

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-ligation 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 felonies 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 ~ December 2017 ~ volume 36

**"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 taking shoes again, which is some real bullshit"**

I'm doing ok, how are you doing? I hope this letter gets to you quickly and finds you in the best of health and spirits. How is the family doing? I hope all is well with you and your family. It's ok, I'm doing a lot better now. Just had to keep my faith and stay strong. Yeah, I can't let them break me down. Just got to hang on. Yes, they taking shoes again, which is some real bullshit! I feel the same way that pod by pod need to stand up and resist this garbage, but most are scared to stand up. Rec time is important and people can't be getting hurt because we have the wrong footwear. Trust me, I'm telling (people) all I can, but it would help if y'all call and write in about it, please.

Thanks for the info. I guess this is it until next time.

In struggle,

Tanna

**Bendera - a poem by King Fox**

Red  
 Black  
 And Green  
 Be Our Colors!  
 Red  
 Black  
 And Green  
 Be Our Colors!  
 Red for the blood of our peoples  
 A people so strong and so regal  
 People who were treated unequal  
 African men, women, and children  
 who were  
 Subjects of the most horrid evil  
 Red  
 Black

And Green  
 Be Our Colors!  
 Red  
 Black  
 And Green  
 Be Our Colors!  
 Black is the symbol of our darker skin  
 Both our ancestors and our kin  
 A skin so beautiful that no other can contend  
 A beauty thats unrivaled in our shapes,  
 Culture, many shades, and multiple complexions  
 Red  
 Black  
 And Green  
 Be Our Colors!

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

Red  
 Black  
 And Green  
 Be Our Colors!  
 Green's the representative for a new life  
 The uniting of a black man and his black wife  
 New hope in our communities and black lives  
 Ones which will be filled with God,  
 Who gives much love, a life with no room for strife  
 Red  
 Black  
 And Green  
 Be Our Colors!  
 Red  
 Black  
 And Green  
 Be Our Colors!

This is for African-Americans  
 born in all eras  
 We got our own 3 colors for our flag, called the bendera  
 We must come together and unite  
 We must love each other and enlight  
 The terror we must fight  
 It's the time to leave from darkness  
 And walk further into the light  
 -King Fox

**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) 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. \***

**ANOTHER DEATH IN THE DURHAM JAIL**

Excerpt of article by Virginia Bridges and Joe Johnson for the *Herald Sun*, 11/8/2017:

Protesters took to the downtown streets Tuesday night seeking to raise awareness and spur action to prevent more deaths at the Durham County jail, they said. About 30 protesters gathered in front of the Durham County jail Tuesday around 6 p.m. to protest the death of **James Earl Staton Jr.**, who died late Sunday afternoon while in custody at the jail.

The Inside-Outside Alliance, a group of inmates advocates, had called a rally outside the jail Tuesday to show support for families of people who have died in the jail. The protest started with David Theurer reading the names of the six people who have died at the jail since 2013.

The previous five were:

- Terry Lee
- Dennis Edward McMurray
- Raphael Marquis Bennett
- Matthew Lamont McCain
- Uniece Fennell

*Please send us (IOA) any reflections you have on Staton's death. RIP.*

"I am disgusted to be here again," Theurer said. "We have been here too many times in the past five years."

The protesters came to remember those who have died, he said, and to add a new name to that list: Staton.

"We don't know very much about Mr. Staton at this time," but over the years they have learned about the others, he said.

McMurray was a loving grandfather, Theurer said. McCain was a dedicated father. And Fennell brought life into a lot of people's lives.

Theurer and others questioned why there have been six deaths at the jail over the last four years, and questioned the Sheriff's Office statement that the 40-year-old Staton died from natural causes.

Staton was found unresponsive in his cell late Sunday afternoon, according to the Sheriff's Office.

**'America's Government is a Joke'**

Hey,  
 How has your week been? ... To your question about the situation and protesting going on in the NFL, I think what the players are doing is right. They shouldn't have to stand for the flag if they choose not to, especially after comments Trump bitch-ass made. America's government is a joke and he's the appointed fun dummy. In my eyes, if it's such a big deal/ disrespectful, why don't

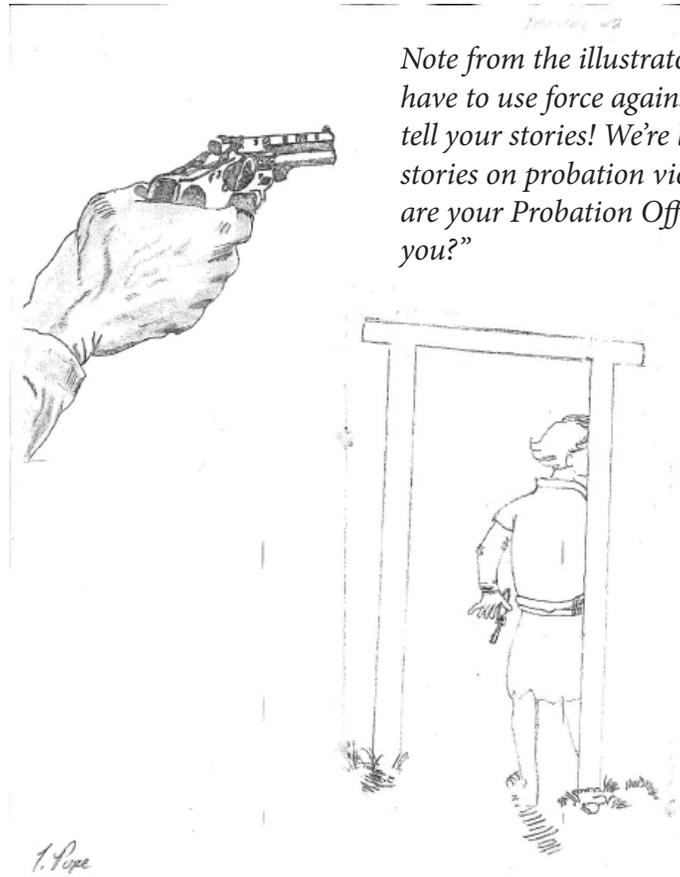
they sing the whole anthem—the third verse to be exact, I'm talking about the original ("no refuge could save the hireling and slave..."). The jail has finally let up some, we got radios on canteen, but they're high as fuck (\$27.98) and batteries don't even last a week. I'm gonna end this here. Thanks for helping out...  
 Sincerely,  
 Ghost

ment. Know Ms. Clark has tried so hard to destroy me and get me out of circulation altogether. Because of my attitude toward Trosa, which led to my violation. Now just two days ago, this guy who was in here for the same charge as me (probation violation!). He was being kicked out for selling pills at Trosa, even though he been there for 19 months.

But can you get this. Now if Trosa going to throw you out for selling drugs, having cell phones, carrying cash, having drug money coming and going on Trosa property, going to Wal-Mart and get money sent to you and from you. Yes, this is all true. And this P.O. Pamela Clark on 10-23-2017 went to Superior Court and testified that this guy didn't give her no problems and who else knows what she said to get him set free.

He had 168 felonies back at the start of these run and attack crime sprees, and was charged with 7 felonies, where he took Trosa 2 yrs Program as a plea and 9,000.00 restitution, which went down to 4,000.00 and some dollars, after leaving Trosa. Now who says carrying a gun makes you God; or is it Satan? And those charges he had was from writing bad checks at the Oxford House. Yes, that's right, another substance abuse halfway house.

-Pope



*Note from the illustrator: "You don't have to use force against force - just tell your stories! We're looking for stories on probation violations. How are your Probation Officers treating you?"*

*Pope*

## "They've been sending us rotten fruit for over two weeks"

Well, I seen you guys rallying outside, I think Wednesday. And I was working inside as well. Damn. I think I've got them pissed off and worried about their jobs! ABL and Aramark; I sent them 3 of the comics I sent you before IOA received them. The last one was the one with the 2 guys and two girls on the couch. ABL and Aramark putting each other down. Pretty cool wasn't it. I'm like turning each against one another.

Just think: they share the same kitchen. Two different food management companies in the same kitchen. You should know yourself that's really rare! Well, Wednesdays they, ABL and Aramark, had one of their COs come in. What the outside cop told me was raise hell about me, send them these comics, said or crying it was harassment. Trying to scare me into quitting.

Well I figured 3 of them in the last month and a half should be enough; it was. Could you imagine they're really scared. I'm threatening their job, for real! They've been sending us rotten fruit for over 2 weeks. Well we finally got it, I think straightened out. He told me to talk to Tamara Gibbs. That's the same \*\*\*\* who got them hired (ABL). She represented DCJ for 2016, during HRC [Humans Relations Commission] meeting, Sept. 16, 2016. I was still here then, and was over seeing it, even though I'm in here. You need to stay on top of HRC!

I'll tell you some more important news. There's 3 big out boys here that work in the kitchen. Well hell these three cook for Aramark: their hot trays, hamburger, chicken, etc. about 7 dollars a meal, and they also cook our meals as well. Hell I just learned this. Dam trusties who live in jail who are in the trustie pod are the cooks for both Aramark and ABL. Just think they don't even pay for a fucking cook, neither one of them.

I've heard back months ago they didn't like sharing the kitchen together, which a lot of people quit over this, back the first of 2017! - Pope

## "My Anthem" by Ghost

I'll be damned	Now answer this	About us
If I would	For me	I stand for
Stand and Show	If its so	Our creator
Respect	Disrespectful	God
For america	To the country and military	The man
And its flag	Then why don't we	That made me
Why stand and worship	Sing the whole	Fuck the Feds,
Something	Anthem?	CIA, Home Land
That could	The third verse	Security
Give a damn	Too be particular	And all the other
About my black ass	Someone	Agencies
The president	Come up with	Fuck the flag,
Said its disrespectful	That answer	And other govern-
To our military and country	Its always been	ment
This country	Them (Government)	Flunkies too
Is a joke	Then us	I stand for God
And you're the	They're in control	I'll be damned
Appointed fun dummy	Over everything	If I worship
But here's one question	They could care less	You

## What do you do when your probation officer is like Gorilla Glue?

Well I meet this PO - probation officer at TROSA. I only lasted 57 days there. So I violated and she came within 4 hours! I already had papers on me. I confronted her 3 weeks earlier and told her, what do I do if I have a problem with Trosa? She didn't ask me any questions like, what's your problem, can I help? - Hell no!

She just came out and said I'll have to lock you back up! Hell, she had other offenders they were treated like me. You get 2 mins, maybe 3 mins then you're on your way. Well it was pretty clear, she doesn't give a shit. So I decided help from her was out. So I left and went to court, where I went on my first appearance where I requested a 90 day CRU which she told the DA and the judge to send me to prison.

So I requested a lawyer. It took 30 more days for court where I had a lawyer - Bill Breeze. She got in front of the court room, and her nose started growing. She told them I had absconded and I had assaulted an officer while I was gone for 6 days. To set the record straight, you don't abscond if you don't stay without touch with your P.O. more than 29 days, depending on your lawyer and judge. The assault the judge didn't see no new charges, didn't reply to the assumption.

I got my CRU. 90 days later my P.O. came to Lumberton CRU Camp and with another probation officer, threatened to lock me up, saying I refused to go to Dark Cherrie! I wasn't told until my last 10 days from com-

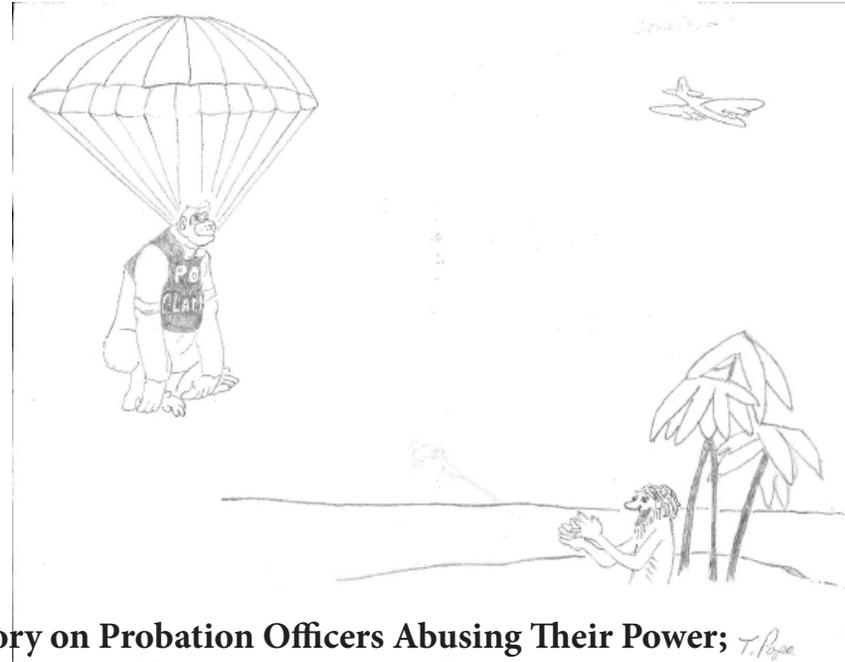
pleting my CRU to be released back on the street with probation. She, Pamela Clark, kept my commitment sheet for no other reason than just being a \*\*\*\*, she was working with my temporary P.O. there at that CRU camp., P.O. Bailey.

She or both had a part in my make-shift future! Well, she take me back to Durham and releases me at Durham Rescue Mission, where I only stayed 10 mins. And went to stay at the VA for about 2 weeks with no help at all finding a place to live off the street! She agreed to let me go to Wake County to a shelter there. The ones in Durham I wouldn't keep a day at either one of those trash pits, or slave labor camp without freedom. Hell no!

I meet my P.O. in Wake County, Ms McCotter, where from the get-go she told me she was just doing Ms. Clark a favor, by taking my case. And she refused to take me to Dark Cherrie, which took me 1 ½ months to get a bed. Between Ms Clark and Ms McCotter they kept delaying Dark Cherrie, where I've determined I'm being set up to fail. Trosa kept my ID and my food stamp card and wouldn't give it back. That month and a half was hell to survive, so in a short version, I quit showing up for my appointments. Now I'm back in jail with another F/probation violation!

I still ask - how do you get rid of a probation officer armed with Gorilla Glue?

- Pope



## “A Story on Probation Officers Abusing Their Power; Just Because they Can!” *T. Pope*

This story is about my probation officer or both of them; here in Durham County Jail, with two Probation Officers, here on Oct. 25, 2017! My probation violation is in Wake County, with my P.O. Ms. McCotter for not stating my location and living arrangements. Because situations as mine are not unusual, other than me having P.O. from two different counties.

My P.O. here in Durham County is like that damn Gorilla Glue. You just can't shake it loose! When I left Trosa I thought she was history, because she supposedly strictly belonging to Trosa. She has like 67 offenders there. So just how in the hell is she still my P.O.? Trosa's percentage of people completing their program is 6%, which isn't a good percentage at all.

Which should tell you she would have to go through a lot of offenders. When I left in Feb 2017, there were 30 people in my peer

group. Most everyone is gone already. My story mainly is about Ms. Clark. I'm thinking she knows she can carry a gun. But she doesn't accept the fact, and doesn't seem to really give a damn, except making that 50.00 an hour, at any cost.

I truly think she's playing both sides. Because I left Trosa and write for this paper (IOA), she wishes me to go to prison, and has lied to try to do so. So far the judge has seen through her and I've dodged her bullets so far. Now I very much dislike Trosa. I think they're like a cult. They're pros and cons, run by pros and cons. And they feed off of people whose lives are downright destroyed by their sicken drug and alcoholism habits. Because these people such as myself are powerless against our habit and we ourself just don't care!

Now you readers knowing this and I do believe most would agree with this state-

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