

**Name:** Shanta Perry

**Title:**

**Organization or Agency:**

**Topic:** Meeting Date Not Listed

NA

**Testimony:**

I would like to take this time to show support for the ombudsman. I'll like to make this clear, I'm not anti-establishment but I am against those who try to hide the truth.

Directive 2:17 Employee conduct says each employee shall ensure that a safe, secure and sanitary work environment is maintained. All Correctional Officers isn't bad. There are a lot of officers that are here treating inmates like humans and I'm told that they been accused of being inmate lovers. This comes from the top. Every facility has at least 2-3 people in a top position that encourage the officers to antagonize inmates.

These past months, there's been an uproar at Osborn Correctional. Not by inmates, but by staff because of Mr. Ward's reports. He's even being accused by some officers of being an inmate lover for exposing the truth about some facilities' shortcomings. Some C/Os argument is this is a prison full of bad people and not the Hilton.

I must say that I been incarcerated for 25 yrs and never seen a prison as filthy as Osborn. What Mr. Ward is reporting about the mice at this facility, is the truth. All one has to do is tour the inmates' chowhall or commissary area and you see numerous mice roaming around. Our commissary sits down at the commissary area for 2 weeks before we're allowed to get it. Most of the time the mice and rats tamper with our food and leave their droppings in our bags. We get credited for whatever the mice damage, but we all know that mice/rats carry diseases. I see Mr. Ward as speaking truth to power regardless of whom it might offend. At the end of the day, he's doing what he was sworn to do. I'm sure The Department of Corrections is going to do everything in their power to undermine his report.

Thank you.