Lisa Hugick (620) 224-1909

From: Chris Salachery
480 280 6425
TO ALL CONCERNED ADVOCATES OF THE INCARCERATED COMMUNITY:

MY NAME IS MANUEL LOPEZ II AND I'M CURRENTLY SERVING A FOUR AND A HALF YEAR SENTENCE FOR AGGRAVATED D.U.I., A NON-DANGEROUS OFFENSE AT R.S.P.C. HOMA, WHEATSTONE UNIT. AS I'M SURE YOU ALREADY KNOW, WHEATSTONE UNIT IS CURRENTLY REPORTING THE HIGHEST POSITIVITY RATE OF ANY PRISON IN THE STATE OF ARIZONA. THE GOVERNMENT, RACKER, AND THE MEDIA HAS REPORTED THAT MEASURES ARE BEING INSTITUTED IN THE UNIT TO CONTROL THE OUTBREAK AND THE POPULATION IS LARGELY A-SYMPTOMATIC. THE REALITY OF THE SITUATION HERE COULDN'T BE FURTHER FROM THAT NARRATIVE. MYSELF AND SEVERAL OTHER INMATES HAVE DOCUMENTED A TIMELINE OF WHAT WE FEEL ARE SIGNIFICANT FAILURES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS THAT CONTRIBUTED TO THE OUTBREAK WE ARE CURRENTLY IN. THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS FACTUAL AND NOT EXAGGERATED IN ANY WAY. MY ONLY INTENTION FOR WRITING THIS LETTER IS TO PROVIDE FACTS ABOUT HOW THE OUTBREAK IS BEING HANDLED WITHIN WHEATSTONE UNIT. ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS FROM OTHER INMATES CAN BE PROVIDED TO CORROBORATE THESE FACTS IF NEEDED.

MARCH 23 – WHEATSTONE UNIT DISCOVERED THREE STAFF MEMBERS WERE POSITIVE FOR COVID-19. AMONG THE WAS CORRECTIONS OFFICER SGT. MESIAS. HE HAD BEEN EXPERIENCING SYMPTOMS FOR SEVERAL DAYS WHILE ON THE UNIT UNTIL HE FINALLY WAS TESTED AT THE DIRECTION OF ADW NEIL. SINCE HIS RESULTS CAME BACK POSITIVE HE WAS INSTRUCTED TO SELF-QUARANTINE. THE ADMINISTRATION MADE NO ATTEMPT TO CONTACT TRACE THE STAFF OR INMATES. SGT. MESIAS CAME IN CONTACT WITH WHILE HE WAS ON THE UNIT PRIOR TO TESTING POSITIVE.
MARCH 29TH -

No less than eight inmates were taken off the unit and transferred to Manzanita Unit to be quarantined for reporting symptoms of COVID-19 and exhibiting high temperatures. Staff was told not to wear masks.

APRIL 03 RD - The following email was sent to all the inmates on their D.O.C. issued tablets:

SUBJECT: Homemade mask

We understand your concerns and fears as we are all dealing with this crisis of COVID-19. The Department of Corrections and staff here at Whetsone are doing everything that we can to prevent the virus from entering the prison system.

You may start to notice staff members wearing masks, bandanas or scarves to cover their facial area. This was approved by the Director from the recommendation of the CDC. Wearing these masks are only precautionary means and for your protection.

However, homemade mask by inmates are not allowed here or any unit within the Department of Corrections. Any homemade mask that is found on an inmate will result in disciplinary action to include restitution for destroying property, if necessary. Mask will be provided to an inmate on a case by case situation (for medical reasons) determined by medical or job assignment, only worn on the job.

There are currently no inmates here at Whetsone or within the department that have tested positive with COVID-19. If any individual does test positive the Department will advise. 04/03/2020 —

ON APRIL 1ST -
Inmate Andrew Daniel Gregory, ADC# 325960 was at his work assignment at the complex maintenance hub office. He was sitting at a table eating lunch directly across from the D.O.C plumbing supervisor Mrs. Wabash. She explained to inmate Gregory that she was sick and described her symptoms as a fever, loss of taste and smell and headaches. She was not wearing a mask while at work at any time.

APRIL 5TH -
Plumbing supervisor Wabash reported that she tested positive for COVID-19 and self-quarantined for fourteen days. Inmate Gregory and the five other inmates on that work assignment were issued mask by corrections officer Nasta and told they could wear them if they want. Only while at work because "somebody" had tested positive. All of the inmates that were in direct contact with Wabash were not tested and allowed to return to their housing units in general population.

*(April 19th, Wabash returned to work. The inmates directly asked Wabash if she tested positive and just responded, "Yeah.")

APRIL 6TH
The entire unit was put on a lockdown. We were told by Deputy Warden Manevitch and Adw Neil that two inmates
From another unit tested positive and there were still no known cases at Whetstone Unit. We were told we would be on a 14-day lockdown as a precaution. Despite the lockdown, Inmate Gregory and the other inmates on his work assignment were still required to go to work because their job was deemed essential. Inmates were still not allowed to wear masks and it was still optional for staff despite knowing Wabash had tested positive and been in direct contact with inmates and staff on the unit.

April 7th

In a statement released to the media from Arizona Department of Corrections, the department reported "of the more than 42,000 ADCCR inmates, 40 have been tested, 48 have tested negative, 10 are pending and two have tested positive." There was no mention of the two already known positive cases of staff members here at Whetstone Unit.

As part of ADCCR's COVID-19 management strategy update, they stated, "All employee's entering Arizona prison complexes continue to undergo required health checks at each facility, employees are sent home immediately if they are experiencing COVID-19 like symptoms and are required to stay at home if they are sick." Officer Wabash and Sgt. Mesiba were complaining to work for several days exhibiting obvious symptoms and were required to finish their shift and go get tested once they were off work. The also stated "in accordance with CDC guidance, ADCCR continues to separate from the general inmate population any inmates exhibiting flu-like symptoms for
MONITORING AND APPROPRIATE FOLLOW UP CARE. ON MARCH 28TH, INMATE STEVEN COONCE, ANC #323705, SUBMITTED A H/N TO MEDICAL EXPLAINING HE WAS EXPERIENCING FLU LIKE SYMPTOMS AND WOULD LIKE TO BE TESTED FOR COVID-19. TWO DAYS LATER HE RECEIVED A RESPONSE FROM THE MEDICAL STAFF STATING, "WE ARE NOT CURRENTLY TESTING INMATES." HE WAS NEVER SEEN BY MEDICAL.

MAY 2ND

CORRECTIONS OFFICER ESCARSAHA, THE WELD SHOP SUPERVISOR AND IMMEDIATE SUPERVISOR OF INMATE GREGORY ALSO TESTED POSITIVE. HE WAS PLACED ON SELF QUARANTINE FOR TWO WEEKS AND RETURNED TO WORK. WHEN HE CAME BACK, HE DESCRIBED TO INMATE GREGORY AND OTHER INMATES HIS SYMPTOMS AS HEADACHE, FEVER, RUNNING NOSE, AND FATIGUE. THE INMATES AGAIN WERE NOT TESTED OR SEGREGATED DESPITE COMING IN CONTACT WITH A STAFF MEMBER WHO TESTED POSITIVE.

APRIL 10TH

THE 14-DAY QUARANTINE THAT WAS IMPLEMENTED ON APRIL 6TH WAS SUDDENLY ENDED AND INMATES WERE ALLOWED TO RESUME REGULAR ACTIVITIES ON THE YARD TO INCLUDE CLASSES, PROGRAMS, WORK ASSIGNMENTS, DINING IN THE CHOW HALL AND USING COMMUNITY PHONES AND REC EQUIPMENT.

JUNE 14TH

S.J.U. CORRECTIONS OFFICER JUCINDO TESTED POSITIVE FOR CORONA VIRUS. HE STATED TO AN INMATE, "MY NEPHEW GOT IT, MY"
 Uncle got it. I got it. Your sick for a couple days and it goes away. It's no big deal." He was placed on self quarantine for 14 days and came back to work. No contact tracing was done.

July 8th.

At this point an overwhelming majority of the inmate population was experiencing symptoms; coughing, sneezing, headaches, fatigue, runny nose, nausea, loss of appetite, loss of smell and taste, loss of appetite, and aching body. The entire unit was placed on lockdown. No information was provided to the inmates as to why and for how long.

July 1st.

ADOCR issued the following email to all inmates at Whetstone Unit via D.O.C. issued tablet:

In accordance with CDC guidelines, ADOCR shall issue all inmates face coverings. The following protocols shall be adhered to and enforced:

* Inmates shall wear face covering at all times while participating in activities which social distancing is unachievable with the exception of sleeping, hygiene activities, eating, or for physical identification i.e. count, turnouts or upon request of any staff member.

* While participating in recreation, education, programming, or video visitation, inmates will not be required to wear face covering, but may do so if they choose.
* Inmates will be issued two face coverings and may launder them with their regular laundry.

These directions are laughable for several reasons. For one, there are no video visits being provided to any inmates and haven't been since July 8th. Secondly, inmates are currently being housed in a warehouse type environment with 26 bunk beds and 72 cubicles. In the bunk beds two inmates share a 4 ft by 8 ft area spaced approximately six feet apart from the next. The same area is provided in the cubicles, but only one inmate is housed there. Each dorm houses 125 inmates. Social distancing is literally impossible.

July 16th

The following email was sent to all the residents of Whetstone unit via email through D.O.C. issued tablets.

As you may have noticed, compartmentalization plan has been enacted at Whetstone. The below restrictions and others will remain in place throughout the weekend for your protection. It will be re-evaluated on Monday.

* No movement in or out of Whetstone or between bays.
* Group activities such as work, programming, and education is suspended.
* Sanitation and kitchen crews will be the only authorized work activity. Inmates will wear face coverings while engaged in these activities.
* Feeding will occur by individual bay housing unit (i.e. 1-a-long)
ON STYROFOAM TRAYS (AT THIS TIME) IN THE CHOW HALL.

RECREATION WILL OCCUR BY INDIVIDUAL BAY / HOUSING UNIT.

CHOW HALLS AND RECREATION WILL BE SANITIZED AFTER EACH USE AND / OR PRIOR TO EACH USE.

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS, WHETSTONE COMMAND TEAM WILL BE TOURING FREQUENTLY DURING THIS PERIOD OR YOU CAN E-MAIL US ON JPay.

This email was issued two days after the "Hard Lock Down" began.

July 19th

Inmate Ronnie Pickett ADC # 329021 was taken to another unit for experiencing flu-like symptoms.

July 19th

Inmate Harold Grimes ADC # 069923H, an older gentleman with COPD and only 25% of one lung, notified Medical. He was experiencing fatigue, loss of breath, aching muscles, loss of taste and smell, and had no energy. He was taken to Medical to be examined but was sent back to his dorm a few hours later because he did not have a fever. Later that night, around 7 am an inmate found Grimes on the floor in the restroom. The guards were notified and Mr. Grimes was transferred to the hospital. He is still there and there have been no updates on his condition.
July 22nd.

At this point the entire yard had been quarantined to their individual dorms for eight consecutive days. I live in dorm 2B which is the veterans pod for the remaining honor program. I am a United States Marine Corps veteran and have the privilege of residing with all veterans. Out of the 108 veterans the reside in the dorm, at least three quarters of them were exhibiting symptoms at this point. On this day D.O.C. conducted 220 Covid-19 tests, 75 of which were in my dorm. I was one of them randomly selected. I medical staff member and I D.O.C. staff member performed the test. The most noticeable thing we all noticed is both staff members wore the same gloves while taking the swabs. At no time did they change gloves or PPE in between samples. 25 swabs were taken with one pair of gloves. The other thing we noticed was no wellness questions were asked or vitals taken.

July 23rd.

At 9:00 PM the residents of Whetstone Unit were fed up with the lack of organization and communication from D.O.C. Administration and staged a walk out. Refusing to lock down until the received answers. There had been no updates provided to the inmates since the email sent on July 14th. Rec times were not being provided, they had not confirmed any cases of Covid-19 on the unit from staff or inmates which caused everyone to question the lock down if there were no cases. Eventually ADW Martinez...
CAME ON THE YARD AND SPOKE TO A SMALL GROUP OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE INMATE COMMUNITY. IT WAS THE FIRST TRANSPARENT CONVERSATION BETWEEN STAFF AND INMATES. HE CONFIRMED THE EMAILS FROM INMATES TO THEIR FAMILIES CONCERNING WHAT WAS HAPPENING ARE BEING CENSORED AND SAID HE WOULD STOP THAT FROM HAPPENING MOVING FORWARD. HE CONFIRMED THERE HAVE BEEN POSITIVE CASES BUT COULD NOT TELL US WHO OR HOW MANY. HE PROMISED THEY WOULD CREATE A SCHEDULE FOR RECREATION FOR EACH INDIVIDUAL DORM AND ADHERE TO IT SO INMATES CAN COMMUNICATE WITH THEIR FAMILIES DURING THAT TIME. HE ALSO COMMITTED TO HOLD "TOWN HALL MEETINGS" WITH REPRESENTATIVES FROM EACH DORM TO MAINTAIN AN OPEN LINE OF COMMUNICATION. HE ACKNOWLEDGED OUR FRUSTRATION AND EXPRESSED HIS OWN BECAUSE HIS DIRECTIVES CHANGE DAILY FROM ABOVE AND THEY ARE "DOING THE BEST THEY CAN."

JULY 27th


INMATE QUESTION: Why aren't we being asked wellness questions by medical staff when they come do temperature test?
Medical Staff Answer: Most of the people doing temperature tests are not medical professionals. We don't have the staff for that. That's why they don't ask wellness questions. It is the responsibility of the inmate to report if he is experiencing symptoms.

Inmate Question: So if we are showing symptoms, what can medical do to help us with those symptoms?

Medical Staff Answer: Nothing. There really isn't anything we can do. Just rest and drink lots of fluids.

Inmate Question: So if there is nothing medical can do for us, what is the point of reporting symptoms?

Medical Staff Answer: Well I'm talking about if you can't breathe or your turning blue, then let us know. Other than that, there really isn't anything we can do.

Inmate Response: So let you know when we are dying. Got it.

(Thumbs up.)

Inmate Question: So what happens when the results come back and you identify who is positive. I can tell you right now that almost everyone in our dorm is showing symptoms.
ADW Martinez Answer: At this point we've already isolated and quarantined everyone so the quarantine will remain. No one will be moved. I wouldn't make sense to move anyone.

July 28th

A second town hall meeting was held. The results from the initial 220 test came in. The following information and questions were asked in that meeting.

ADW Martinez: We've reviewed the results from the 220 test that were performed. Out of those tests, 107 came back positive. At the direction of the complex warden, all of the people that tested positive will be moved into one dorm. Dorm IA will become the quarantine dorm for all positives. And those that tested negative but have not been tested in IA will be moved to other dorms to make room.

Inmate Question: How does that make sense? How can you move anyone before they are tested? For all you know your moving positives into non-infected dorms. We have already been living together an exposed to each other for 13 days now. If you don't have it by now, it's pretty safe to assume you're not going to get it. Why move people around and cross contaminate the other dorms? If you tested 220 inmates and 107 came back...
POSITIVE THAN CAN'T WE ASSUME FROM THOSE TEST THAT THE OVERALL
POSITIVITY RATE ON THE UNIT IS ABOUT 50%?

ADW MARTINEZ: THE REASON WHY WE ARE MOVING PEOPLE IS TO
NOT EXPOSE THE PEOPLE WHO ARE NOT POSITIVE AND CONTAIN THE
VIRUS TO ONE AREA.

INMATE QUESTION: BUT HOW CAN YOU DO THAT BEFORE YOU TEST
EVERYONE AND KNOW FOR SURE WHO HAS IT AND WHO DOESN'T?

MEDICAL STAFF ANSWER: WE ARE GOING TO TEST THE ENTIRE YARD
EXCEPT FOR THE PEOPLE WHO HAVE ALREADY BEEN TESTED. THAT
WILL HAPPEN ON AUGUST 4TH. UNTIL THEN, WE ARE GOING TO
MOVE THE PEOPLE WHO WE KNOW FOR SURE ARE POSITIVE.

INMATE QUESTION: BUT HOW CAN YOU MOVE PEOPLE NOT TESTED
OUT OF 1A AND PUT THEM IN OTHER FORMS WITHOUT KNOWING
IF THEY HAVE IT?

MEDICAL STAFF: THERE IS NO WAY OF KNOWING, BUT AS OF
RIGHT NOW WE HAVE TO DO WHAT WE CAN TO PROTECT THE
PEOPLE WHO DON'T HAVE IT.

INMATE QUESTION: THE POINT IS YOU DON'T KNOW WHO DOESN'T HAVE IT
UNTIL YOU TEST EVERYONE. SO ONCE SOMEONE HAS TESTED POSITIVE,
HOW LONG BEFORE THEY ARE RETESTED?
MEDICAL STAFF: IF YOU HAVE TESTED POSITIVE, YOU WILL NOT BE RETESTED.

INMATE QUESTION: WHAT DO YOU MEAN? EVER? HOW WILL WE KNOW WHEN WE DON'T HAVE IT ANYMORE?

MEDICAL STAFF: ONCE THE WHOLE YARD HAS BEEN TESTED AND THE LAST POSITIVE CASE HAS BEEN REPORTED A TWO WEEK QUARANTINE WILL BEGIN THAT DAY. AT THE END OF THE TWO WEEKS EVERYONE WILL BE REPORTED AS RECOVERED. D.O.C. CURRENTLY HAS NO PLAN TO RETEST POSITIVE CASES.

INMATE QUESTION: SO AFTER THE LAST POSITIVE CASE IS REPORTED, WE LOCKDOWN FOR 14 DAYS AND THEN EVERYONE IS CURED? IS THAT WHAT YOU SAYING?

MEDICAL STAFF: RIGHT. UNLESS SOMEONE ELSE TESTS POSITIVE DURING THAT 14 DAYS, THEN THE CLOCK WILL START OVER FROM THE DATE OF THAT CASE. TRUST ME, YOU DON'T WANT TO WAIT TO GET RETESTED.

INMATE QUESTION: IS SOMEONE GOING TO CALL THE PRESIDENT AND TELL THEM YOU FOUND THE CURE? BECAUSE ACCORDING TO YOU, ALL YOU HAVE TO DO TO BEAT THE VIRUS IS QUARANTINE FOR 14 DAYS. YOU DON'T EVEN HAVE TO GET RETESTED. YOU JUST KNOW YOUR CURED!
ADW MARTINEZ: THIS IS THE GUIDANCE THAT’S BEEN GIVEN TO US BY THE DIRECTOR.

INMATE QUESTION: SO IF THE ONLY THING WE CAN DO IS QUARANTINE FOR 14 DAYS THEN WHY DO WE NEED TO BE TESTED? WE’VE ALREADY BEEN QUARANTINED FOR 13 DAYS. WHY DON’T YOU JUST LEAVE US LOCKED DOWN FOR 14 DAYS STARTING TODAY AND THEN OPEN THE YARD UP. IT’S THE SAME THING.

ADW MARTINEZ: BECAUSE WE NEED TO PROTECT THE PEOPLE WHO ARENT INFECTED RIGHT NOW.

INMATE: ISN’T IT A LITTLE LATE FOR THAT? CONSIDERING WE HAVE BEEN LOCKED DOWN WITH 125 PEOPLE, SHARING FACILITIES AND POOR VENTILATION FOR THE LAST 13 DAYS?

ADW MARTINEZ: I KNOW IT DOESN’T MAKE SENSE. WE ARE LEARNING AS WE GO AND EVERYTHING CHANGES DAILY. I GET MY ORDERS FROM SOMEONE HIGHER AND I'M JUST FOLLOWING THE GUIDENCE I GET FROM THE DIRECTOR AND OUR MEDICAL STAFF.

INMATE QUESTION: SO LET’S SAY I TESTED POSITIVE, AND I WAS EXPERIENCING SYMPTOMS BUT NOW, AFTER 13 DAYS I'M FEELING BETTER. WOULDN'T MOVING ME INTO A DORM WITH NOTHING BUT SICK, POSITIVE PEOPLE PUT ME AT RISK OF GETTING RE-INFECTED?
MEDICAL STAFF ANSWER: WE DON'T KNOW. SOME PEOPLE SAY YOU CAN'T GET IN AGAIN AND SOME SAY YOU CAN. THERE JUST ISN'T ENOUGH INFORMATION TO GIVE YOU A CORRECT ANSWER.

INMATE ANSWER: SO YOU'RE GOING TO MOVE EVERYONE ANYWAY. GREAT. THANKS.

AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING, THE INMATES RETURNED TO THEIR DORMS AND RELAYED THE INFORMATION TO THE OTHER INMATES. THEY WERE OUTRAGED. IN MY DORM, ZB, WE ALL HAD A MEETING. BY A OVERWHELMING SHOW OF HANDS, ALL 108 VETERANS IN OUR DORM AGREED THAT WE SHOULD REMAIN TOGETHER AND CONTINUE TO QUARANTINE TOGETHER. AND THAT MOVING PEOPLE OUT AND PEOPLE FROM OTHER DORMS IN, IT WOULD ONLY MAKE THE SITUATION WORSE.


IMMEDIATELY AFTER, THE 18 PEOPLE WHO TESTED POSITIVE IN OUR DORM WERE TOLD TO PACK THEIR STUFF AND MOVE TO ZA. WE REFUSED AND ASKED TO SPEAK WITH A SUPERVISOR. CAPTAIN POLICHICLO CAME TO ZB TO ADDRESS THE ISSUE. THE
INMATES TOLD THE CAPTAIN WE ALL CONSENT TO QUARANTINE TOGETHER
SINCE WE HAVE ALREADY BEEN EXPOSED TO EACH OTHER SINCE THE
BEGINNING OF THE OUTBREAK. HE RESPONDED AGGRESSIVELY AND TOLD
US IT WASN'T A VOICE OR DEMOCRACY AND IF WE REFUSED TO MOVE WE
WOULD BE DISCIPLINED.

THAT EVENING 45 NOT TESTED INMATES WERE MOVED OUT OF DORM 1A
INTO OTHER DORMS, 26 INTO 1C AND 19 INTO 2A. THE 18 INMATES MOVED
OUT OF THE VET DORM AND MOVED INTO 1A. NO CLEANING OR DISINFECTING
WERE DONE PRIOR TO THE MOVES.

July 29th

THE FOLLOWING EMAIL WAS SENT TO ALL RESIDENTS OF WHESTONE
UNIT ON OUR TABLETS.

WHETSTONE,

BE ADVISED TOMORROW MEDICAL STAFF WILL BE
COMING AROUND TO THE BAYS TO TEST EVERYONE FOR THE VIRUS
WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE INMATES WHO HAVE ALREADY TESTED
POSITIVE. MEDICAL STAFF WILL BEGIN THEIR TESTING PROCESS BETWEEN
0800-1000. YOU WILL RECEIVE A SACK LUNCH IN THE MORNING, ONE
IN THE AFTERNOON, AND A HOT TRAY FOR DINNER.

July 30th.

THE UNIT TESTED 959 INMATES OVER THE COURSE OF THE
DAY, IN MANY CASES, GLOVES AND PPE WERE NOT CHANGED IN BETWEEN
TEST.
August 3rd

Since I was tested on July 22nd and informed of my positive test results on July 28th, I sent a inmate letter to D.O.C administration asking for a copy of my COVID-19 test results for my records. Their response on the same day were as follows.

Dec. J. Torres, Wrote 08/03/2020

We have not received them yet, you will be let know when we receive them.

This caused concern among the inmates because it didn’t make sense that they have not received our results even though we were already told we tested positive.

August 4th

S.S.D Officer Rojas informed us at 9:30 that they received 250 of the test results back. Of those 250, 115 positive cases were reported. Of those 115 inmates, a portion of them would be moved into the remaining open bunks in 1A 8 days into our 1A Quarantine. 16 New positive cases were moved into the dorm. Again, Dec Rojas told us he agreed it was a "stupid move and it makes no sense" but those are his orders and that's what has to happen.

At 12:30 he came back and said another 4-10 people have come back positive. He said there are still about 20 test they are waiting on. D.O.C has reported that there are
Currently 517 positive cases on this unit, but if we do the math the test were reported to us as follows:

- 07-29 107 positives
- 08-04 115 positives
- 08-04 480 positives
- 08-04 70 cases pending
- 622 positives
- 20 pending

The numbers reported and the claims that almost all cases are A-symptomatic is 100% false. Everyone is or has experienced symptoms of a wide variety.

08-06

30 inmates that were moved to the negative dorms were pulled out and rehoused due to the fact they read their results incorrectly and were in fact positive.

08-07

I asked a medical staff member why we are being told they haven’t received our test results even though we are housed as positive inmates. She replied, “I don’t know, I don’t deal with that.”

08-06

Air conditioning stopped working in our dorm.
08-09
Brought in one fan and a cooler of ice water as the dorm reached 89 degrees.

08-10
Air conditioning was fixed.

08-06
The following email was sent to all residents of Wheatsone:

- Please do not submit HNR’s to Medical for the results of the COVID-19 testing. Those results will automatically be provided to you by Medical.

08-08
First wellness check done since tested positive. Same nurses were used to check temperatures and vitals of 112 inmates.

This outbreak is a direct result of a failure to act proactively and gross incompetence of the unit staff. I personally have heard staff members say things like “mask don’t even work”, “it’s no big deal”, “stop crying, it’s just like the flu”, one staff member told me he isn’t going to get tested because “the state doesn’t need his DNA.”

All fundraisers were stopped to include Costco pizza for the inmates because of the pandemic. Yet two weeks later a guard walked onto the yard carrying ten boxes of pizza, stopping in every dorm delivering six pizza to the
OFFICERS ARE ASSIGNED IN EACH HOUSING UNIT AND ATE IT IN THE PRESENCE OF THE INMATES IN THE DORMS. THE RESIDENTS OF WHETSTONE WILL NEVER BE SAFE FROM EXPOSURE TO THE VIRUS IF TESTING OF STAFF REMAINS OPTIONAL. THOSE WHO DO NOT BELIEVE THIS VIRUS IS A REAL THREAT WILL NOT TAKE PRECAUTIONS TO NOT CONTRACT IT A WILL COME TO THE UNIT INFECTED. THE ADMINISTRATION MUST BE HELD ACCOUNTABLE FOR SUBJECTING A VULNERABLE COMMUNITY WHO IS UNABLE TO EXERCISE SOCIAL DISTANCING AND CARE FOR THEIR OWN HEALTH AS EACH INDIVIDUAL SEES FIT TO A DEADLY VIRUS AS A RESULT OF THEIR OWN FAILURES AND COMPLACENCY.

PROPER HEALTH CARE AND MEDICAL TREATMENT WAS NOT NEEDED WHEN WE WERE FOUND GUILTY OF OUR CRIME, AND BASIC HUMANITY AND COMPASSION ARE NOT RIGHTS WE LOST WHEN WE BECAME FELONS. WE ARE NOT ANIMALS LEFT TO DIE IN OUR PIGPENS.
WE ARE FATHERS, SONS, BROTHERS, UNCES AND PROUD VETERANS.
I WOULD LIKE FOR THE GOVERNOR OF Arizona OR THE MAYOR OF TUCSON TO EXPLAIN TO US WHY A 50% POSITIVITY RATE WITHIN THIS COMMUNITY IS ANY DIFFERENT THAN A SCHOOL, ASSISTED LIVING FACILITY, GOVERNMENT OFFICE, OR LOCAL RESIDENCE. DOES MAKING A MISTAKE AND GETTING A D.U.I. FORFIT MY WORTH, MY LIFE? DOES IT NEGATE MY SERVICE TO MY COUNTRY? DOES IT JUSTIFY THE DEATHS OF THE INMATES ACROSS THE STATE? WHY ISN'T ANYONE LOOKING INTO HOW THE SPREAD GOT SO BAD HERE IN THE FIRST PLACE? I CAN ASSURE YOU IT'S NOT JUST BAD LUCK.

(yOU CAN EMAIL ME DIRECTLY BY DOWNLOADING THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME.
THE "PRAY" APP AND ENTERING MY NAME AND MANUEL LOPEZ II ADC # 734486.
ADC NUMBER.)
*UPDATE: August 11th*

Today, the remaining 400 negative inmates were retested due to the fact several inmates have started showing symptoms of COVID-19. Considering the fact that all inmates who tested negative have been quarantined in a separate part of the unit and had not contact with any of the positive inmates, the obvious nexus between the inmates and the virus is the prison staff. It is unfathomable to me that the entire staff has yet to be tested and remains optional. They have no idea how many sick or asymptomatic staff members continue to come to the unit and infect the inmate community. They only way the inmates could have been exposed to the virus is from the staff that continue to interact with the outside community and then come to work and interact with the inmates. The staff must be forced to be tested regularly if this outbreak is ever going to be contained.

[Signature]

Manuel Lozada II
ADC # 774476

*Inmates being released are now being denied release because their transition homes are not accepting inmates releasing from Whetstone Unit due to their exposure to the virus. Instead of releasing inmates early, they are being forced to stay in here longer and serve 100% of their time!*