

Solitary Watch

Criminal Justice Issues and Prisoners' Rights

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by [Aviva Stahl](#) | November 30, 2014



The following roundup features noteworthy news, reports and opinions on solitary confinement from the past week that have not been covered in other Solitary Watch posts.

According to a [recently released United Nations report](#), the United States is not in full compliance with the Convention Against Torture, to which it is a signatory. The United Nations Committee Against Torture [expressed particular concern about the conditions of isolated confinement](#) at federal and state facilities across the country, including at the Bureau of Prisons supermax institution, Florence ADX.

Disability Rights Nebraska has [released a report](#) calling for the state to provide better care and discharge planning for those with mental illness held behind bars. Co-author Brad Meurrens said, Releasing an inmate without adequate discharge planning is like saying, Good luck we will see you again.

Dakem Roberts of Resist Rikers was [featured on WBAI](#), in advance of an upcoming rally to demand more substantive changes at the city jail, especially with regards to solitary confinement.

Nebraska's Legislative Department of Correctional Services Investigative Committee continued to [hear evidence on the use of solitary confinement across the state](#). A psychologist who left Tecumseh state prison after working there for six months testified that not all placements in isolation were justified. There were times that I witnessed and experienced what does generic clonazepam look like individuals gettingtime in administrative segregation that was completely unwarranted, she said.

Nikko Jenkins, who killed four people within weeks of his release from solitary confinement, is now [suing Nebraskas Department of Corrections](#) for \$1.7 million. Jenkins maintains that his mental health deteriorated significantly during his 2.5 years in isolation; his written requests for psychological treatment, hospitalization, and even civil commitment made before his release were all denied by the DOC.

Despite a recent ruling by the 5th Circuit Court of Appeals upholding his release, Albert Woodfox of the Angola 3 still remains behind bars and in solitary confinement. Carine Williams, a lawyer for Woodfox, told [Democracy Now](#), There is no legitimate explanation for [his continued incarceration].

A New Jersey lawmaker will shortly [introduce a bill to reduce the use of isolated confinement](#) at the states correctional facilities. If passed, the legislation would bar placement in solitary for longer than 15 days, except in special circumstances.

Floridas Secretary of the Department of Corrections, Michael Crews, [is stepping down from the post](#). Crews has come under significant scrutiny since his appointment in 2012, especially in relation to the death of Randall Jordan-Aparo, who passed away in his solitary

confinement cell after being gassed twice by guards.

Aviva Stahl is a Brooklyn-based reporter who writes about science/health at the intersection of mass incarceration, national security, and trans rights. Shes written for the New York Times, Wired, Buzzfeed News, Solitary Watch, and other outlets. Find her [@stahlidarity](#) and at [stahlidarity.com](#).

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 [Mirilla Zhu](#)

October 26, 2022

by [Caitlin Konya](#)

October 19, 2022

by [Mirilla Zhu](#)

October 12, 2022

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P.O. Box 11374
Washington, DC 20008

info@solitarywatch.org

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