

To: Sharon Hobbs President AVVA  
AVVA Board

From: John Birch  
Region VIII Director

Re: Veterans In The Justice System and Incarcerated.

In the months since October I have been to Oregon State Penitentiary 3 times. I only have one Institution that I have been cleared for visitation. My usual staff contact became ill and was out for awhile and I had to wait a while before continuing. The staff that replaced my contact did not have clue what we were working on. My Staff contact did eventually return and I was able to make some connections.

I worked with Prison Staff at OSP and Court staff ( Marion County Or.) including the presiding Judge of the Veteran Peer Court. Who was thrilled to find out what I was working on. Preparations have been completed for Mr. Yezzo (Committee Chair) to visit the Peer Court and Inmates at OSP. For the coming late April early May time frame.

The Incarcerated Veterans look forward to meeting Mr. Yezzo.

For the record I do take information from outside sources that Inmates cannot obtain due to electronic restrictions. This information has been helpful for them and gives them ideas for assisting in educational purposes. The OSP Incarcerated Vets have networked positively and have been very successful in finding programs for paroling Inmates in the area of their parole.

End of Report.