

# INSIDE-OUTSIDE ALLIANCE RESOURCE GUIDE

## BOOKS and MAGAZINES for PRISONERS

### Durham Prison Books Collective

A non-profit organization that sends books to people inside women's prisons in North Carolina and to the Durham county jail by request. Durham Prison Books can send three books at a time, approximately once a month, in addition zines and this resource guide.

Durham Prison Books c/o Internationalist Books  
P.O. Box 1524, Durham, NC 27702

### PEN Prison Writing Program

The Prison Writing Program sponsors an annual writing contest, publishes a free handbook for prisoners, and provides one-on-one mentoring to inmates.

588 Broadway, Suite 303, New York, NY 10012  
(212) 334-1660 penmentor@gmail.com - pen.org

## Legal and Parole Resources

### ACLU of North Carolina

The American Civil Liberties Union takes on individual cases and provides referrals. They publish a quarterly journal and helpful booklets. Intake Department, ACLU of North Carolina PO Box 28004, Raleigh, NC 27611-8004

### Immigrant Legal Resource Center

Legal help and advocacy for immigrants. Works with INS detainees and imprisoned immigrants.

Se habla español. Immigrant Legal Resource Center, 1016 16th Street, NW, Suite 100, Washington, DC 20036 - <http://www.ilrc.org/>

### Lewisburg Prison Project

Publishes several low-cost materials for prisoners, including Legal Bulletins, Federal Parole Guide, and Due Process standards. PO Box 128, Lewisburg, PA 17837 570-523-1104 [www.lewisburgprisonproject.org](http://www.lewisburgprisonproject.org)

National Center on Institutions and Alternatives  
Can help with preparing sentencing and parole recommendations; death penalty mitigating circumstances; jail suicide prevention. 7205 Rutherford Road, Baltimore, MD 21244 - 443-780-1300 - [info@ncianet.org](mailto:info@ncianet.org)

### National Lawyers Guild

A national organization of progressive and radical lawyers active around a wide range of issues which affect prisoners. They publish an excellent Jailhouse Lawyers handbook, free from: 132 Nassau Street, Rm. 922, New York, NY 10038 - 212-679-5100 - [www.nlg.org](http://www.nlg.org)

### North Carolina Prisoner Legal Services

A non-profit legal services firm to provide inmates meaningful access to the courts. Can determine whether there were legal errors made in convictions. PO Box 25397 Raleigh, NC 27611 Phone: 919-856-2200 [ncpls@ncpls.org](mailto:ncpls@ncpls.org) - <http://www.ncpls.org/>

### Prison Legal News

A monthly magazine with review & analysis of prisoner rights, court rulings and news concerning prison-related issues. \$3.50 sample issue/\$30 year subscription. Has catalog of legal books. Accepts books of new stamps as payment. PO Box 1151 Lake Worth, FL 33460 561-360-2523 [info@prisonlegalnews.org](mailto:info@prisonlegalnews.org)

### Prison Self-Help Legal Clinic

Supports prisoners' efforts at self-litigation with education resources. Provides services in Spanish and in English. Se habla español. One Newark Center, Seaton Hall University School of Law, Newark, NJ 07102 - [PSHLC@domain.com](mailto:PSHLC@domain.com) 888-415-7271

### Southern Center for Human Rights

Provides legal representation to people facing the death penalty, challenges human rights violations in prisons and jails, legal representation for poor people, and advocates for criminal justice system reforms. 83 Poplar St. Atlanta, GA 30303  
404-688-1202 - [www.schr.org](http://www.schr.org)

### NC Center on Actual Innocence

Investigates claims of innocence for NC felons with at least three years left in the sentence.  
PO Box 52446, Shannon Plaza Station, Durham, NC 27717-2446 - 919-489-3268 - [admin@nccai.org](mailto:admin@nccai.org) - <http://nccai.org/>

# feedback

inside & outside, voices from the jail struggle

Durham, NC ~ October 2017 ~ volume 34

**"Whether you're locked up or not, you've still got power. They're trying to take it from you, but you've still got power."**

## 'They made me feel like they didn't care if I got hurt or not'

Assalamu Alaikum,

Hello sister, How are you? Well to start off my name is ----- . A guy by the name of ----- wrote me, and I will write him also. But I've had your name and PO Box address for a while. I'm in on some serious charges but Insha Allah I make it home to my family safely. So, I'm actually writing to get a better understanding of the meaning of us writing to you guys and by chance if I go to prison will you continue to write me? Also, well as for the stay or my jail experience this time around I have only been in here since June 20, 2017, and it's been horrible. I was in a pod 4D that's full of young guys with high bonds such as murder, robberies, you know things of that nature. But to start off my bond is \$1,030,000. That's right, a million, thirty thousand. There are people in here who have killed people and their bond is not as high as mine. Okay, back to the pod 4d: there was an incident where my life was threatened. So, like any sane person would do, I went to the detention officer and let him know I felt my life was in danger. Okay, this is what they do: packed up my belongings and locked me in a cell by myself, still in the pod, to humiliate me, and then tell the inmates I'm being reclassified. So, now, 1) I'm labeled, 2) I'm locked back. This is the punishment for any disciplinary write-up an inmate gets. Now, mind you, I've done nothing wrong. I'm: 1) locked back, 2) have been exposed as trying to check off, and to top it off they give me the cold half-size portion of food they give to those in the hole or locked back (disciplinary). When I asked the CO Parker, why am I being treated as if I'm on disciplinary, he told me in a loud and harsh tone: stop complaining.

They made me feel like they didn't care if I got hurt or not. But because I needed to move they were going to humiliate me first. So, am I responding the way I'm supposed to. And again, please, EVERYTHING I ever write you is truth my sister. I would not lie. But write me back ASAP. And disclose how I can help you, help me.

Assalam u Alaikum

-SP

## “You know what I told him? that he would never understand”

Hi Miss L\_\_\_\_, and thanks for writing me. Yes, I would love to receive some free books. And thanks for protesting on us inmates' behalf, you guys are angels on earth. Well things in here at the Durham Co. Jail are still the same, we still have old water in our food-trays, the toilet pipes are rusty and mess-up, back-up you name it! It is so bad in here, I kind of see why some inmates commit suicide. I'm not. Now some inmates come inside off the streets on heroin and they are real Dope-sick and bein' Dope-sick is a real ass-kicker - your body hurts all over, you can't eat, cold sweats at night, also you shit on yourself everyday until you get your strength back, and you can only eat sweets to function.

There are people that are seriously hurt and fucked up in the head right now in Durham Co. Jail that need the proper medical attention. Like my friend C\_\_\_\_ - his spine is is jacked up, some nerves or something, and he needs to be in the medical ward and they won't let him go to it.

Now these guys that are Dope sick still move around, jump up and down, but my friend C\_\_\_\_ has a serious injury but they rather put the dope sick guy in the medical ward just because he shitting on himself. Man that's crazy.

And another thing I don't have anything about Mexicans - we are all equal in God's eyes, not man. Like when the church people come and fellowship with us

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### **What is Feedback?**

**Feedback** is a publication of Inside-Outside Alliance (IOA), a group of people trying to support the struggles of those inside (or formerly inside) the Durham jail, and their families and friends. We recognize that any of us can be outside one day, inside the next – the revolving door of incarceration. We also participate in struggles against police harassment and brutality. IOA maintains a website called Amplify Voices Inside ([amplifyvoices.com](http://amplifyvoices.com)) that publishes the words of Durham jail inmates and former inmates talking about conditions inside and outside and how they see the world.

The name Amplify Voices Inside comes from something a brave and rebellious inmate wrote in the fall of 2012. This publication, Feedback, is a sampling of recent contents of the website. When something amplified is redirected at the source of the sound, the effect is called feedback. That is what this is: the voices that have been amplified to the outside world being re-broadcast inside the walls of the jail. Feedback is also distributed on the outside and sometimes includes 'outside' voices. Unless a person requests use of their real name, then writers' initials have been changed to protect identities and minimize repressive attacks and harassment.

**To contribute words or art, write to: IOA, PO Box 1353, Durham, NC 27701.**

You may be able to reach us by phone at 919.666.7854

Or, if you are not in jail and are able to, send an email: [insideoutsidealliance@gmail.com](mailto:insideoutsidealliance@gmail.com)

**\* Se habla español. \***

## **NEWS FROM OUTSIDE (continued from page 6)**

Meanwhile, a group of business leaders met at the Greater Durham Chamber of Commerce to discuss their growing concerns that recent demonstrations are having a negative impact on the city.

### **Court hearing**

People started to gather outside the Durham County courthouse around 8 a.m. Tuesday, many wearing black T-shirts and hats that said “Do it like Durham.”

At a 9 a.m. court hearing, nine of the 11 people charged with felonies and misdemeanors made a second court appearance. Their attorney Scott Holmes was unable to attend, and their next court date was set for Nov. 14.

“No Trump! No KKK! No racists USA!” they chanted as they left the courthouse.

“We all are more free thanks to the action that we took on Aug. 14,” Thompson said as the crowd gathered in a light rain. “And we know that struggle is not an event. It's a lifetime commitment.”

Thompson, a member of the Workers World Party, a socialist group, has been hailed by some since demonstrators brought down the Durham statue in response to violent clashes between white nationalists and counterprotesters in Charlottesville, Virginia.

Most of the roughly 100 people Tuesday were from Durham, but some came from as far as Baltimore, Philadelphia, New York and New Orleans.

Mike Wilson, 60, who drove from Philadelphia, said he is member of the Workers World Party and a black man who is insulted by the Confederate statues that dot the country.

People call them monuments, but in reality they are oppressive symbols put up by men who wanted to hold their foot on the necks of people of color, he said.

...



**A month after toppling statue, protesters continue anti-racist message in Durham**

Durham Herald-Sun - Sept. 13, 2017

BY VIRGINIA BRIDGES AND ZACHERY EANES

People recognize Takiyah Thompson since she climbed a ladder, slipped a yellow strap around a Confederate statue and helped topple it from in front of the old Durham County courthouse.

Some have thanked her. Others have threatened her.

“What I did and what the people of Durham did has really pushed history forward in the face of racism, in the face of repression and in the face of people who are emboldened by racist symbols,” said Thompson, a student at N.C. Central University who turns 23 Wednesday.

On Tuesday, Thompson and others took to downtown streets again. They called for the charges to be dropped against those arrested after recent protests. They called for toppling other Confederate statues as well as prisons, police departments and Immigration and Customs Enforcement, which they said all contribute to systemic racism.

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inmates, us black inmates’ time gets cut short, but when the Mexican or Hispanic church people come to fellowship they are given more time. One guard tried to make me leave out the multipurpose room because there was Hispanic church people coming. The guard asked me “Do you know hispanics”, what does it matter. The people were here to bring God’s word and I was goin to hear it no matter what language it came from, so I lied and said yes.

And the whole time, which was a hour ½ and us black folk don’t get an hour. And when the Hispanic man was finish speaking the word of God in Spanish guess what he said to me in English: I can speak English and we talked for awhile.

When I left the room the black guard said to me, well he ask me: so did you learn something? You know what I told him, L\_\_\_\_\_? that he would never understand.

Thanks L\_\_\_\_\_ for listening to me

I’ll be out in \_\_\_\_\_

Please keep in contact with me.

Think of me Smiling

Think of me Healthy

Think of me Free

Even tho where I’m at

I’m still happy to be

Good old Me.

-S

**Two poems by Wallace Eubanks**

**Home I was Sent**

Death...Death...Oh why do you taunt me  
 Always in the back of my mind do you  
 haunt me  
 I hate your words that sound so sweet  
 All lies and in the end deceit  
 You claim many victims and you want me  
 the same  
 It’s not my time so stop calling my name  
 I’ll fight you with every beat of my heart  
 and every breath I take  
 For this life is not all mine and I’ll not give  
 for your sake  
 So when I’m gone and my time spent  
 Death did not take me...for it was home I  
 was sent

**Another Blade**

Painful memories haunt me daily  
 Even my heart seems to betray  
 me  
 Chained and bound screams  
 become a familiar sound  
 I miss how birds sing their morn-  
 ing song  
 Oh why must I sit behind these  
 walls so long  
 A pain in my chest burns like a  
 thousand sharp blades pushed  
 deep  
 I’m imprisoned even in my sleep  
 Freedom is the price I’ve paid  
 A thousand in my chest, so  
 what’s another blade

