

Name: James Mitchell
Title: Incarcerated individual
Organization or Agency: DOC CT
Topic: Meeting Date Not Listed
NA

Testimony:

To the Corrections Ombuds Committee:

Regarding the ombuds, the main thing I'm hearing is "what" did he do so far?? No one knows or can see what changes happened since he was hired? also if he did do anything he has not communicated that to the incarcerated guys and ladies, but he did send a memo out to our tablets a few months ago saying that he would hold town halls and listening tours which I've not seen yet and he also told everyone in this memo that he was not taking anymore complaints due to lack of staff, the volume of complaints and he was trying to get more funding from the governor.... well this caused a conversation about whether he is just in this for the money? I personally think that if he's not explaining to guys what he can or cannot do or explain the things that he has accomplished since being appointed, then there's are concerns and lack of support!

I've also spoke to him in person during a tour of MacDougall a long time ago at which time I gave him ideas about how he could be effective such as a detailed complaint form which would have sections to fill out about issues he can handle....in response to that conversation he told me he was looking for liaisons which I immediately told I would happily be one but that has not went anywhere and I never heard from him again which is the consistent agreement of everyone I've spoken too! So the lack of transparency is clear!

You and Barbara Fair and others connected are more consistent then he iswhich is why your message account is full with complaints instead of the ombudsman's! Please submit my findings to possibly assist and open a dialog!