

Public Comment

Jodi Duvall [REDACTED]

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To: PressRoom Nevada Health Response <PressRoom@nvhealthresponse.nv.gov>

Hello, my name is Jodi, and I am here as a member of Return Strong, Families United for Justice for the Incarcerated to convey the story of a person incarcerated at NNCC who called into our hotline number.

Before I start his story, I want to make sure the task force is aware that there is an available compassionate release program in the state of Nevada. There are actually two different programs listed under different names: the 298 program and Compassionate Release. They appear to have similar eligibility requirements that I would like to read, from their own website:

The 298 program:

“Inmates that are physically incapacitated or in ill health are referred by the Department of Corrections to Parole and Probation for supervision. Inmates must be physically incapacitated or in ill health to such a degree that they do not presently and likely will not in the future pose a threat to public safety and/or are expected to die within twelve months.”

And Compassionate Release states that:

“Inmates that are physically incapacitated or in ill health are referred by the Department of Corrections to Parole and Probation for supervision. Inmates must be physically incapacitated or in ill health to such a degree that they do not presently and likely will not in the future pose a threat to public safety and/or are expected to die within twelve months”

A few days ago we talked to a person at NNCC where the outbreak has most recently been occurring. The person is a 2nd

Lieutenant in the United States Marines. He lost the use of both of his hands while serving in Afghanistan and is now incarcerated for 2-5 years for a non-violent felony. He has served about half of that time but is now dealing with COVID AND his disability and NDOC is not following ADA guidelines. Other incarcerated people are helping him with his daily needs while trying to manage the impact of COVID that you have heard here for weeks. HOW is he not a candidate for compassionate release or the 298 -home confinement program? Why has NDOC not initiated this process? The Director continues to say no one qualifies and we continue to call for accountability.

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Thank you,
Jodi Duvall-Robertson

Sent from iPhone please forgive any misspellings.