT site!

We depend on our readers' donations & thank you for your support! ¡Mil gracias!

IN UNITY THERE IS STRENGTH



VOICES FROM INSIDE

Airway Heights WA **December 9, 2014**
I. "The Department of Enterprise Services, Office of Risk Management, has reviewed your tort claim filed against the state of Washington for the amount of \$35.11. A payment in the amount of \$35.11 will be credited to your Inmate Banking Account. This payment is a full resolution of this claim."

Notice: Offenders who transferred from the Monroe Corr. Complex to another DOC facility and had property shipped via FedEx may be due a refund for excess charges. Most 20-25 lb standard boxes should have been charged approximately \$6.50, however many were charged \$10.00 or more. Check your records and file a request for refund or tort claim.

II. **March 15, 2015**

I filed a Civil Rights Complaint regarding the WA-DOC banning non-English publications such as your newsletter and my home community newspapers from Texas. Many other races and cultures are also penalized under this overly restrictive policy (Russian and Vietnamese) which is often applied to letters as well.

Any other CPR newsletter recipient who has similarly been restricted should notify me if they wish to enjoin the suit. C/o Richard Faulkner, 1104 48th Street, Sacramento CA 95819.

Ypsilanti MI **April 28, 2015**

In the mid-1970's, female inmates in MI filed a class action lawsuit pertaining to "parity" in programming. This litigation, *Glover v. Johnson*, spanned nearly 3 decades due to what the courts called "substantial resistance" on the part of the then obdurate MDOC administration. Ultimately, the courts decided in favor of the female plaintiffs, stating in part: "...that vocational programs for women lacked parity with the programs for men, denying equal protection." Female inmates were eventually provided the exact same vocational classes as the male inmates. However, it was noted that the version offered to the women's prison population was inferior. The *Glover* court stated: "...additions to that program should be based on the interests and needs of the female inmates rather than shortsighted efforts to duplicate the programs offered at male institutions...skills taught to women "should be transferable on release to jobs of more than menial status that will be available on the outside...the key is usefulness to the individual." The Nat'l Lifers' Prisoner Program Exploratory & Development committee will be exploring gender specific options....