

Solitary Watch

Criminal Justice Issues and Prisoners' Rights

<https://solitarywatch.org/2012/10/16/california-inmates-launch-new-hunger-strike-on-october-10th/>

Campaign and Advocacy

close

Search

close

close

by [Sal Rodriguez](#) | October 16, 2012

On October 10th, prisoners at Pelican Bay State Prison and California Correctional Institution in Tehachapi launched a hunger strike. The hunger strike, which has in total involved five hundred prisoners, coincided with the date of an announced racial cease-fire issued by prisoners in Pelican Bay referred to as the PBSP-SHU Short Corridor Collective. The group, which consists of several prisoners who are said by the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to be leaders of criminal prison gangs including the Aryan Brotherhood and Black Guerilla Family, issued [a call](#) for all prisoners to cease racial conflict and urged unity among prisoners across California.

It has been [speculated](#) that because this same group also led the historic hunger strikes that took place last year, prisoners misinterpreted the October 10th date to launch a hunger strike.

Yesterday, the *Los Angeles Times* [reported](#):

Inmates on a six-day hunger strike at the state prison near Tehachapi are raising objections over new state policies on how gang members are identified and treated, state officials say.

Corrections spokeswoman Terry Thornton said those policies have yet to be implemented and are under review by the state Office of Administrative Law.

As of Monday, 161 inmates within segregated cell blocks at the [California Correctional Institution](#), called the Security Housing Unit, continued to refuse meals, Thornton said. The fasting began on Wednesday with nearly 300 inmates at Tehachapi, as well as another 200 inmates in the general prison population at Pelican Bay State Prison hundreds of miles away. Pelican Bay inmates resumed eating by Friday, Thornton said.

Family members of SHU inmates at Tehachapi told the *Los Angeles Times* they were unaware of the protest. Unlike a larger statewide hunger strike last year, Thornton said corrections officials had no warning and little information about the underlying issues of this strike. Some hunger strikers have complained about prison food and property rules, while others are raising complaints about proposed gang control policies.

Today, a letter signed by the Short Corridor Collective and issued to California Governor Jerry Brown declared their opposition to proposed CDCR reforms of the SHU and status-based, indefinite isolation, a reference to the fact that the majority of people in the SHU are there for alleged involvement in prison gangs. The letter, which can be read [here](#), does not reference any current hunger strike action.

If anyone has more information about the circumstances of this hunger strike please contact the author at: Sal_SolitaryW@yahoo.com.

Sal Rodriguez was Solitary Watch's first and most prolific intern. Based in Los Angeles, he served as an editorial writer and columnist for the Orange County Register and the Press-Enterprise, and is now the opinion editor for the Southern California News Group.

Accurate information and authentic storytelling can serve as powerful antidotes to ignorance and injustice. We have helped generate public awareness, mainstream media attention, and informed policymaking on what was once an invisible domestic human rights crisis.

Only with your support can we continue this groundbreaking work, shining light into the darkest corners of the U.S. criminal punishment system.

by [Juan Moreno Haines](#)

October 25, 2022

by [Solitary Watch Guest Author](#)

October 13, 2022

by [Vaidya Gullapalli](#)

September 29, 2022

Solitary Watch encourages comments and welcomes a range of ideas, opinions, debates, and respectful disagreement. We do not allow name-calling, bullying, cursing, or personal attacks of any kind. Any embedded links should be to information relevant to the conversation. Comments that violate these guidelines will be removed, and repeat offenders will be blocked. Thank you for your cooperation.

I like how these Cos admit the affects of isolation. I quote from their blog above:

It is not unusual for prisoners in solitary confinement to become delusional. As a rule, however, delusions of grandeur do not manifest themselves in the hole. Nonetheless, the Short Corridor Collective has developed a group delusion They are calling shots in the prison system.

Truth is, this group is as impotent as it is isolated..

A couple of the comments made after the article:

1) I hope the Investigators carefully review this manifest. Seems like it could be a coded message in there somewhere.

2) probably is just a coded message to the Homies.

3) Having observed the Word sent out from hardcore inmates, back when I shared gang intelligence with parole agents, I suspect there are coded messages in that text meant for shot-callers and street operatives.

So the COs claim the inmates are both delusional when they believe they can influence the General Population and are sending coded messages to their imaginary forces both inside and outside prison.

Which is it?

One note I found several other sites with similar views expressed with some too distasteful to repeat.

I hope the prisoners can finally come together and show some unity.

@Sal

<http://www.pacovilla.com/?p=82113>

The COs seem to believe that their call is a coded message. Paranoia? Read their comments after the article.

There was a public rally announced at the Twin Towers in LA on the 10th.

<http://allevents.in/los%20angeles/10-10-Rally-to-End-All-Hostilities-in-CA-PrisonsYouth-Stand-in-Solidarity/121279881355669#>

P.O. Box 11374
Washington, DC 20008

info@solitarywatch.org

Solitary Watch

Copyright 2022, Solitary Watch

Read about [rights and permissions](#).



Solitary Watch News