



POST OFFICE BOX 110034 BROOKLYN, NEW YORK 11211

Updates for September 20<sup>th</sup>

#### **4 Sept - I Am Resolving Myself**

*Recently, we've seen paintings by Marius Mason, but not as much poetry. That's all changed and we are happy to share the latest below.*

##### **MORE:**

My childhood prepared me for prison  
I knew that in every day  
There was a possibility  
That I might be ashamed,  
Denied something I  
Needed,  
Would be contained and prevented  
From escaping  
And yes, there would be pain,  
There might be violence

#### **September 16<sup>th</sup> - The Last Green Scare Prisoner**

This week, [Kite Line] shared a recorded discussion hosted by the Civil Liberties Defense Center <[wfhb.org/news/september-16-2022-marius-mason-the-last-green-scare-prisoner](http://wfhb.org/news/september-16-2022-marius-mason-the-last-green-scare-prisoner)>. CLDC has been at the forefront of anti-repression legal work for decades now, working on many of the Green Scare cases, in which the FBI infamously hounded and smashed radical environmental organizing between 2000 and 2008. In this discussion, Chava and Lauren speak with Letha, a long-time supporter for Marius Mason, who is the last remaining Green Scare prisoner. Marius is a former Bloomington resident whose public organizing and clandestine acts of sabotage in the 1990s presaged many of the ecological concerns which have now become global issues as we face climate catastrophe. Marius was harshly sentenced – to almost 23 years in prison – for acts of sabotage against logging, highway construction, water privatization schemes, and corporate genetic engineering. He came out as a trans man while inside and is being held at the federal prison in Connecticut. You can find out more about how to support Marius at [supportmariusmason.org](http://supportmariusmason.org)

#### **6 Sept - From Coast to Coast**

*An open letter from anarchist prisoner Toby Shone in the so-called United Kingdom addressing the Running Down the Walls events happening in the US. That, and a statement by Eric King, below.*

##### **MORE:**

I've previously written about the need to recreate an Atlantic bridge, based on international revolutionary solidarity and reciprocal knowledge, that moves towards affinity and direct action in support of our imprisoned comrades. Since then, I was recently visited by a comrade from Anarchist Black Cross Philadelphia here at the G4S facility in which I'm held. G4S is originally an American company, Wackenhut, which has pioneered the private prison and security industry all over the world. As part of our discussion between the comrade from ABC Philadelphia and myself, we spoke of the need to prevent our groups and commons becoming inward-looking and closing in on themselves in microscopic scenes and myopia. The anglophone world is particularly susceptible to this trend, although it is not solely confined to English-speaking territories. How can we translate rhetoric into practical activity? Words and deeds must coincide, and that is what?

For too long, a kind of one-way discourse has been in effect, breached by too few valiant individuals and groups. We can speak of a loss of solidarity flowing across the Atlantic between north and south, east and

west. Without wanting to advocate any kind of anarcho-tourism or the colonial approach of the wholesale export-import political programs of the activist left, I'm in favor of strengthening our international networks in the face of an increased technocratic authoritarianism. To remain locked up in our local areas without considering the struggles elsewhere is self-defeating, as repressive operations seek to confine us and stem our anarchic contagion specifically to promote sterility. Can we renew an Atlantic bridge that connects our tendencies, that connects the uprisings in the North American metropolises to those in Europe, Latin America and Asia? Can we join together the struggles of the long-term COINTELPRO prisoners with those elsewhere in the global prison industrial complex?

As a very basic contribution with the small means I have, I'll join the Running Down The Walls 5K run event organized by the comrades of the American chapters of the ABC, called for September the 11<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> this year, during the time I have out of my cell on the yard or the gym. This event aims to create a sense of togetherness through athletics. Keeping our fitness and health is important outside, and money raised by the event will supply funds to the ABC Warchest.

The real challenge is to enable an evolution in self-organization, osmosis, decentralization and cooperation; critical and practical action. As a first principle and minimum start, we can mention the exchange of letters and postcards that break the isolation of the prison walls and national borders that separate us. Since I am forbidden a large part my correspondence, and especially that of political content, it is fair to say that this constitutes meaningful solidarity of a certain type. Then there is the collation and publication of the letters and updates of our imprisoned comrades, and the incendiary dialogues which are always breaking out and multiplying as written about by comrades Alfredo, Gabriel, and Gustavo. This dialogue between inside and outside is very important. We need to cut through the bars which divide us all to support our hunger strikes, to identify structures of repression, to raise funds, to carry out campaigns, to hold events and give a helping hand to those next to our side even though an ocean may seem to separate us. I hope certain comrades can forgive me for laboring the topic as I'm positive everything I've written about already exists to varying degrees over several territories, but I'm aware of the need occasionally to reiterate key aspects of our practices to spread them and create new connections.

*"Let your voices be heard in protest from the Atlantic to the Pacific, from Maine to Mexico. Serve notice upon the murderous capitalistic class that you will not again stand idly by and see your brothers made victims because they so will it, and they will dare not do it!"*

– Lucy Parsons, The Proposed Slaughter, 1905

### **September 14<sup>th</sup> - Eric King's Statement for Running Down the Walls**

Comrades! Greetings from the Rockies. I hope everyone is feeling strong, safe, and loved. After a very active and hectic Black August I'm very happy to be joining everyone in RDTW. This year I'll be doing two days filled with jogging around my cage, lots of plyometrics, burpees, and boxing fun, pretending I'm out in the sun with everyone having a good time. My heart's out there.

I love RDTW. Projects that link up those of us inside with free world activism are the best kind of project for me. The War Chest has benefited so many of us, myself included, and I feel really blessed to have folks come out, lace up, and keep us alive out there. The world is filled with shitty things, so many oppressive people and mechanisms — it's nice to know and remember that people care, people remember, and people aren't abandoning ship. Thank you to everyone who has shown up for us inside. We'll get these bastards some day! Anarchy Always, antifascism everywhere.

### **8 Sept - DNC Panel Passes Resolution Urging Joe Biden To Release Leonard Peltier**

*The Democratic National Committee just took a step toward including language in its 2024 party platform urging President Joe Biden to release activist Leonard Peltier from prison, a sign of the growing momentum to remedy what many consider a decades long stain on the nation's criminal justice system.*

#### **MORE:**

by Jennifer Bendery (*HuffPost*)

On Thursday, the DNC's Resolutions Committee unanimously approved a measure calling for Biden to grant clemency to Peltier. The Indigenous rights activist has been in prison for 46 years following the 1975 murders of two FBI agents in South Dakota. This is despite no evidence he committed a crime, a trial riddled with misconduct and a parole process so problematic that United Nations legal experts recently called on Biden to release him immediately.

The DNC resolution states that Peltier, now 77, is an ideal candidate for leniency "given the overwhelming support for clemency, the constitutional due process issues underlying Mr. Peltier's prosecution, his status as an elderly inmate, and that he is an American Indian, who suffer from greater rates of health disparities and severe underlying health conditions."

It concludes, "it is highly appropriate that consideration of clemency for Mr. Peltier be prioritized and expedited, so that Mr. Peltier can return to his family and live his final years among his people."

The resolution now awaits a full vote by DNC members at a general session Saturday. If it's approved, it then heads to the White House for Biden's review.

State Rep. Ruth Anna Buffalo (D-N.D.), a member of the DNC Executive Committee and one of the people behind the resolution, said she feels nothing but gratitude to see it advance with unanimous support.

"We thank the Democratic Party for standing with justice," she told *HuffPost* on Friday.

"My 19-year-old daughter continues to encourage me to push harder and to work harder for our elder Leonard Peltier's release, who is a survivor of Federal Indian Boarding School," said Buffalo. "Our next generation is watching and sees this injustice. We cannot give up on releasing Peltier, a political prisoner."

A White House spokesperson did not respond to a request for comment on whether Biden is aware of the DNC resolution or whether he is considering granting clemency for the activist.

Peltier is often described as America's longest-serving political prisoner, (note: he is not; that would be Ruchell Cinque Magee, imprisoned since 1963) and advocates for his release characterize his trial as problematic, citing racism against Indigenous people, his co-defendants' acquittal on grounds of self-defense, and allegations that the FBI bore partial responsibility for the shootout that led to its agents' deaths.

A former U.S. prosecutor who helped put Peltier in jail has since described his trial as flawed and last year wrote to Biden urging clemency. Members of Congress have similarly requested that he be set free, and four U.S. senators have separately called on the president to release Peltier in recent months: Sens. Mazie Hirono (D-Hawaii), Patrick Leahy (D-Vt.), Bernie Sanders (I-Vt.) and Brian Schatz (D-Hawaii).

The case has also triggered outcry from the Indigenous community, celebrities and human rights leaders, including Pope Francis, the Dalai Lama, Nelson Mandela, Coretta Scott King and Amnesty International USA.

The new resolution comes after leaders of the DNC's Native American Caucus, including Buffalo, issued a statement earlier this year calling his imprisonment "one of the great miscarriages of justice in modern history."

## **10 Sept - Why Record Heat Can Be So Much Deadlier in Prisons**

*This week, California endured what may have been the worst heat wave in state history, with record-breaking temperatures above 110 throughout the Bay Area and Central Valley.*

### **MORE:**

by Jamiles Lartey (*The Marshall Project*)

Public officials urged people without home air conditioning to find public places like malls, movie theaters and pools to cool off, but of course, that's not an option for incarcerated people. As the mother of an incarcerated man put it: "He and his fellow inmates can't catch a breeze outside or have access to ice water to drink."

The stakes are life and death, as *The Marshall Project's* Maurice Chammah wrote in 2017. Even relatively young, healthy people are at grave risk from prolonged exposure (more than a few hours) to heat that exceeds the "wet-bulb" threshold of about 95 degrees Fahrenheit. People who are older, have serious health conditions or rely on psychiatric medications — which many people in prisons take — can be even more vulnerable to heat, which seems to become more intense with each passing summer.

Texas has historically been one of the most dangerous states for prison temperatures, and this July was the hottest on record. David Segovia described laying in the unrelenting heat of his cell at an East Texas prison and wondering if this was how he would die. He was on the floor — his bed frame was hot to the touch — laying in sheets he'd doused in the hot water that was coming out of his sink. The Texas system has recorded 23 heat-related deaths since 1998, but researchers believe the true number is much higher.

Cool towels are one of the few solutions prisoners have some control over. The towels were a ubiquitous sight on a recent visit by the *New York Times* to a state jail near McAllen, in southern Texas. Advocates in the state even raise money specifically to send towels to those who cannot afford them at prison commissaries. In at least one Oregon prison last summer, the towels were sold for \$18 each. Small electric fans are another stopgap sometimes available for those who can afford them, although some research suggests they can do more harm than good at temperatures above 95 degrees.

Some prisons in California that don't have air conditioning do have evaporative "swamp coolers" but incarcerated people say the units are often broken.

Many prisons turn to the lowest tech heat solution: ice. In Missouri, prisoners can get a pitcher of ice three times a day on hot days, but only "if they have the means to purchase the larger container from the commissary. Otherwise, they have a cup," reports the *Kansas City Star*.

Things are changing slowly in some places. Mississippi officials began installing air conditioning in state prisons this year after a 2021 U.S. Department of Justice investigation found that prison conditions — including extreme heat — violated the Constitution.

The project has been financed in part with COVID-19 recovery funds. Other southern states, including Louisiana and North Carolina, are moving to add air conditioning too, even though it's coming too slowly for those who need it, writes Alleen Brown in *Grist*. One reason administrators give for pursuing changes is to make it easier to recruit corrections officers, who (sometimes) have to endure the hot environments too.

The problem has never been solely limited to the South, but as climate change brings warmer summers — both on average and in terms of more extreme heat waves — the risks for people incarcerated in northern states is growing rapidly.

At Sing Sing Prison, just north of New York City, 46-year-old Bryon Russ said he's experienced dizziness, vomiting and headaches from the heat. "I feel like I can't breathe. I feel like I'm suffocating," he told the *Rochester Democrat & Chronicle*. Russ said sometimes he would put his feet in his toilet to cool down, flushing when the water got too warm.

In New Jersey, investigators from the state's prison watchdog office visited facilities throughout July and August and found temperatures in some cells as hot as 94 degrees. One incarcerated person told investigators that "some inmates intentionally broke rules or participated in assaults when it was intolerably hot so they could 'catch a charge' and be transferred to air-conditioned disciplinary housing units." There is research that suggests extreme heat can drive violence in prisons.

In Washington state, generally known for its mild climate, an investigative report found that corrections officials had mostly failed to plan for the devastating heat wave that hit the state last summer. Records obtained by *High Country News* found that temperatures in some cells soared to 114 degrees, and that the heat was so intense it set off the fire alarm. "It's too hot to live in these conditions, please help!!" one person scrawled on a grievance form.

If you're looking to share information on this topic with a friend or family member who prefers videos to email, consider passing along this segment from John Oliver's *Last Week Tonight* show, which first aired last summer: [youtu.be/6fiRDJLjL94](https://youtu.be/6fiRDJLjL94)

## **12 Sept - Interview with Anarchist Black Cross Moscow**

*Interview was made by German anarcho-pacifist paper Graswurzelrevolution, and is published in the new issue of the paper in German. English translation by ABC Moscow.*

### **MORE:**

**Graswurzelrevolution (GR):** During the last months you have been very busy with supporting anti-war activists. How many anti-war prisoners are you supporting at the moment?

**ABC Moscow (ABC):** We are looking for political prisoners in anti-war cases who need help together with a group called Zone of Solidarity, which formed in April. At that time, we realized that the scale of repression was very significant and that the human rights organizations were not helping all people. It takes a lot of effort to find the data that makes it possible to contact the relatives and the prisoners themselves. Sometimes they refuse being contacted at all.

We are now supporting 9 people to varying degrees, including correspondence, sending food parcels, paying for a lawyer, advising relatives how to pass parcels, how to raise funds to pay for a lawyer, etc.

Letters to prisoners are very important. The ABC-Moscow website has the addresses of about 35 Russians who spoke out against the war in Ukraine and who are currently in prison. Unfortunately, in most cases, the administration of the SIZO only allows letters in Russian.

These people have different political positions, as some have a lot of support because they were already well-known activists. As for some others, no one had ever heard anything about them before. We publish the correspondence addresses of all the people we know, as long as they don't hold nationalist views. There are more people in jail for anti-war protests, but we don't know everyone's name and location, because when people are arrested, the police tend not to publish their names, in order to isolate them from the outside world.

We try to find people who have just been arrested and find out if they have a lawyer and support from relatives or friends. If not, we hire a lawyer and send parcels with food and everything they need. Food in pre-trial detention facilities in Russia is poor and they don't give out hygienic items, clothes, dishes or stationery. Prisoners share with each other, but that is why as soon as a person gets a chance, he starts asking for things not just for himself.

Support for prisoners is needed at all times. Approximately half of all prisoners in Russia do not get help from family or friends when they find themselves in a pre-trial detention center. Yet, a prisoner can be transferred to another pre-trial detention facility and leave some of his belongings in the cell for others. Or, for example, a person was arrested in the spring, and then summer came and it got hot and he needed summer clothes.

**GR:** Most of them are accused of "Spreading fake information about the use of Russian armed forces". What exactly does it mean? When was the law introduced, and what is the possible maximum sentence? How many people have been accused or arrested due to that law in Russia all together?

**ABC:** This is not entirely true; there are a lot of cases under other articles as well. For example, there are 31 criminal cases under the criminal article "vandalism" (spraying inscriptions, desecration of buildings, defacement of public property), and 44 people are prosecuted. For such actions one can get up to three years in prison. There are charges under the article "terrorism" for arson of military registration and enlistment offices and other radical actions. On the whole, more than 200 criminal cases were initiated for anti-war protests in Russia (we think at least 250, since not all actions are considered as political actions by human rights NGO's - who have their own criteria). Among them are 73 criminal cases for "fakes". "Fakes" in Russia are the dissemination of any information about the actions of the Russian Armed Forces that differs from the official version.

A lot of accusations are made against journalists under these articles; now in Russia it is impossible to write about the war if your version differs even slightly from that of the Ministry of Defense of the Russian Federation and the Kremlin. Many medias have closed down, others are on the verge of disappearing. Penalties under the criminal article on fakes can be very wide. If it is an "ordinary fake," it can be a fine or up to three years in prison. But if there are aggravating circumstances, the prison term can be up to fifteen years. Under the article on "discrediting the army", the maximum term is five years in prison.

In early August a sentence was handed down to English teacher Irina Gen from Penza, who in March spoke very emotionally to children about the actions of the Russian army in Ukraine and the sanctions. The children were upset that they could not take part in international competitions, and Irina explained that the sanctions and bans were an inevitable consequence of the war. One of the children recorded her speech on her phone and told her parents, who took the matter further. Irina was forced to quit her job, the police instituted criminal proceedings, and as a result she was sentenced to 5 years probation and 3 years of trial period. That is, for the next 8 years she will live under the control of the police and will have to behave very carefully, so that the probation is not replaced by a real one.

In addition to criminal articles, there is an article "for discrediting the army" in the Code Of Administrative Offences Of The Russian Federation, which involves punishment as a fine of up to 100 thousand rubles (about 1.5 thousand euros) for ordinary citizens and more for those who hold some official position.

In last six months, about 3 500 protocols have been drawn up under this article. Not all of them have been considered in court yet, but if we look at those who have already been considered, we will see that in the overwhelming majority of cases the court does not conduct a judicial investigation, but passes judgment (fine) solely on the basis of the police officer's opinion. Very often posts, reposts and comments in social media that talk about any events in Ukraine are imputed. In fact, there are a huge number of such posts, and fines are just given randomly if some person or post attracts the attention of the police.

**GR:** Many people were arrested due to posts on social media, others for statements in public. A special case is that of Dmitriy Kurmoyadov. Can you say a few words about him?

**ABC:** Very little is known about this case. In June 2022, former priest of the Russian Orthodox Church Ioan (Dmitry) Kurmoyarov was sent to the pre-trial detention center on charges of false public statements about the actions of the Russian military (up to 10 years in prison). In December 2021, Kurmoyarov asked the Investigative Committee to bring Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu to justice for insulting the feelings of believers - this is how he interpreted the design of the Russian Defense Ministry temple. After that, he was stripped of his priestly rank. On the 24th of February the priest started to actively express his opinion against the war in Ukraine and distributed a video about Vladimir Putin and the Russian army. It is not yet known which of these videos was the reason for the criminal case.

A further example, there is another criminal case - Sergei Komandirov. In 2019, Karim Yamadaev, an oppositionist from Tatarstan, posted a video "Judge Gramm" on YouTube. It staged a trial of people with black sacks on their faces and nameplates with the names of prominent figures in Russia and state-owned companies: all of them were "given a death sentence." Yamadaev was accused of publicly calling for terrorist activities on the Internet and for insulting a representative of the authorities. He spent more than a year in pre-trial detention, but the court sentenced him to a fine.

Sergei Komandirov was a volunteer in the headquarters of Alexei Navalny, he was arrested and fined for handing out leaflets. In May 2021, Sergey made a repost of the video "Judge Gramm" in the social network "VKontakte" and offered to collect money to pay the fine of its author Karim Yamadaev. Six months later he was arrested and recently a court found him guilty of justifying terrorism for reposting this video and sentenced him to 6.5 years in prison. Therefore, in Russia it is currently impossible to predict what the consequences of this or that action will be. The court carries out orders to put this or that person in jail.

**GR:** A case quite well-known is that of feminist artist Aleksandra Skochilenko. What action is she accused of, and what is her actual situation about?

**ABC:** Skochilenko faces up to ten years in prison for replacing the price tags in the supermarket with leaflets. These leaflets contained information about the crimes of the Russian army in Mariupol (city in Ukraine). A criminal case was opened against Aleksandra under the article on fakes. It is harder and more dangerous for her to be in jail than most others, since she suffers from celiac disease, and it is impossible to follow a specific diet in prison. However, she has a very good support group and a lot of media attention, and we hope that she will be transferred to house arrest soon and will not get a real sentence.

**GR:** Some activists were arrested after anti-war assemblies in the spring, or after other actions against the Russian attack on Ukraine. Some of them are accused of "preparation of hooliganism" or even of "terrorism". Has there already been trials, or are they still in investigative custody?

**ABC:** In most antiwar cases, the investigation and the courts are still ongoing, in Russia it usually takes at least 3 months to investigate, 1 month for the prosecutor to check the case, and then it goes to court. And the judge or lawyers can go on vacation in the summer, and then the hearings are stretched out for several months. Crimes under such articles of the criminal code as terrorism are investigated for 1.5 years and trials take half a year. Among other things, the accused is sent to a psychiatric examination and he is in a psychiatric hospital for a month, which in some ways is worse than pre-trial detention. The examinees are not allowed to wash themselves; this procedure is done by the orderlies, it is impossible to send a letter, etc.

So far there are about 15 sentences in anti-war cases. In some cases, we don't even know the outcome of the trial. Five sentences were handed down under the article "violence against a representative of authority," this is for resisting police during protests or while getting detained, including those who glued leaflets or put graffiti on walls. Four people received 1 to 2 years in prison and one person received a probation. For example, the court sentenced 22-year-old Anastasia Levasheva, who threw a Molotov cocktail toward the police, to two years in prison.

Six sentences were handed down for "fakes": one fine of 1 million rubles (14.3 thousand euros), two probations, two sentences of correctional labor, and one 7-year prison sentence. The last one (7 years) was given to Alexei Gorinov, a municipal deputy from Moscow, for "fakes about the armed forces using his official position". Russian authorities are very nervous about the "fifth column" (traitors) in their ranks. A deputy at the municipal level has no real power in Russia, but his opinion it is not just the opinion of a simple worker. He is seen as a representative of the authorities. According to the investigation, the crime was committed by prior conspiracy, with the use of his official position and for reasons of hatred and enmity. What was the crime? During the meeting of the deputies, Gorinov called Russia's invasion of Ukraine a war, not a "special military operation," and reported that children were dying in Ukraine.

**GR:** How are the prison conditions for anti-war activists?

**ABC:** Conditions for anti-war activists in prisons are the same as for other prisoners, that is, not very good. The cells do not always have sleeping places for all prisoners, they are not taken out for regular walks, the food is poor, and it is very dangerous to get sick, because the quality of medical care is very low. When there was an upsurge of covid disease, if one person in a cell got sick, they stopped taking the whole cell out—they just passed food through the window and did not give any medication, there were no vaccinations for prisoners either.

**GR:** How do you support them? And how is it possible to support your work?

**ABC:** We provide support to prisoners and defendants on anti-war actions, depending on what their needs are and what their support situation is from family and friends. We can fully or partially pay for a lawyer, packages with food and clothing, send books, write letters and attend court hearings so that the person understands that they are not alone.

For example, in June we started helping Irina Bystrova, a 57-year-old art teacher from Petrozavodsk. At the very beginning of the war, she published calls on the social network Vkontakte for Russian soldiers to turn their weapons against the Kremlin and called the actions of the Russian army “criminal”. In March, she was charged with “justifying terrorism” and spreading “fakes” about the Russian army. Irina was not arrested, but she got a “ban on certain activities” (she cannot use the Internet and communicate with anyone except relatives and a lawyer) and she lost the opportunity to teach. We collected money to help Irina hire a nurse for her 84-year-old mother while she will be in a psychiatric hospital for an evaluation.

To help, you can write letters to prisoners (prisons only allow letters in Russian and please do not write anything about the war in Ukraine or calls for radical action). You can also send a letter to **abc-msk@riseup.net**, and we will print it out and send it to you.

We need financial help for food parcels and lawyers. Unfortunately, lawyers in Russia do not work pro bono and charge quite a lot for their work.

**Paypal:** abc-msk@riseup.net | **Etherium:** 0xe8438E88226FA15Df11FA55E68e5092194818615

**Monero:**

492K8eQY7zHA1pWnHJnrmN9FnesxNpgsxN5kXhyuEwn7T8TRnxnLHVG3ErsituEEYQgxWNH2j1kYrQbjeRNF42vqJgQCX9x

**Dash:** XjtYQsqXjnuQxp1HAj3iJtqubukvNsSZex | **Zcash:** t1RFKaTs4yvU7PeTKeEBJwh3YrcE8mN33up

**Bitcoin:** bc1qhu02jedtulqw5tw8nnktf6d0ujn8dyx3gk556e

## 12 Sept - The Universe is Chaotic, But We Can Survive

*We've been very fortunate of late to publish writings by Dan Baker and are glad to be able to share some of his latest below.*

### **MORE:**

This is an update followed by an essay on my current views, shaped by my convictions and circumstances. I am currently about halfway through my sentence, with 16 months left based on the current calculation of my First Step Act credits, which is only 60 days off my furthest statutory release date. But in reality, I have earned over 315 FSA credit days of my release date, and I am entitled to 6-12 months of halfway house time, in addition to my good behavior credit time, and points for participating in FSA programs. These points have not been credited towards my release on paper or in the computer despite my repeated efforts to request the administration to remedy this “oversight.” So, I am exhausting the grievance process to this end, and when I have done this, I will file a Habeas petition and sue the BoP for false imprisonment. If I was given the FSA and other time off my sentence, which I have earned and am legally entitled to pursuant to various laws, I would already be out of prison. This is a separate effort from my appeals which are later this month.

Lately I've been struggling to define my core beliefs, as of this moment. As I continue to grow and evolve my ideas change with my situation, limitations placed on me by forces beyond my control, and my exposure to new ideas. Please dialogue with me by offering criticism and your own contribution to this conversation. I offer the self-criticism that I am not strong enough to totally resist this system and I am forced to compromise with them by modifying my behavior and beliefs in order to be able to survive and continue to struggle in a less effective form. I also offer the self-criticisms that I contradict myself and I'm unconsciously influenced by colonialism, hierarchy and the privileges that come with being a white male in this racist and patriarchal country. The ideas I put forth here are heavily influenced by Buddhist metaphysics because this framework will be effective for keeping me out of prison and for myself development, which will help me and those who interact with me to keep the moral high ground in the eyes of the world. I do not believe that Buddhist nonviolence is the most effective method for bringing about liberation for all beings, but I am forced to resort to this strategy due to the harsh violence of the United States government, which threatens to kill, kidnap and otherwise oppress people who struggle for the rights of the poor, the minorities, the marginalized, women and so-called foreigners. I'm heavily influenced by Abdullah Ocalan, Mikhail Bakunin, Emma Goldman, Voltairine DeCleyre, Peter Kropotkin, Margaret Atwood, Murray Bookchin, Errico Malatesta, Malcom X, Gandhi, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Siddhartha Gautama (Buddha), Frederick Douglas, Patanjali, Lao Tzu, Khalil Gibran, Angela Davis, Karl Marx, Robert Greene, Walt Whitman and many other great minds who, while I may not agree with all of their ideas and actions, have shaped my current world view.

**ALL GOVERNMENTS OF CURRENTLY EXISTING NATION STATES ARE BASED ON VIOLENCE, SLAVERY AND HIERARCHY.** This can be visualized as scattered pyramids and ziggurats surrounded by walled cities, guarded by police and soldiers at borders. They protect the ruling class of wealthy business men, priests and politicians from the perennial rage of the 'insubordinates,' the working class. Serfdom replaced slavery and wage slavery replaced serfdom.

**WAGES ARE SLAVERY.** Even the salaried 'bosses' are ripped off, as they are on call to come to work at all hours, and expected to work more than the forty hours a week that is expected of wage slaves. In the end their 'salary' is worth less by the hour than the hourly wage slave.

**ALL SLAVERY IS BASED ON HOUSEWIVISATION.** The enslavement of women paved the way to the enslavement of men. No revolution will succeed unless it is primarily a women's revolution.

**THE HOUSEWIVISATION OF MEN AND WOMEN IS BASED ON ANIMAL HUSBANDRY.** The captivity of animals in slaughterhouses led to the captivity and slaughter of city state populations. Hunting animals is still the most common form of preparing for the cannibalistic hunt of human beings that is modern policing, the capturing of slaves by slave catchers, the police, and modern warfare, the ritualistic sacrificing of the working class by the ruling class to the gods of profit and selfish ambition. In ancient time the aging hunter enclosed free lands to herd sheep and cattle for slaughter, and in doing so the older man systematically practiced the origins of hierarchy, rape as a form of breeding for selected traits, private property, patriarchy and authoritarian government. Animal husbandry and housewivisation planted the seeds for walled cities, state violence, laws which are violently enforced to protect hoarded property, which is the products of the labor of the working class, and wars for these good, herds, working populations, the women who are abused and the so-called gods and religions to justify all this murder and domination.

The laws and violence of all currently existing nation states are based on the ideas indoctrinated by stone age religions, namely that their god finds people to be fundamentally evil and in need of rulers. This is so much nonsense, like many other stone age myths. The priests of these religions, from the Abrahamic to the Hindu, reinforce the idea of 'original sin', patriarchy and 'holy' wars. Police may pretend to separate church and state, but in practice, and especially behind closed doors, they use mythology, whether sincerely or unscrupulously engaged in, to justify force, the threat of force, slavery and the subjugation of women and slaves with verses from the Bible, the Talmud, the Koran and the Bhagavad Gita, among others works of mythological mental gymnastics.

This system, despite being refuted by modern science, is kept in power by overt murder but also by the sword of hunger.

**POVERTY IS VIOLENCE** and many are “converted” to white Christian nationalistic capitalism at the point of the sword of hunger. What many prisoners, addicts and unemployed homeless masses view as their ‘rock bottom’ is really only the intentional practice of keeping wages down by threatening workers with captivity, starvation, slow, painful death and humiliation. This is how governments of modern nation states legitimize their rule, their hierarchy, their ‘forever’ wars, and in the process convince the downtrodden workers to blame themselves for the suffering intentionally inflicted on them. These exhausted workers are forced to work themselves to sickness and death, resulting in dependence on the drugs which are sold to them by police and state regulated officials, drugs which were ‘confiscated’ from the manufacturers that the nation state conveniently overlooked. The performance of hard-working drug addicts is a miracle of human performance at best, and at worst a sad example of the lengths people push themselves to when they finally fail to perform at their tasks and their bodies break down under the strain.

**PEOPLE ARE NOT NATURALLY EVIL. HUMAN NATURE IS GOOD AND COMMUNAL.**

Humans are a phenomenon of social evolution, growing together in a rich and complex community of cooperative people. It is in our nature and our best interest to work together, and for the most part we do. We are an emotionally intelligent species and we are at our best in groups that make decisions by communicating on many levels, to meet the needs of everyone in the group. As a result of this social behavior, we have developed and incredibly refined sense of ethics and compassion that predates religion. All perceived evils in co called ‘criminals’ are the results of the failures of a sick ‘civilization’ that is rooted in the core of its victims: slavery, domination, profit and exploitation. Capitalism is inherently based on the selfish attachment of the wealthy to their ill-gotten gains. There is a reason that vampires are portrayed as wealthy blood suckers with sick and sadistic perversions born of their spoiled lifestyles. When people in desperate poverty lash out to survive, that is not crime, it is self-defense, which is a universal right. Nature has decreed that whoever will not defend themselves will not be defended, and will go extinct if not protected. People’s very existence is criminalized by the constant creation of new laws and the bloated budgets of racist, classist, sexist and morally corrupt police and militaries who justify their existence at others expense. Society, under the overbearing domination of ‘civilization’s domestication’, has created its criminals to justify the rule of the wealthy politicians, priests and blood sucking capitalists. This can be seen in the way the U\$. government taught the Nazi party how to abuse a minority with the example of Amerikkkan slave plantations and the prison and military industrial complexes. Today we can still see this ‘culture’ of corrupt cops flooding prisons and poor neighborhoods with the drugs they ‘confiscated’ from smugglers, manufacturers and growers, the same ‘Christian’ police and politicians who outlaw prostitution and at the same time demand sexual services from sex workers (cops and politicians are sex worker’s best customers, especially in prisons). Racist border patrols descended from the slave catching patrols of the original Amerikkkan police. This can also be seen in other countries who emulate Amerikkkan policy, like Turkey, as they abuse Kurdish and Syrian refugees at their borders while playing both sides of the conflict south of their border, a lesson learned from the U\$.

So much suffering is caused by state violence, but suffering can cease. Since all current governments are founded on violence, and the misguided philosophy of original sin, we must reject that system and build a better way towards the end of this suffering. We must create the conditions for a better world.

**PARTICIPATION IN CURRENTLY EXISTING NATION STATES IS VIOLENCE.** As conscientious people we can put an end to so much suffering by refusing to participate in state violence and government hierarchy. Knowing that all kind hearted people reject state violence, we can see that all who choose to benefit from government oppression are consciously participating in violence for selfish reasons or have been brainwashed with religion and patriotic propaganda. These ideas must be confronted by our own ideals, a consciously cultivated propaganda of utopia and liberation for all beings, which leaves room for a continuously evolving form of social structure based on results and ethics. This requires hard work, self-criticism, giving and receiving criticism as a community, and the application of wisdom and

compassion with direct action, all on a daily basis. Suffering is caused by the attachment of the ruling classes to their wealth, power and illusions of security. Suffering can end by cultivating compassion, wisdom and detachment from excess through the equal distribution of resources to all beings. To do this nations and borders must cease to exist. A non-violent 'war' of direct action against oppression is a moral obligation for all of humanity, in the style of Gandhi's resistance to British colonialism. The goal of a free life cannot be based on a violent act of domination, and for this reason we will only be free of the sins of our fathers when the temporary government of United States of Amerikkka, land of the free and home of the slave, has collapsed under the weight of its own decadence and been replaced by more enlightened standards. All nation states go through life cycles. Everything is temporary. All we have to do is wait for the inevitable, and in the meantime build the infrastructure for the forms of equitable self-management that we would like to see in our lifetime. within the dying husk of the old-world order.

Rejecting modern capitalist nation states requires us to create alternative structures- nonviolent communes and structures for community decision making, communities. This can be modeled after Rojava's Democratic Confederalism, which is a global union of villages, towns and cities who manage their own affairs without having to pay taxes to a capital. Daily, weekly and monthly meetings are attended and engaged in by all members of the community for decision making, voting, proposing ideas and projects, updating the commune on progress or setbacks, and offering and accepting criticisms and self-criticism- and receiving criticisms with acceptance and an effort to adjust to the needs and expectations of the community. These structures work, and are working in Rojava and worldwide. They must be protected by self-defense structures like the People's Protection Unit. These models can be created within capitalist nations, and can operate autonomously and nonviolently, as long as the rights of the people of the autonomous zones are respected by the state governments.

By only being forces of growth, of agriculture, healthcare, housing, transportation and cultural freedom, this structure can peacefully grow with the capitalist wasteland, in the same way that jungles and forests reclaim abandoned shopping malls and the ruins of ancient temples, and bamboo, numerous, fast and flexible, pushes up concrete foundation. But as we all know; the forces of capitalism will not go quietly. Power structures of slavery and oppression will never give up their power, privileges and decadent luxuries without a struggle. They never have and they never will. So, structures of self-defense against police brutality must be willing, and able, to defend the workers, and win. This can never be an expansionist force, but it also should not build fortresses to protect itself, in which it would be trapped and sieged and starved out. Barricades give the forces of oppression a hard target to attack. Evolution has shown us that mobility and speed is favored and armor and size tend toward extinction. These ideals put forth here are heavily censored due to harsh state oppression, imprisonment, violence, displacement and threat of further violence, but at the same time they do reflect an ideal of ethics and morality based on the cultivation of compassion, wisdom and non-attachment. Compassion can be cultivated by practicing non-violence, being vegan or vegetarian, providing medical care for people and animals, growing plants and rescuing those in danger or need of help, and by considering that all being fear death and want to live, so we should view all with love, respect and the idea that we all come from one consciousness and ground of being that we will all return to when we die. Detachment can be cultivated by reflecting on the temporary nature of all things- countries, building, religions, politics, and our own bodies. By meditating on inevitable death and relating to the temporary suffering of others we become kind hearted, equal towards all, and determined to achieve liberation for all beings in this lifetime. Death is coming, and we are so unprepared. We only have a little time to make progress, so we must act daily, with a sense of urgency. The enemies of humanity, the wealthy rulers of capitalist oligarchies and nation states, the privileged politicians and dictators and 'bosses', these enemies are training daily to destroy our movement and secure their position over us. In doing so they will doom humanity to die with our sun when it inevitably goes supernova or burns out. Like climate change, which can be called climate genocide, this is a reality we must face. We can only overcome this hurdle rationally, with wisdom and compassion, so that our species will survive.

We must make long term plans of resistance, not one, five or ten year plans, but one hundred, five hundred and one thousand year plans, which are not driven by selfish ambition or greed. Anarchism is an ideology that offers flexibility with the built-in capacity to change with time to meet the needs of the moment. This

world is on fire and the universe is a chaotic place- life is a miracle in the face of extreme temperatures and cosmic forces like gravity which we are beginning to comprehend and ride like waves across space. As we learn to surf the waves of energy that we emerged from we ascribe meaning to the struggle that is our lives.

**TO LIVE IS TO STRUGGLE.** Even reproduction is a form of self-defense. By thinking long-term we can see the wisdom of rejecting inherited wealth which spoils generating and creates class divisions. With an impartial perspective we can plan for humanities' migration to a younger solar system before our star dies. We need to start building the ships, and the political and social structures that will protect the rights of the workers who will build, drive and maintain the transports to the moon, mars, the asteroid belt, the moons around gas giants like Europa, Titan and beyond our solar system. The families of the workers who build humanity's arks will be subject to the whims of large companies and governments. Imagine Elon Musk's robot-named child heir making decisions about whether to cut off the air, food or medicines to people who are on strike due to poor working conditions on space stations owned by Tesla, where all space shipments are owned by Jeff Bezos, the only company stores on the space stations and colonies are Walmart and the U.N. navy space marines are trained to view all deep space workers as terrorists. Hopefully humanity can get that far, to face such problems. In order to prevent future massacres, we need to form an 'Outer Planets Alliance' now, a union to protect space miners and their families. We need to work for a unified humanity that is not at war with itself, but struggles together to survive the natural disasters we will inevitably encounter on larger and larger scales.

The universe is chaotic, but we can survive. Anarchy is the natural state of our galaxy. We do not fear anarchy, we invoke it. We evolved from chaos and anarchy, and we will return to it. We adapt to our environment and live in harmony with constant change, with pose and counter pose to balance our fragile existence. Anarchy is the unrestricted manifestation of free people. Anarchism is direct democracy, communal living in tune with nature, not hierarchical, but horizontal, and circular. We reject borders, dynasties, heirs, monarchies, dictatorships, representative republics, religious theocracies and modern capitalist states. We will create our own 'Starfleet federation' based on our experience building democratic confederalism, based on radical equality, direct democracy, social ecology, feminism, ethical morality and freedom. Our goal is one global community of united peoples with high quality healthcare, focused on meaningful longevity, with physical, mental, emotional and social well-being and intelligence, working as one to survive long enough to migrate to planets with young suns, on a generational social plan which prioritized survival of humanity and an idealistic quality of life in the face of the reality of the temporary life cycles of suns and the difficulty of finding habitable planets like Earth and Kepler.

Obstacles to these goals amount to an insane, selfish obsession with mythology, progeny, blind ambition and bureaucratic patriotism, which could doom us all to a nuclear holocaust well before our sun expires. We have evolved beyond the need for myths. We can defeat these forces of regression with clever and skillful means in the style of Gandhi and the Earth and Animal liberation movements. Soldiers going AWOL (I did); civilians abandoning violent power structures; activists monkey wrenching; strikes; refusing to work at all until society evolves a conscience; using only cash and gift economy, or cryptocurrency; rejecting all debts; erasing and destroying records; defunding police and militaries globally; guerrilla gardening and farming on public lands or any available space for public food forests; building medical infrastructure within your community; creating transportation structures within your neighborhoods; redistributing resources to enslaved and marginalized peoples; providing universal healthcare, universal basic income, housing, work, and education programs, especially for the space program for all working people, not just the rich and ultra-rich who can afford joy rides. Many necessary strategies and tactics cannot be discussed here openly under the observation of racist, dogmatic zealots who adhere to political power structures based on stone age mythologies. Do not expect the imprisoned veterans of liberation movements to fight your battles for you. You, yourself are the hope for the future. You must be practical and do the impossible. Find meaning in helping and living with others and stand up for what you believe in. Listen to your heart and take action on what you find there. Hope is as hollow as fear, but to indulge in hope is a joyful exercise. These two opposites, hope for your own fulfillment and humanities' future and fear of our failure, are like two wings that lift us up. We have a duty to fight for our freedom; we have a duty to win! We must love and support one another! We have nothing to lose but our chains!

This is all a voluntary venture – none of this can be forced on anyone. It is only a recommendation – much like a parachute is only a recommendation when the plane is burning as it falls from the sky. This world is on fire. We can all hang on to each other or we can hang separately.

To accomplish these goals requires global solidarity. With education, daily direct action and a common goal uniting humanity we can come together and survive in a meaningful and fulfilling way. It is not enough to live miserable lives of pain and preventable hardship, illness, disease, injury and silent desperation. We demand more from those who attempt to rule over us, not that they grant us privileges, but that they get out of the way of the progress of all of humanity towards our highest potentials. We will carry on with dignity, meaning, health and wellbeing. Please join us in coming together for all of our own best interests. If any of this statement falls short it is only my own fault for not working harder to convey these ideas in a clear structured way. I am trying to do my best with limited resources, writing from federal prison. Please offer me criticisms, questions and your own input. Take these ideas and make them your own, use them for your own specific circumstances. May all beings be happy and free!

### **16 Sept - In Georgia, hundreds charged with crimes have no legal representation**

*The state public defender system's inability to hire and retain so-called "conflict" lawyers has hundreds of people charged with crimes across Georgia with no one to represent them.*

#### **MORE:**

by Bill Rankin (*The Atlanta Journal-Constitution*)

Judges and defense attorneys attribute much of the problem to the paltry fees the Georgia Public Defender Council pays these lawyers: \$950 to defend an aggravated assault case, \$1,850 to defend aggravated child molestation and rape cases and \$3,650 for murder cases. If any of those cases go to trial, the lawyer is paid an additional \$1,000.

"No lawyer in the world is going to take that," said Howard Simms, chief Superior Court judge of the three-county Macon Judicial Circuit. "Lawyers would be losing money with those fees."

Simms added, "This is a huge problem. We've got a lot of people sitting in jail and people who are not in jail without lawyers."

Fulton County Chief Superior Court Judge Christopher Brasher agreed.

"This is not a great time to be finding low-cost lawyers," he said. "This is a crisis statewide."

The Georgia Public Defender Council's fee schedule is under review, GPDC spokesman Thomas O'Connor said, and the council expects to release a revised version with higher payments later this year.

The problem has arisen in cases with multiple defendants who cannot afford their own lawyers. In 1963, in the case of *Gideon v. Wainwright*, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled the state must provide lawyers to indigent defendants because having counsel is a fundamental right and essential to a fair trial.

In multi-defendant cases, the local public defender office will represent one defendant but no other co-defendant due to a conflict of interest. Some circuits have separate offices for conflict lawyers to represent a second defendant.

This leaves it up to the GPDC to appoint private attorneys to represent the rest of the co-defendants. These conflict - or "C-3" - attorneys must sign contracts agreeing to accept the fees offered by the state office.

The GPDC's executive director, Omotayo Alli, said in an Aug. 25 letter to Superior Court judges in Atlanta and Augusta that her office has created a "specialized third-tier program" with lawyers to take on

unrepresented defendants statewide. She also cited a number of reasons why there has been a significant increase in the number of defendants needing conflict lawyers. Among them:

- Large increases in racketeering and gang-related indictments with dozens of indigent defendants.
- Ongoing disruptions in the labor market that hinder attorney-recruiting efforts.
- Increases in the numbers of cases where indigent clients have been charged but not indicted.
- Growing numbers of arrested or detained defendants who have yet to apply for public defender services.

Alli did not cite the low level of pay for lawyers taking conflict cases as a reason for the increased numbers of unrepresented clients.

"The agency continues to refine and adjust its processes to ensure our capacity is commensurate with the demand for services," Alli wrote. "Our responsibility to our clients is paramount, the guiding star that informs all our efforts."

The Southern Center for Human Rights, relying on information gleaned from Open Records Act requests, estimates there are at least 620 people charged with crimes in Georgia without lawyers. Many of the defendants have been sitting in jails for months awaiting bond and arraignment hearings because they don't have lawyers to represent them.

As it now stands, GPDC is failing to meet its most basic obligation: providing effective counsel to people who cannot afford a lawyer, Southern Center lawyer Vanessa Carroll said.

"It is unacceptable that in 2022 ... there are hundreds of people languishing in Georgia jails away from their families, homes and jobs — for months or years at a time — without a lawyer," Carroll said. "When your liberty is on the line, your access to a lawyer should not be reduced to a game of chance."

She added, "We are calling on GPDC to take immediate action to recruit and adequately compensate qualified lawyers to end this constitutional crisis."

Last month, Carroll and colleague Christina Wilson Remlin sent a letter to Alli, urging her to take action. They noted there were dozens named in a massive Richmond County racketeering indictment still waiting to be assigned lawyers more than a year after their arrests in July 2021.

The Southern Center lawyers referred to a number of successful lawsuits that have been filed in past years against the state to ensure people charged with crimes are given adequate legal representation. And they asked Alli to let them know when she was available for a meeting "to discuss a resolution."

Alli never responded, Carroll said. When asked by *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution* in an email why Alli wouldn't meet with the Southern Center lawyers, O'Connor did not give a reply.

GPDC has increased payments to lawyers it hires on a monthly basis, O'Connor said. The Georgia Legislature over the past two years has increased funding for the system's lawyers, and funding for attorneys is a regular part of the agency's budget requests, he said.

Hiring lawyers on a contract basis can lead to disincentives for them to do good work, said Marietta attorney Ashleigh Merchant, executive vice president of the Georgia Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers.

"You have a motivation to do more work for your client when you're paid hourly because you know you're being compensated for the time you put in," she said. "But you're less motivated to put the time in when you're paid a flat fee. The less you do the more money you get paid an hour."

There are some child molestation cases that are "incredibly intense and extremely time-consuming," said Simms, the chief judge from Macon. "There's nobody in their right mind who'd do that for \$1,850."

With the state defender council unable to provide conflict lawyers, Fulton County is about to take matters into its own hands, Brasher said. The court's administrative office will soon begin hiring its own conflict lawyers using some of the America Rescue Plan Act funds the county received to recover from the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The county will pay these conflict attorneys on an hourly basis, Brasher said. He noted that to attract private attorneys, the county is paying higher hourly rates than other metro counties that pay their appointed lawyers hourly fees.

"This is a difficult time and we're trying to make this work," Brasher said. "Will this completely address the problem? No. But it's a start."

### **17 Sept - Illustrated Guide Version 15.6 Uploaded!**

*We've finished the latest version of the NYC ABC "Illustrated Guide to Political Prisoners and Prisoners of War" and it's available for viewing (and download) by clicking on the link at [nycabc.wordpress.com/2022/09/19/guide\\_15\\_6](https://nycabc.wordpress.com/2022/09/19/guide_15_6). This update includes updated mini-bios, photos, and address changes for several prisoners.*

### **25 Sept - MACC Organizing Assembly**

**WHAT:** Organizing Assembly

**WHEN:** 2:00pm, Sunday, September 25<sup>th</sup>

**WHERE:** Tompkins Square Park, East 10<sup>th</sup> Street, NYC

**COST:** FREE

#### **MORE:**

The Metropolitan Anarchist Coordinating Council (MACC) is hosting an in-person Organizing Assembly.

Organizing Assemblies differ from Care Assemblies in that we encourage people already involved in some way (this can be even participating some time ago, in a working group, assemblies, et cetera) to join. We don't have an orientation at these assemblies and we prefer brand new folks come to the Care Assemblies. We deal with monthly business and major decision making at these OAs.

We encourage everyone to participate with ideas about what they would like to see for future campaigns or actions and what direction they'd like MACC to take to build a more powerful, militant anarchist movement. For more information visit [macc.nyc](https://macc.nyc) or contact us at [info@macc.nyc](mailto:info@macc.nyc)

MACC's safer spaces policy is available here: [macc.nyc/safer-spaces](https://macc.nyc/safer-spaces)

Accessibility statement: We can coordinate in advance using the accessibility question on this RSVP, the email [maccmutualaid@protonmail.com](mailto:maccmutualaid@protonmail.com), or at the beginning of the meeting we will do a check-in and we encourage anyone who is comfortable doing so to use that time to whatever extent is desirable to them to share or request anything that will help them to experience a greater level of comfort and/or ability to engage fully in the event.

### **23 Sept - #HALTsolitary Rally & Hearing**

**WHAT:** Rally

**WHEN:** 9:00am, Friday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>

**WHERE:** Broadway and Murray Street, NYC

**COST:** FREE

**MORE:**

This week, NYC Council Speaker Adrienne Adams joined a supermajority of her colleagues to sign on as a cosponsor of Int. No. 549, called for the bill's passage, and announced a hearing on the bill on Friday, September 23, starting at 10 am. We hope you will join a rally at City Hall at 9 am, and then testify at the hearing.

**WE NEED YOU TO TESTIFY:** to urge that the Council pass, and the Mayor, sign this bill into law immediately. Please register to testify at [council.nyc.gov/testify](https://council.nyc.gov/testify) and please testify in person at City Hall if you are able. You can also testify via zoom. We particularly encourage anyone who has lived through solitary, or had a family member in solitary, to testify. Please see these key facts to include in your testimony. Please also let us know if you will be attending the 9 am rally and/or testifying at the hearing at [bit.ly/EndSolitarySept23](https://bit.ly/EndSolitarySept23). (you also still have to register to testify at the link above; we're asking you to sign up in both places).

**PLEASE ALSO RALLY BEFORE THE HEARING:** Before the hearing, please join a rally at 9 am at City Hall to end solitary confinement. We want as strong a presence as possible at the rally and at the hearing - please join us and spread the word!

**25 Sept - Defend the Atlanta Forest Tour**

**WHAT:** Presentation/Discussion

**WHEN:** 5:00pm, Sunday, September 25<sup>th</sup>

**WHERE:** Woodbine - 585 Woodward Avenue, Brooklyn

**COST:** FREE

**MORE:**

Woodbine is hosting a discussion and dinner with organizers from the movement to Defend the Atlanta Forest. Join us for an in-depth overview and conversation with on-the-ground activists involved in the historic struggle to Stop Cop City. [defendtheatlantaforest.org](https://defendtheatlantaforest.org)