

OCEAN Ripple Effect Newsletter

Overcoming Corruption Encouraging All Nations

thevoicesofocean.net

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The 1st Amendment of the United States Constitution

“Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.”

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OCEAN's Response to the "Memo from Nancy" posted to the Public Folder on July 23, 2021

On July 23, 2021 Shadow Prison operative Nancy Johnston posted the "Memo from Nancy" to the public folder. The memo breaks down the 5 ways that administration plans to "change" the program. The 5 changes Johnston references come from a document we wrote called, "Barriers to Release and Potential Solutions" (AKA the Barriers Document).

The Barriers Document breaks down the top 17 barriers to our release and then offers solutions to those barriers. The document was brought to the negotiation table when 10 courageous men went on a hunger strike in February 2021. The demand for ending that first hunger strike was "A Clear Path Home" and the Barriers Document was our attempt to do administration's job for them.

We knew administration would play games with us—and they did. In fact, we began organizing the second hunger strike after the first meeting. Administration wasted time defending the 88 murders they caused. However, the meetings provided an opportunity for the public to see how deceitful they truly are.

We went on the second hunger strike because administration refused to employ ALL 17 of our solutions. The following is a summary of the solutions we offered. The 5 that Johnston references in the "Memo from Nancy" are underlined. A complete document is available upon request:

1. **Solution No. 1:** Admit that the program is broken and then do something about it.
2. **Solution No. 2:** Employ a onetime independent evaluation for the entire MSOP population to determine placement based on federal statute, 18 USC 4247. Create a Judicial Bypass process pursuant to 253D to allow a licensed doctor to outright terminate the commitment without court approval. 6 doctors reviewing two clients each, every day, could review the entire population in about 90 days.
3. **Solution No. 3:** Change the name of the program. To receive an indeterminate sentence to the MSOP, a person is NOT required to be convicted of a sex offense. Therefore, the term "sex offender" cannot be used in the name of the program.
4. **Solution No. 4:** Create an Independent Oversight Committee (IOC) responsible for reviewing all mental health diagnosis at MSOP to establish the conceptual validity of the assigned mental disorders. The IOC must be independent from the Department of Human Services. The IOC must use the Diagnostic and statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, 5th Edition (DSM-V) to determine the validity of the diagnosis.
5. **Solution No. 5:** Remove the DHS as a party to the discharge process. The county of financial responsibility should take full responsibility and accountability of whether to oppose or support the discharge petition.
6. **Solution No. 6:** Provide clients the option to have their otherwise private interactions with staff video and audio record. The recordings of the client's otherwise secret interactions with MSOP staff are available for that client at the end of each quarter.
7. **Solution No. 7:** Utilize the secure ITV system already in place at the MSOP to allow family and public officials to participate in RAFC and at least one MSOP administrator should be required

to attend one RAFC meeting a month to participate in the discussions.

8. **Solution No. 8:** Abolish the tier system, which is prohibited by law and the Behavioral Expectations Reports (BER). Re-introduce the Primary Resource Person (PRP) and the OP-Team systems. Create a policy outlining the process for a graduation ceremony. Provide proper reintegration services at both MSOP sites including accredited college courses and jobs training courses. MSOP staff should be required to announce to the general client population when a client has achieved any type of progression in the program.
9. **Solution No. 9:** Convert the MSOP back to a Medical Model treatment and obtain the appropriate accreditation for medical facilities.
10. **Solution No. 10:** An organization, independent from DHS, should investigate whether or not MSOP receives funding fraudulently. The organization should also confirm whether or not MSOP receives any kind of federal funding, whether by fraud or not. If they do, this information should be made available to clients and the public to promote transparency.
11. **Solution No. 11:** Transfer all men to St. Peter who are on CPS status, and are statutorily entitled to transfer.
12. **Solution No. 12:** Bring Restorative Justice to MSOP to provide the tools clients need to build empathy for others and to raise money for sexual assault survivors.
13. **Solution No. 13:** Release and reintegrate all 50+ juvenile offenders immediately. Assess all 468 men who are over the age of 46, using modern assessment tools that consider the “aging out” factor which has shown that an offender’s likelihood to reoffend consistently declines as they get older.
14. **Solution No. 14:** Listen to, and respect the auditors & experts who have investigated the program. Employ the science and the facts for creating an effective program.
15. **Solution No. 15:** Remove the DHS as a party to the discharge process so that countys will take full responsibility to oppose or support the discharge petition.
16. **Solution No. 16:** Eliminate the statutory requirement of the SRB hearings, and reassign MSOP forensic evaluators to perform periodic SVRA’s of the Program population. Patients should then be able to petition for reduction in custody directly to the CAP.
17. **Solution No. 17:** Defund MSOP and reallocate the money to victim advocacy and programs in prison.

OCEAN and the End MSOP Coalition

Support Hunger Strikers in organized “Honk-In” at Moose Lake Shadow Prison

On July 11, 2021 at 2:50 PM those in support of our freedom came to let us know that we are not forgotten. 8 cars with nearly 30 people were involved in what is being called the “End MSOP Honk In” outside the Shadow Prison fence. OCEAN affiliates and the End MSOP Coalition organized the “Honk-In” in support of the nearly 40 hunger strikers in the MSOP-Moose Lake maximum security Shadow Prison. Star Tribune editor Chris Serres, as well as reporters from WDIO and the Duluth News Tribune were all present. To date, WDIO has refused to publish a story on the event.

OCEAN spokesperson David B. spoke in an interview with Minnesota Public Radio, stating that 88 men have died in the “treatment” facility and only 14 have achieved a contested full discharge (through the court system and not completion of the treatment program).

The human cry of this revolution is one for a meaning of a purpose for life – a cause to live for and if need be – die for. Thomas Paine’s words: “These are the times that try men’s souls.” This is literally a revolution of the soul.

The great American dream that reached out to the stars has been lost to the stripes. We have forgotten where we came from, we don’t know where we are, and we fear where we may be going. Afraid, we turn from the glorious adventure of the pursuit of happiness to a pursuit of an illusionary security in an artificial environment with unrealistic expectations by its staff and a stigmatizing society. At home, we have made a mockery of being our brother’s keeper by being his jail keeper. When Americans can no longer see the stars, the times are tragic.

We must believe that it is the darkness before the dawn of a beautiful new world; we will see it when we believe it. OCEAN encourages you – all of you – to stand for our Constitutional rights to liberty, to freedom, and human dignity.

The predatory acts of the Department of Human Services and the MSOP clinicians cannot be allowed to continue denying us our freedom any longer. Those who continue to spend their energies defending MSOP and criticizing OCEAN and the End MSOP Coalition without offering a helping hand to the cause of our liberty, have more blood on their hands than those who receive a pay check in this scheme of human trafficking.

As a result of the Honk-In, MSOP made the decision to put concrete blocks around the facility. Those blocks are now a visual reminder of the many supporters who want to End MSOP. Facility staff call them “barriers”. However, we call them levies because they were put there to keep the OCEAN out.

OCEAN and the End MSOP Coalition Pulls off Their First OCEAN Community Conference and Rally!

On July 18, 2021 at 1:00 PM, OCEAN and the End MSOP Coalition hosted the first OCEAN Community Conference at the State Capitol. At 3:00 PM, the End MSOP Coalition and our supporters marched down Summit Avenue to the Governor's Mansion to demand an Executive Order to abolish MSOP.

The OCEAN Community Conference and Rally began with Domino's Pizza delivering 100 pizzas. There were about 30 pizzas left over and they were donated to the local homeless shelter down the street. Volunteers were also able to bring some home.

David B., reported that the event brought unity and that everyone was "energized and determined". David went on to say, "This event was a big success. Thanks to the hunger strike, the movement has grown outside. We hope more will begin to join the fight."

The End MSOP Coalition and our supporters also sang a remake of the song "Imagine" remade by men in 1E:

Imagine there's no MSOP
It's easy if you try
No hell to live in
The truth and not lies
Imagine all the people living for today
yu-huu
Imagine there's no punishment
It isn't hard to do
Nothing to worry or stress over
And no "treatment" too
Imagine all the people living life in peace
yu-huu
You may say I'm a dreamer
But I'm not the only one
I hope someday you'll join OCEAN
And the world will be as one
Imagine no more hopelessness
I wonder if you can
No need to cry yourself to sleep
A civil commitment ban
Imagine all the people going home today
yu-huu
You may say I'm a dreamer
But I'm not the only one

I hope someday you'll join OCEAN
And the world will be as one (x2)

The End MSOP Coalition also read poems written by Russell Norton and they played Daniel Larsen's video, which explains how Larsen has been locked up in so-called "civil commitment" for 43 years with no criminal conviction.

The End MSOP Coalition and our supporters tied 88 balloons to a poster that listed the 88 deaths at MSOP since the opening of the facility 26 years ago. According to our supporters, the most powerful part was when they read the names of the 88 men who have died while trying to complete this "treatment" program. David B. said, "We can't save those who have already died, but we can save the others."

Hundreds of brochures that share the truth about the Shadow Prison were passed out. One supporter said, "This was a great experience. We learned a lot and we are looking forward to the next event. The word got out to a lot of new people."

House Representative, Steve Sandell was also present. Sandell seems concerned about what is happening here and OCEAN thanks the individuals who reach out to our state legislators. Organizers from Montana and Nebraska also showed up to help. There were many of our family members and even a few ex-Shadow Prison employees that were present.

According to our advocates this was "The best turn out for sex offender advocacy to date." This is a great acknowledgment. However, the reason we had a good turnout is because we are not sex offenders at all. Those under the supervision of the DOC who have been convicted of sex crimes are 'sex offenders.' Civil detainees under the jurisdiction of the DHS are not 'sex offenders' – they are preventive detention detainees – plain and simple. We are just regular men and women who have been labeled as 'sex offenders' for the sole purpose of confining us to a work camp until we are dead.

We promoted our event this way because it is the most accurate narrative to tell. This is why we had a better turn out than those who wish to abolish the sex offender registry for instance. The two issues are similar – but not the same. What OCEAN is doing has nothing to do with convicted sex offenders because civil commitment in Minnesota has nothing to do with sex offenders – apart from the fact that that demographic happens to be targeted for commitment. However, minority groups – especially the African American community and the LGBTQ+ community – are targeted for commitment as well.

The only common denominator among those committed is the initial claim that the person considered for commitment *might* commit a crime. Those who are interested in advocating for the abolishment of civil commitment in Minnesota need to understand that 12% of this population have clean records. The common denominator is NOT a criminal conviction – it is a claim by state employees that the detainees have a "mental abnormality" that will cause a crime.

As a result of the activities of OCEAN over the past year or so, Tina Liebling is holding an Informational Hearing on August 2, 2021 at 1:00 PM. the End MSOP Coalition and our supporters plan to be there to advocate for us. Our hope is that we can start a real dialogue with legislators and eventually put an End to MSOP.

A Quick Update of the Janus Seminar on June 24, 2021

The Seminar with Professor Eric Janus on June 24, 2021 went very well. About 40 people participated. Janus, in no uncertain terms, stated that MSOP is unconstitutional, unethical, ineffective and too expensive. He also accurately referred to MSOP as “preventive detention.” He further clarified that a criminal conviction is NOT a prerequisite for civil commitment in Minnesota. He expressed grave concern that these laws are, “too loose” and that other innocent groups of people are at risk as long as these laws are allowed in this state.

What is OCEAN?

OCEAN is an acronym for, “Overcoming Corruption Empowering All Nations.” OCEAN is not an “organization”. Corruption exists in and around all of us. Overcoming that corruption by exposing it, and then replacing it with something better, empowers all people – despite race, culture, creed or gender – to also overcome corruption. This is OCEAN. If we are forced to call OCEAN anything, we will call it a **MOVEMENT** and the qualification for “membership” is this: you either are or you are not, Overcoming Corruption Empowering All Nations.

Attention

We don't want *more* readers. We want the *right* readers.

Please understand, the OCEAN reading materials are NOT meant to be “positive.” They are not easy reading materials for your “pleasure.” In fact, they are meant to stir your heart and mind to motivate you to fight corruption in your own life, especially if you or someone you love is being held hostage in a so-called, “civil commitment” center. If you do not want to receive the OCEAN Ripple Effect Newsletter, please let us know and we will take you off of our mailing list.

We want your story!

It takes many drops to make the OCEAN. That means YOU MATTER. Send us your story about how you or someone you know has been affected by the civil commitment madness where you are. We are also interested in poetry, art and stories from your family about how knowing a civil detainee has affected you. Please adhere the following rules for submission:

1. Let us know what facility you, or your loved one is in.
2. State, in writing, that you give OCEAN permission to publish your story.
3. Let us know if you, or others in your story, would like to remain anonymous. If you do not clarify this, we will NOT use real names. Many of our publications are posted onto the internet at **thevoicesofocean.net**. If this is a concern for you, you may want to remain anonymous.

It is important that your story is heard. If you are not comfortable telling your story for any reason, please write to us and we'll address your concerns. OCEAN materials are written by men who are also civilly detained in preventive detention. We understand.

Thank You!

OCEAN would like to thank Jose “Brooklyn” Gutierrez for giving us the name “Affirmative Action Coalition” which defined a movement. Therefore, OCEAN is not a mere “organization.” This important distinction has helped us give OCEAN more clear direction. Jose also helped us understand the difference between theoretics and application – hence the “Action” in “Affirmative Action Coalition”. Thank you Jose. Additionally, we would like to thank all the vendors who made the OCEAN Community Conference and Rally possible: Hejny Rental, Event Sound and Lighting, Domino's Pizza, FedEx, Onsite, Capital Complex Reservation, the City of St. Paul, TY Video Productions, Warning Lites. Finally, thank you David at IWOC, Eliseo P., Duncan B., Jose G., Sara B., Ruby B., Father Harry, Merry S., Tiffany M., Bill D., Jen M., Lucas D., Eldon D., Janet M., Ben O., Jim K., Michelle M, Vicky H., Derek L., and Todd F. for the encouragement. We need it! We could not do this without all of you!

OCEAN Mission

Alongside likeminded groups and free world activists, OCEAN is abolishing preventive detention from the front lines of the most egregious preventive detention facility in America. To replace the current system, OCEAN is allocating funds and resources toward effective, evidence based, solutions to address mental illness and crime in Minnesota. As we accomplish these goals locally, OCEAN will gradually focus on accomplishing them nationally.

Support Us

To support OCEAN, you can donate online at thevoicesofocean.net or send a check or money order to Positive Attitude Development, a non-profit organization in Duluth Minnesota. Write "OCEAN" in the Memo section of the check so that 100% of your contribution goes to our cause. Mail your contribution to:

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