

8/8

Hi Nancy,

I spoke with Alice Lynd yesterday who is in contact with George Skatzes's sister and got the following update.

The Ohio death row prisoners have stopped their hunger strike (I don't have the exact date). A couple of the prisoners' blood sugar levels had dropped to a dangerously low point. Reportedly, the warden at Mansfield had requested permission to send the hunger strikers to the Corrections Medical Center in Columbus (per the department's own policy and which has been done with other hunger strikers we know) but that the director of the Department of Rehabilitation and Correction, Reginald Wilkinson, refused to OK the transfer. The hunger strikers then decided to call off the strike because of the anxiety being caused to their families. However, the underlying causes of the hunger strike have not been addressed. No changes have been made to the death row level system in place, and since resuming eating George Skatzes's health problems have been aggravated again. I think that follow-up calls and letters to the warden would still be helpful. I have still not received a reply to my letter in which I requested public records information about the policies in place on death row.

Hope you can wshare this with the rest of the network! Thanks!

Jana