

Friday, 29 April, 2011 10:56:38 AM
Clerk, U.S. District Court, ILCD**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS
PEORIA DIVISION****ASHOOR RASHO, PATRICE DANIELS,
GERRODO FORREST, LYNDIA SMITH,
LATERIAL STINSON, and KEITH
WALKER,****Plaintiffs,****v.****DIRECTOR ROGER E. WALKER, JR.,
DEPUTY DIRECTOR ROBERTA FEWS,
DR. WENDY NAVARRO, DR. SYLVIA
MAHONE, EDDIE JONES, DR.
WILLARD ELYEA, DR. JOHN
GARLIC, DR. MICHAEL F. MASSA,
and WEXFORD HEALTH SOURCES,
INC.****Defendants****No. 1:07-CV-1298-MMM-JAG****Judge Michael M. Mihm****Magistrate Judge John A. Gorman****SECOND AMENDED CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT**

Plaintiffs Ashoor Rasho, Patrice Daniels, Gerrodo Forrest, Lynda Smith, Laterial Stinson, Keith Walker, and additional plaintiffs Phillip L. Abraham, Otis Arrington, Kenneth Bakalik, Donald Collins, Joseph Herman, Henry Hersman, and Rasheed McGee, prisoners currently incarcerated in various adult correctional centers of the Illinois Department of Corrections (the "IDOC"), on their own behalf and on behalf of all inmates with serious mental illness who are now or will be incarcerated in IDOC adult correctional centers, hereby complain as follows:

1. This is a class action lawsuit brought pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983 to redress violations of Plaintiffs' and the class members' rights under the Eighth and Fourteenth Amendments to the U.S. Constitution to be free of cruel and unusual punishment while they are incarcerated in IDOC facilities; to redress violations of their liberty interests under the Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment; and, pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities

Act (the "ADA"), 42 U.S.C. §§ 12131 et seq., and the Rehabilitation Act (the "Rehab Act"), 29 U.S.C. § 794, to address their right to be free of discrimination on account of their disabilities.

2. Plaintiffs seek a judgment declaring the Defendants' conduct unconstitutional and violative of the ADA and the Rehab Act, and an injunction against Defendants' unlawful conduct as set forth below.

3. As the U.S. rate of incarceration has soared over the past decade, the number of inmates with mental illness has soared as well. The IDOC and its contractor for medical and mental health services, Wexford Health Sources, Inc. ("Wexford"), have failed miserably to deal with this problem.

4. Mentally ill inmates in IDOC facilities are chronically underdiagnosed and undertreated. They are subjected to brutality instead of compassion, and housed in conditions that beggar imagination. If they complain about the quality of their care, they may get no care at all. They are mocked and abused by correctional staff, sprayed with caustic chemicals and derided for their illness. There are far too few spaces in the mental health care units. Mentally ill prisoners are routinely sent to segregation instead of mental health care units, although it is universally known that this can worsen their mental illness. Years are added to their imprisonment by punishment for behavior due to their serious mental illness, without any account being taken of their disabilities in the meting-out of that punishment. If they try to commit suicide by hanging themselves with a sheet from their beds, they will be ticketed for destruction of state property.

5. Defendants avoid treating inmates with mental illness by failing to identify inmates with mental illness. Despite an Administrative Directive which requires that "All offenders [] transferring into a facility shall be screened and, when appropriate, referred to a

mental health professional," the mental health screening at IDOC adult correctional centers is arbitrary, haphazard, and riddled with gaps. Most inmates do not receive a meaningful mental health screening upon transfer.

6. Even for those prisoners identified as needing mental health care, the care is grossly substandard. The IDOC's contracts with Wexford, signed year after year by the director of the IDOC, contain no enforceable standards governing the quality of care provided to prisoners. Thus it is no surprise that the State of Illinois pays hundreds of millions of dollars, year after year, for care that violates constitutional standards and established legal norms.

7. One measure of the deficiency in treatment is how few of IDOC's adult correctional centers provide any sort of specialized mental health services at all: The State of Illinois currently has only four adult correctional facilities (out of a total of 28) which offer some form of specialized mental health services to inmates: Dixon Correctional Center, Pontiac Correctional Center, Tamms Correctional Center (the state's "super-max" facility); and Dwight Correctional Center. The available spaces for specialized mental health treatment are minuscule compared to the need: according to the IDOC's Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2007 (the most recent report available), as of June 2007, Pontiac's Mental Health Unit housed 69 inmates, and Dixon's Psychiatric Unit housed 183 inmates.

8. Access to the limited number of specialty mental health units is limited and difficult. The standards for transfer to a facility with a specialty mental health unit are unclear; prisoners with obvious mental health needs may not be transferred to such facilities at all. Even at facilities with specialty mental health units, prisoners are refused assignment to the mental health unit despite requesting it and despite being on, or having been on, potent psychiatric medications.

9. Prisoners who ask to be transferred to mental health units are refused for reasons that have nothing to do with mental health treatment considerations (e.g., too much segregation time). Grievances by inmates as to the quality of care provided in the mental health units are treated not as complaints about care, but as challenges to being assigned there. Prisoners are transferred out of mental health units in retaliation for filing a grievance, assisting other inmates in grieving, or other reasons having nothing to do with psychiatric care. Within the mental health treatment units, patients with a wide variety of problems are grouped together and treated by the same methods without regard for their differing diagnoses.

10. What limited and erratic care there is, is provided chiefly by medication. A prisoner with paranoid schizophrenia may see a psychiatrist once a month, to "re-up" his medications, and a social worker once a month. It can be very easy to get off medications: just ask, or stop taking the medications. There are no adequate mechanisms in place to monitor whether mentally ill inmates are really taking the medications they are prescribed, or to encourage them, through therapeutic contact, to stick with their medication regimes.

11. When prisoners have consultations with mental health professionals, they are often forced to do so in the form of conversations at the cell door, where not only correctional staff but other prisoners can eavesdrop. This severely compromises the ability to treat any mental illness, since it requires a prisoner to identify his symptoms in a setting where other prisoners can readily hear. This gives prisoners an incentive to minimize problems, and gives Defendants a reason not to provide treatment.

12. Prisoners who are transferred from one correctional facility to another may receive radically different qualities of care, or no care; different medications, or no medications at all. Inmates who are transferred from one facility to another may be left without their

medications because of delay in assessing them or delay in transfer of their medical records, putting them in serious, perhaps life-threatening danger.

13. The diagnosis of – or failure to diagnose – inmates' mental health problems by mental health professionals in IDOC facilities, and the day-to-day treatment of mentally ill prisoners by staff, is routinely poisoned by the notion of "offender manipulation," and mentally ill inmates are routinely categorized as uncooperative malingerers. Both regular staff and supposed mental health "professionals" fail to recognize the "uncooperative" and "manipulative" conduct as the symptoms of mental illness which they are.

14. Correctional staff are not trained to deal with the mentally ill. Staff often do not respond to prisoners' threats to harm themselves, and use unnecessary force on mentally ill prisoners. Prisoners on suicide watch are neglected, abused, or both. They can be stripped naked; placed in a cell with no mattress or blankets; put in four-point restraints. In winter, staff in some facilities will open the windows, and then sit and laugh.

15. Inmates who engage in conduct due to their mental illnesses are punished in absurd and irrational ways - for instance, being given a ticket and segregation time for "damage to state property" for destroying a jumpsuit in a suicide attempt.

16. Mentally ill inmates accumulate large amounts of segregation time for disciplinary infractions caused by their mental illness, but their mental illness is not taken into account in the hearings about their infractions. Prisoners are housed in segregation, and given little or no mental health care, despite having, for instance, passionate beliefs that they are subjects of "mind-control" technology experiments by the IDOC. Mentally ill prisoners are sent to Tamms Correctional Center, the "super-max" facility, without regard for the damage the severe social and sensory deprivations of Tamms are likely to have on their psychological state.

It is well-known that placing mentally ill inmates in segregation or isolation is highly likely to exacerbate their mental illness. Even without mental illness, many prisoners in isolation experience mental deterioration; isolation is especially dangerous to those who are already mentally ill. Studies have found that the effects of isolation include: paranoid psychosis and uncontrolled rage, including increased homicidal and suicidal impulses; frequent schizophrenia; and impairment of the ability to socially reconnect with others once released. Yet mentally ill prisoners still accumulate years upon years of "seg" time in the IDOC, or are sent to Tamms.

17. Likewise, prisoners who were originally incarcerated for comparatively minor offenses (e.g., burglary) can end up spending more time in prison due only to their mental illness than those convicted of much more serious offenses.

18. The units in which mentally ill prisoners are housed - both the mental health units themselves and other locations where they may be placed - are often filthy, vermin-ridden and filled with human waste. This is true of individual cells and of common areas, such as showers. Staff do not clean them, and inmates are not able to clean them. In the Pontiac "North Segregation" Unit, for instance, inmates are given a half cup of green soap once a week to clean their cells. In the beginning, they are also given a sponge, but once the sponge wears out they are not given a new one.

19. The experiences of the Plaintiffs here are typical of the class members:

20. Plaintiff Ashoor Rasho is currently incarcerated at Pontiac Correctional Center; he was previously incarcerated at Tamms Correctional Center. He has a history of auditory hallucinations, suicide attempts, and self-mutilation. Despite Mr. Rasho's serious mental illness, he has been taken on or off medication, put into and then taken out of the Pontiac Mental Health Unit, and told by correctional officers when he was on crisis watch to call them "when [he] hit an

artery.” Mr. Rasho’s 1996 incarceration for burglary has been greatly prolonged by punishment for infractions related to his mental illness, and his current projected parole date is 2018.

21. Plaintiff Patrice Daniels is currently incarcerated at Pontiac Correctional Center. Despite his mental illness, he has been placed in segregation for extended periods; he has repeatedly caused injury to himself and received medical attention for these injuries, but did not receive mental health screening or mental health care. He has requested transfer to a Mental Health Unit but been denied.

22. Plaintiff Gerrodo Forrest is currently incarcerated at Pontiac Correctional Center. He has a history of mental illness including auditory hallucinations, delusions, and repeated suicide attempts, compounded by limited intellectual and cognitive abilities. He has spent most of his time in prison in segregation due to acting out triggered by his psychological illness and impairments.

23. Plaintiff Lateral Stinson was incarcerated at Pontiac Correctional Center. He has a long history of diagnoses and treatment for mental illness, but his diagnoses and medications constantly changed as he was shifted from doctor to doctor.

24. Plaintiff Lynda Smith is currently incarcerated at Dwight Correctional Center. She has a history of treatment for mental illness, and has also had surgery for a brain tumor. She has been in custody since November 1989 and has spent a total of ten years since then in segregation. She was not originally placed in the Mental Health Unit at Dwight, and she is not currently there despite her repeated requests that she be transferred there. She believes that her grievances have been destroyed by the doctor at Dwight. Her incarceration has been prolonged due to disciplinary infractions and her current release date is 2030.

25. Plaintiff Keith Walker is currently incarcerated at Pontiac Correctional Center.

Despite having mental illness, Mr. Walker has been removed from the Mental Health Unit and has had several of his medications discontinued. Mr. Walker has spent months upon months in segregation for disciplinary infractions related to his mental illness, and has had his incarceration prolonged due to disciplinary infractions related to his mental illness.

26. Plaintiff Phillip L. Abraham is currently incarcerated at Dixon Correctional Center. Due to his mental illness, he was involuntarily committed prior to his incarceration. He has a diagnosis of bipolar disorder. Since his incarceration, he has had difficulty receiving medication and has been denied treatment for his mental illness. He has been placed in segregation as a result of an altercation with a correctional employee over receiving medication for his mental illness.

27. Plaintiff Otis Arrington is currently incarcerated at Western Illinois Correctional Center. Previously, he was incarcerated at Menard Correctional Center and Dixon Correctional Center, where he was placed in the special treatment/mental health units. However, when he refused to take prescribed medications because he had difficulty tolerating them, he was discharged from the special treatment/mental health units.

28. Plaintiff Kenneth Bakalik is currently incarcerated at Dixon Correctional Center, in the special treatment unit. Mr. Bakalik was abused as a child, and has a history of hospitalization for mental illness dating back to his childhood, with a diagnosis of schizophrenia. Although he has received some treatment for his mental illness in the form of medication, he has received no counseling or therapy to help him deal with his history of having been abused, and the treatment he does receive is inadequate to deal with his serious mental illness which resulted in his incarceration in the first place.

29. Plaintiff Donald Collins is currently incarcerated at Dixon Correctional Center, in the special treatment unit. He has episodes of severe depression. He has been threatened, taunted, and repeatedly abused by correctional personnel, including being sprayed with bleach, and has been refused participation in group counseling programs.

30. Plaintiff Joseph Herman is currently incarcerated at Tamms Correctional Center. He has a long history of medication for psychiatric disorders, and has received multiple diagnoses of mental illness, including depression and major depression, schizoaffective disorder with psychotic features, bipolar disorder with psychotic features, dysthymic disorder, impulse control disorder, borderline personality disorder with antisocial traits, antisocial personality disorder, and narcissistic personality disorder. He was previously in the special treatment unit at Dixon Correctional Center and in the mental health unit at Pontiac Correctional Center, where he was beaten by correctional personnel. Despite his long history of serious mental illness, he is not in the special treatment unit at Tamms, and has repeatedly and seriously mutilated himself since his transfer to Tamms. Due to his mental illness, he has been involved in prison altercations for which he has been punished without regard for his mental illness, and his current projected release date is 2053, when he will be 79 years old.

31. Plaintiff Henry Hersman is currently incarcerated at Hill Correctional Center. He has been diagnosed with schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, and post-traumatic stress disorder. In the past, he has swallowed razor blades, and attempted to commit suicide by driving a car into a house. Although he was previously placed in the special treatment unit at Dixon Correctional Center, he was transferred out of Dixon to Hill (which has no special mental health treatment unit) for reasons unrelated to his mental health care and in detriment of his mental health care, as

punishment for a charge of giving false information when he sent a note stating that a gang member intended to attack correctional staff.

32. Plaintiff Rasheed McGee is currently incarcerated at Tamms Correctional Center. Prior to being incarcerated, he was involuntarily committed on several occasions. He was previously in the special treatment unit at Pontiac Correctional Center, and was transferred from there to the special treatment unit at Tamms, but thereafter removed from the special treatment unit, supposedly at his "request," when he complained that he was receiving no treatment for his mental illness. He is given involuntary halodol injections, but they do not stop his continuous auditory hallucinations telling him to hurt himself. He has asked to be returned to the special treatment unit, but refused; he has asked to be placed on suicide watch, but staff tells him that they will not do so unless he harms himself. When he does then harm himself, he is left completely stripped.

33. The careless, inconsistent, and indifferent care Plaintiffs have received for their mental illness is emblematic of Defendants' violations of the constitutional and legal rights of inmates and their deliberate indifference to them. Plaintiffs and the class members have suffered and will continue to suffer greatly and unnecessarily as a result.

34. The court has jurisdiction of this cause pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1343(a)(3) and (4). Venue is proper in the Central District of Illinois under 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b) because at least one of the Defendants resides in the District and a substantial part of the events and omissions giving rise to Plaintiffs' claims occurred in the District.

35. This action is brought by the named Plaintiffs on behalf of all persons who are now or will be incarcerated in adult correctional facilities operated by the IDOC and who, while incarcerated, have a serious mental illness, defined as an Axis I or Axis II disorder in the

Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Fourth Edition (hereafter "DSM-IV"), except that a diagnosis of alcoholism or drug addiction or any form of sexual disorder shall not by itself constitute a serious mental illness for purposes of this class definition.

36. A class action is proper pursuant to Rule 23(a), (b)(1) and (b)(2) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

37. Members of the class on whose behalf Plaintiffs sue are so numerous that joinder of all members is impractical. According to the IDOC's website in September 2010, the agency was responsible for the management of 45,000 adult inmates, of whom more than half likely have, or will have, mental illness.

38. The Bureau of Justice Statistics Special Report: Mental Health Problems of Prison and Jail Inmates, authors D. James and L. Glaze, dated September, 2006, revised December 14, 2006, stated that "At midyear 2005 more than half of all prison and jail inmates had a mental health problem, including 705,600 inmates in State prisons These estimates represented 56% of State prisoners" (Id. p. 1.) "State prisoners were most likely to report a recent history of a mental health problem []. About 24% of State prisoners had a recent history of a mental health problem" (Id. p. 2.) However, approximately "3 in 10 State [] prisoners were found to have symptoms of a mental disorder without a recent history." (Id. p. 3.) Based upon a modified structured clinical interview for the DSM-IV, the report found that over 15% of State prisoners reported at least one symptom of a psychotic disorder; over 70% reported at least one symptom of a major depressive disorder, and almost 74% reported at least one symptom of a mania disorder. (Id. p. 2.) This compares to 3.1% of the general US population reporting at least one symptom of a psychotic disorder; 7.9% reporting at least one symptom of a major depressive disorder; and 1.8% reporting a symptom of a mania disorder. (Id. p. 3.)

39. There are questions of law or fact common to all class members. The failure of Defendants to implement policies and procedures – including policies and procedures they already have in place – to identify and care for the large number of mentally ill inmates currently in custody, to help prevent inmates from developing mental illness while incarcerated, or to limit the extent to which mental illness results in extra punishment for inmates, is a violation of Plaintiffs' and the class members' constitutional and legal rights. Plaintiffs' allegations of a broad pattern of discriminatory policies and procedures presumptively create common questions of law or fact.

40. Plaintiffs' claims are typical of the claims of the class. They arise from the same practices and courses of conduct that give rise to the claims of the other class members.

41. Plaintiffs can fairly and adequately represent and protect the interests of the class members. Plaintiffs have no conflict with the other class members, since both Plaintiffs and the class members share the same interest in receiving appropriate diagnosis and treatment for mental illness and in the implementation of policies to prevent inmates from developing mental illness while incarcerated, and in being free of additional punishment as a result of mental illness. Class counsel are experienced in both civil rights litigation and class action lawsuits.

42. Separate injunctive and declaratory actions maintained by individual members of the class would create a risk of inconsistent or varying adjudications with respect to individual members of the class, thereby establishing incompatible standards of conduct for Defendants. Adjudication regarding individual class members would, as a practical matter, be dispositive of or impair the interests of other members not parties to the adjudication or substantially impair their ability to protect their interests.

43. Defendants have acted or refused to act on grounds generally applicable to the class that Plaintiffs represent, thereby making final injunctive or corresponding declaratory relief appropriate for the class as a whole.

COUNT I

(Violation of Eighth and Fourteenth Amendment Rights Under 42 U.S.C. § 1983 Based Upon Failure to Diagnose And Treat Serious Mental Health Needs, for Declaratory and Injunctive Relief against Defendants Walker, Fewes, Navarro, and Wexford)

44. Plaintiffs reallege and incorporate by reference Paragraphs 1 to 43 as if alleged herein.

45. Defendant Gladys Taylor is the Director of the IDOC; as such, she has overall responsibility for IDOC's policies and procedures and the administration of all correctional facilities in the State.¹

46. Defendant Roberta Fewes is the Deputy Director of the IDOC Office of Programs and Support Services. She has responsibility for the office of the Chief of Mental Health and Psychiatric Services for the IDOC. As such, she has responsibility for policies, procedures, and general oversight of the care of mentally ill inmates in the IDOC.

47. Defendant Dr. Wendy Navarro reports to Defendant Fewes, and is the Chief of Mental Health and Psychiatric Services for the IDOC. As such, she has immediate responsibility for the mental health and psychiatric care of inmates in the custody of the IDOC.

48. Defendant Wexford Health Sources, Inc., is a corporation headquartered in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania which provides health services, including mental health services, throughout the IDOC by contract with the State of Illinois. The individual mental health professionals who supply diagnoses and treatment to mentally ill inmates throughout the IDOC

¹ Director Taylor is automatically substituted for Roger E. Walker, Jr., the former director of the IDOC, pursuant to Rule 25(d).

are almost always Wexford employees, and Wexford personnel determine what quality of care will be given to IDOC inmates with mental illness.²

49. Plaintiffs and the class members have a serious medical need or condition, namely mental illness or mental health conditions, which require treatment.

50. Defendants' policies, practices, and customs are designed to intentionally fail to diagnose or treat large numbers of mentally ill prisoners. Defendants have displayed and continue to display deliberate indifference to Plaintiffs' and the class members' mental health needs.

51. Defendants' acts and omissions constitute cruel and unusual punishment of Plaintiffs and the class members and violate the Eighth and Fourteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution.

52. Defendants' policies, practices, customs, acts, and omissions place Plaintiffs and the class members at unreasonable, continuing, and foreseeable risk of developing or exacerbating serious medical and mental health problems.

53. Defendants' violations of Plaintiffs' and the class members' constitutional rights have inflicted both physical and mental harm and injury, including by causing avoidable pain, mental suffering, and deterioration of their health. Upon information and belief, in some cases it has resulted in premature death.

54. As a proximate result of Defendants' unconstitutional policies, practices, customs, acts, omissions, and deliberate indifference, Plaintiffs and the class members have suffered and will continue to suffer immediate and irreparable injury, including physical, psychological, and

² On information and belief, the IDOC directly employs some medical personnel who from time to time may diagnose a prisoner's mental illness.

emotional injury and the risk of death. Plaintiffs and the class members have no plain, adequate or complete remedy at law to address the wrongs described herein.

COUNT II

(Violation of Eighth and Fourteenth Amendment Rights Under 42 U.S.C. § 1983 Based Upon Failure To Train Or Supervise, for Declaratory and Injunctive Relief against Defendants Taylor, Fewes, Navarro, and Wexford)

55. Plaintiffs reallege and incorporate by reference Paragraphs 1 to 54 as if alleged herein.

56. Defendants fail to adequately train or supervise individuals in their employ or under their control and supervision as to how to properly respond to and interact with prisoners with serious mental health needs.

57. Defendants' failure to adequately train or supervise violates Plaintiffs' and the class members' constitutional rights.

58. As a proximate result of Defendants' failure to train, Plaintiffs and the class members have suffered, and will continue to suffer, deprivation of the rights secured under the Constitution and laws of the United States. Such deprivations are causing and will continue to cause immediate and irreparable injury, including physical, psychological, and emotional injury and the risk of death. Plaintiffs and the class members have no plain, adequate or complete remedy at law to address the wrongs described herein.

COUNT III

(Violation of Liberty Interest Under The Due Process Clause Of The Fourteenth Amendment Under 42 U.S.C. § 1983, for Declaratory and Injunctive Relief against Defendants Taylor, Fewes, and Navarro)

59. Plaintiffs reallege and incorporate by reference Paragraphs 1 to 58 as if alleged herein.

60. Defendants' policies and procedures and acts or omissions which cause Plaintiffs and the class members to be placed in isolated environments for extended periods impose an atypical and significant hardship on Plaintiffs and the class members in relation to the ordinary incidents of prison life.

61. Defendants' policies and procedures and acts or omissions which fail to take into account Plaintiffs' and the class members' mental illness in imposing additional punishment violate Plaintiffs' and the class members' liberty interests and due process rights secured under the Fourteenth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution.

62. As a proximate result of Defendants' conduct, Plaintiffs and the class members have suffered, and will continue to suffer, deprivation of the rights secured under the Constitution and laws of the United States. Such deprivations are causing and will continue to cause immediate and irreparable injury. Plaintiffs and the class members have no plain, adequate or complete remedy at law to address the wrongs described herein.

COUNT IV

(Title II Of The Americans With Disabilities Act, for Declaratory and Injunctive Relief against Defendants Taylor, Fewes, and Navarro)

63. Plaintiffs reallege and incorporate by reference Paragraphs 1 to 62 as if alleged herein.

64. Each of the IDOC facilities housing Plaintiffs and the class members are public entities as that term is defined in 42 U.S.C. § 12131. All Defendants at all relevant times acted in their official capacities as representatives of at least one of these public entities.

65. Plaintiffs and class members are otherwise qualified individuals with a disability as defined under the ADA and its implementing regulations, including 42 U.S.C. § 12131(2) and § 12102(2). Plaintiffs and the class members have mental and/or physical impairments that

substantially limit one or more major life activities; or they have records of having such impairments; or they are regarded as having such impairments.

66. Plaintiffs and the class members meet the essential eligibility requirements for the receipt of services or the participation in programs or activities provided by Defendants.

67. Defendants have discriminated against the Plaintiffs and class members on the basis of their disabilities in the following ways:

- a) Refusing to provide Plaintiffs and the class members with proper treatment for their serious mental illness despite knowledge of such serious mental illness;
- b) Failing to reasonably accommodate the Plaintiffs' and class members' disabilities and instead discriminating against them in ways that increase the severity of their illness by such methods as placing them in administrative segregation or other isolated environments as punishment;
- c) Failing to reasonably accommodate the Plaintiffs' and class members' disabilities and instead discriminating against them in ways that increase the severity of their illness by such methods as depriving them of clothes, heat, or sanitary surroundings;
- d) Failing to reasonably accommodate the Plaintiffs' and class members' disabilities by refusing to transfer Plaintiffs and some class members to mental health units and housing them in elevated security divisions or tiers, or general population divisions, which are especially chaotic, noisy, isolated and offer less or no mental health treatment, and also increase the likelihood of serious physical and mental harm due to the fact that the staff and guards in such divisions are not trained to interact with seriously mentally ill detainees.

68. In acting in the manner alleged above, Defendants have unlawfully discriminated against Plaintiffs and the class members in violation of the ADA.

69. As a proximate result of Defendants' wrongful conduct, Plaintiffs and the class members have suffered, and will continue to suffer immediate and irreparable harm and injury, including physical, psychological, and emotional injury, including the risk of death. Plaintiffs and the class members have no plain, adequate, or complete remedy at law to address the wrongs described herein.

COUNT V

(Violation of Section 504 Of The Rehabilitation Act, for Declaratory and Injunctive Relief against Defendants Taylor, Fewes, and Navarro)

70. Plaintiffs reallege and incorporate by reference Paragraphs 1 to 69 as if alleged herein.

71. Upon information and belief, the IDOC receives federal financial assistance, thus making it subject to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, 29 U.S.C. § 794(a) and § 705(20).

72. Each Plaintiff and each class member is an otherwise qualified individual with a disability as defined in the Rehabilitation Act and implementing regulations. Plaintiffs and the class members have mental and/or physical impairments that substantially limit one or more major life activities; or they have records of having such impairments; or they are regarded as having such impairments.

73. Plaintiffs and the class members meet the essential eligibility requirements for the receipt of services or the participation in programs or activities provided by Defendants.

74. Defendants have discriminated against the Plaintiffs and class members based upon their disabilities in the following ways:

- a) Refusing to provide Plaintiffs and the class members with proper treatment for their serious mental illness despite knowledge of such serious mental illness;
- b) Failing to reasonably accommodate the Plaintiffs' and class members' disabilities and instead discriminating against them in ways that increase the severity of their illness by such methods as placing them in administrative segregation or other isolated environments as punishment;
- c) Failing to reasonably accommodate the Plaintiffs' and class members' disabilities and instead discriminating against them in ways that increase the severity of their illness by such methods as depriving them of clothes, heat, or sanitary surroundings;
- d) Failing to reasonably accommodate the Plaintiffs' and class members' disabilities by refusing to transfer Plaintiffs and some class members to mental health units and housing them in elevated security divisions or tiers, or general population divisions, which are especially chaotic, noisy, isolated and offer less or no mental health treatment, and also increase the likelihood of serious physical and mental harm due to the fact that the staff and guards in such divisions are not trained to interact with seriously mentally ill detainees.

75. In acting in the manner alleged above, the Defendants have unlawfully discriminated against Plaintiffs and the class members in violation of the Rehabilitation Act.

76. As a proximate result of Defendants' wrongful conduct, Plaintiffs and the class members have suffered, and will continue to suffer immediate and irreparable harm and injury, including physical, psychological, and emotional injury, including the risk of death. Plaintiffs

and the class members have no plain, adequate, or complete remedy at law to address the wrongs described herein.

COUNT VI

(Violation of Eighth and Fourteenth Amendment Rights Under 42 U.S.C. § 1983, by Plaintiff Ashoor Rasho for Compensatory and Punitive Damages against Defendants Walker, Navarro, Mahone, Jones, Elyea, Garlic, and Massa)

77. Plaintiff Ashoor Rasho realleges and incorporates by reference Paragraphs 1 to 76 as if alleged herein.

78. At all times relevant to this damage count, Defendant Roger E. Walker Jr. was the Director of the IDOC. He had overall responsibility for the administration of all correctional facilities with the State, as well as personal, first-hand knowledge of the operations of Pontiac Correctional Center.

79. At all times relevant to this damage count, Dr. Willard Elyea was the Medical Director of the IDOC and, as such, had overall responsibility for providing health care, including mental health care, to prisoners of Pontiac Correctional Center.

80. At all times relevant to this damage count, Dr. Wendy Navarro was the Chief of Mental Health and Psychiatric Services for the IDOC and as such had overall responsibility for providing mental health care to prisoners of Pontiac Correctional Center.

81. At all times relevant to this damage count, Defendant Dr. Sylvia Mahone was the medical director of Pontiac Correctional Center.

82. At all times relevant to this damage count, Eddie Jones was the Warden of Pontiac Correctional Center. As such, he had ultimate responsibility for the entire operation of the institution, including implementing all state law and the IDOC's policies, practices and procedures affecting prisoners confined at Pontiac Correctional Center, its mental health unit and its segregation units.

83. At all times relevant to this damage count, Dr. John Garlic was the Supervising Clinical Psychologist at Pontiac Correctional Center. Garlic provided mental health services to prisoners at Pontiac Correctional Center and oversaw the mental health staff who serve as the prison mental health professionals.

84. At all times relevant to this damage count, Dr. Michael F. Massa was one of the psychiatrists at Pontiac Correctional Center. Dr. Massa provided mental health services to prisoners at Pontiac Mental Health Unit and administered psychotropic drugs to them.

85. Plaintiff Rasho has been incarcerated in the IDOC since 1996 and was transferred to Pontiac Correctional Center in November 2003. Mr. Rasho arrived at Pontiac with a well-documented history of serious mental illness, including self-mutilation, suicide attempts, and auditory hallucinations. He had been treated with a wide variety of psychotropic medications, including Sinequan, Wellbutrin, Prozac, Remeron, and BuSpar.

86. For some period of time at Pontiac, Mr. Rasho's mental health was reasonably stable. However, in spring 2004, Mr. Rasho stopped taking his medication and began cutting himself again. He then was transferred to Pontiac's mental health unit by then-Pontiac psychiatrist Dr. Kowalkowski. He resumed medication and stabilized. However, he then ceased taking medication, and resumed self-mutilating.

87. Between November 2004 and October 2005, Mr. Rasho cut himself on five occasions, requiring between 6 and 16 stitches on each occasion.

88. Despite Mr. Rasho's history of mental illness and self-destructive behavior, reflected in his records and in his conduct at Pontiac under their watch, in 2006 Dr. Massa and the other members of the Pontiac psychiatric team, including Dr. Garlic, determined to transfer Mr. Rasho out of the mental health unit and into the "North Segregation" unit, because he

complained about staff behavior in the mental health unit, and not for any legitimate medical or therapeutic reason. They did this although they were well aware of Mr. Rasho's history of serious mental health problems and the fact that he still had serious mental illness and repeatedly harmed himself by cutting large, deep wounds on his arms.

89. As a result of this transfer, Mr. Rasho's mental state deteriorated further. In August 2006, Mr. Rasho cut himself again and was transferred to first to the health care unit, where he was put on crisis watch. There, the staff told him to "call when he hit an artery" and left him alone as he was in the act of cutting himself. When he triggered the sprinkler head in the cells, he was removed, and received 15 stitches. Despite this incident, thereafter he was returned to North Seg per Dr. Massa's and Dr. Garlic's instructions.

90. Mr. Rasho repeatedly requested transfer back to the mental health unit, but his pleas were disregarded by Dr. Massa and Dr. Garlic. Despite refusing to place Mr. Rasho in the Pontiac mental health unit except in extreme circumstances, the Pontiac mental health staff, including Dr. Massa and Dr. Garlic, consistently prescribed powerful combinations of antidepressant and antipsychotic drugs for Mr. Rasho. Thus they were aware of and acknowledged his serious mental illness even as they denied him treatment, denied him access to programs available in the mental health unit, and exacerbated his mental illness by placing him in a segregation environment.

91. Mr. Rasho's grievances regarding his placement in North Seg, rather than the mental health unit, were disregarded by Warden Jones; despite the obvious risks of harm to this seriously mentally ill person from being placed in a segregation unit instead of a specialty mental health care unit, his grievances were denied, and he was told that the "nature of his grievance could not be determined."

92. Mr. Rasha's privacy was invaded by his treatment at Pontiac, in that he was forced to have conversations with mental health staff within the hearing of non-mental-health professionals, including correctional staff and other prisoners.

93. Finally, Defendant Jones repeatedly adjudicated disciplinary charges against Mr. Rasha without making allowance for his mental illness, of which he is well aware, causing Mr. Rasha's sentence to be unjustly prolonged due to conduct that was the result of his serious mental illness.

94. In so doing, defendants Walker, Navarro, Mahone, Jones, Elyea, Garlic, and Massa have violated Mr. Rasha's rights under the Eighth and Fourteenth Amendments of the United States Constitution to be free from cruel and unusual punishment and his liberty interests under the Fourteenth Amendment.

REQUEST FOR RELIEF:

Wherefore, Plaintiffs and the class members request that this Court:

(a) Declare that Defendants' actions and inactions are unlawful and unconstitutional for the reasons specified above;

(b) Enter a preliminary and permanent injunction directing Defendants to provide:

1. Mental health training for correctional staff as part of their initial training and as a required element of their annual training, including training on: signs of mental illness; treatments for mental illnesses; side-effects of medications used for the treatment of mental illness; effective interaction with mentally ill prisoners and defusing potentially escalating situations; suicide prevention training; safe use of physical and mechanical restraints for mentally ill offenders; how to distinguish between conduct that reflects a serious mental illness and conduct that deliberately breaks prison rules; and compassion for the mentally ill.
2. That all inmates shall receive (1) an initial mental health screening upon admission to an IDOC facility; (2) a detailed mental health screening by a mental health professional within two weeks of arrival at any IDOC facility (unless such inmate is already on the mental health caseload as a result of screenings at a prior facility); and (3) an appropriate mental health classification.

3. That initial and detailed mental health screenings must become part of an inmate's permanent file.
4. That inmates identified as in need of evaluation through the screening process will receive a complete mental health evaluation by a mental health professional within 14 days.
5. That any institution employee may also refer an inmate for a mental health evaluation based upon observation of the inmate's behavior.
6. That every inmate on the mental health caseload will receive an evaluation update at least once annually.
7. That each inmate with a mental illness classification shall have a written treatment plan, updated annually.
8. For any inmate with known/reported history of mental health treatment who is transferred, procedures to ensure that inmate's complete mental health records are transferred to the new institution within 48 hours.
9. Procedures for removal from mental health caseload.
10. That inmates in segregation units or other isolation environments will be reviewed at least once per week by mental health professional.
11. That inmates entering segregation or other isolation environments will be promptly screened for suicide potential.
12. That no inmate with a mental illness classification shall be incarcerated at Tamms or placed in segregation for longer than 20 consecutive days and no more than 40 days total per year.
13. Procedures for identifying, monitoring and treating inmates with suicide potential, including provision of suicide-resistant gowns and blankets for inmates on suicide watch.
14. Protocols for administration and monitoring inmates on psychotropic medications, including protocols for involuntary administration.
15. Protocols for inmates on suicide watch.
16. Moving the supervision of mental health treatment from the director of programs to the medical director of the IDOC.
17. A qualified expert to supervise and report to Court on implementation of the procedures and programs included herein.
18. A documented external peer review program for mental health professionals.

19. A quality improvement program for inmate mental health care as part of any contract with a third-party contractor.
20. Regular performance evaluations of mental health services by independent qualified professionals.
21. Internal quality review mechanisms including independent reviews of any third-party contractors.
22. Requirements that independent contractors providing mental health services pay workers at levels comparable to community mental health settings.
23. Increased numbers of hospital beds and acute-care facilities for treatment of mental illness.
24. Increased numbers of intermediate care facilities for mental illness.
25. A presumption in any disciplinary hearing involving an inmate with a mental illness classification that the disciplinary incident was caused by mental illness.

(c) Award Plaintiffs and the class members their costs and reasonable attorneys' fees pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1988 and 42 U.S.C. § 12205.

(d) Award Plaintiff Ashoor Rasho compensatory and punitive damages for the violations of his constitutional and legal rights as to Count VI;

(e) Award any such further relief as the Court may deem just.

Respectfully submitted,

April 29, 2011

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned, an attorney, hereby certifies that on April 29, 2011, she caused the foregoing document to be filed with the Clerk of the Court using the CM/ECF system, which will send notice of electronic filing to:

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