

FELMERS O. CHANEY ADVOCACY BOARD
STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF WAUPUN HUNGER STRIKERS

WHEREAS the use of cruel and unusual punishment and the torture of any citizen of the State of Wisconsin are barred by the Constitution of the State of Wisconsin and Constitution of these United States;

WHEREAS there exists within the Wisconsin prison system, as administered by the Wisconsin Department of Corrections (hereinafter "WDOC"), a pattern and practice of forced solitary confinement of Citizens of Wisconsin and these United States for extended and indefinite periods of time known as "Administrative Confinement" or "AC";

WHEREAS WDOC has unilaterally defined AC as "non-punitive" thereby abrogating the limited rules that restrict the use of solitary confinement in Wisconsin;

WHEREAS the Executive Branch of the State of Wisconsin has by and through the administrative powers of WDOC, created and implemented a system of torture known as AC;

WHEREAS all periods of solitary confinement are cruel and unusual punishment, and constitute an intentional act of torture by the State of Wisconsin upon its Citizens;

WHEREAS the use of solitary confinement constitutes a form of mental and physical cruelty that is counter productive to meaningful rehabilitative and reintegration goals;

WHEREAS the State of Wisconsin Executive Branch, Judicial Branch, and Legislative Branch have all failed to act to effectively end the use of torture in Wisconsin Prisons; and

WHEREAS Citizens of the State of Wisconsin and these United States in the custody of WDOC and being held at the Waupun Correctional Institution (hereinafter "WCI") have begun to refuse nourishment in protest of the WDOC's pattern and practice of torture and cruel and unusual punishment through the policy of AC,

NOW, THEREFORE, IN RECOGNITION OF THE FOREGOING, THE:

1. Felmers O. Chaney Advocacy Board (FCAB) declares its support for, and stands in solidarity with, the incarcerated Citizens of Wisconsin who are refusing food as an act of protest against the unconstitutional, illegal, and torturous actions of the WDOC; and
2. Felmers O. Chaney Advocacy Board encourages individuals and groups alike to not only stand in support and unity for our fellow Citizens incarcerated by WDOC, but to make their voices known to legislators, the media, and through community building activities.

Dated this 16 day of June, 2016

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

KNOW ALL PERSONS BY THESE PRESENTS of our agreement and support of the foregoing statement and in evidence of which we do hereunto set our hands /s/:

Atty. Barbara J. Becker
Hon. Jonathan Brostoff
Atty. Larry R. Coté, Jr.
Atty. Lindsey Draper
Rev. Joseph Ellwanger

Barry Givens
Mary Ann Hack
Edith Hudson
Dr. Thomas LeBel
Dr. R.L. McNeely
David T. McGinnis

Hon. Sandy Pasch
Dr. Sharon F. Skinner
Dr. Stan Stojkovic
Cindy Williams
Georgette Williams