

August 12, 2012

I went to visit Robert Seth Hayes, one of our Prisoners of War, at Sullivan CF today. Seth had hurt his left hand at the end of June, and is having a very hard time getting medical attention for this problem. As many of you know, Seth is a diabetic and has to receive insulin shots daily. It is well known that injuries to the hands and feet of diabetics are a serious medical problem.

Despite the fact that Seth's left hand is still quite visibly swollen, the medical staff has essentially been ignoring this problem. When Seth first hurt his hand, he received x-rays. First, he was told that the index and middle fingers were both broken. Then he was told that only the index finger was broken. Afterwards, he was told that there was only a hairline fracture of his middle finger, and that there is nothing wrong with his index finger. The only medical attention he received was the placement of a tongue depressor as a splint on the index finger (without first aligning the finger in its proper position).

Seth has been in constant pain for more than a month and has never actually seen the doctor for this injury, only the physician's assistant. I am a former medical emergency technician, and can certainly say that Seth's left index and middle fingers are both visibly swollen, as well as the back of his hand. The middle finger is actually less swollen than the index finger. The index finger is extremely swollen, especially around the knuckle in the middle of the finger, indicating a possible dislocation of the knuckle joint. Normally a dislocated knuckle will heal on its own in a matter of days or weeks, but proper initial treatment is critical to ensure that the knuckle heals correctly. Failure to do so can result in medical complications and even disfigurement.

Seth is asking people to call and write the Superintendent at Sullivan CF and Commissioner Brian Fischer to demand that he be taken to an outside hospital for proper diagnosis and treatment. Don't forget to say you are writing and/or calling regarding Robert Seth Hayes #74-A-2280.

Patrick Griffin, Superintendent
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P.O. Box 116, 325 Riverside Drive
Fallsburg, NY 12733-0116
845-434-2080

Commissioner Brian Fischer
NYS Department of Corrections and
Community Supervision
Building 2
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Albany, New York 12226-2050
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It is absolutely disgusting that one of our freedom fighters has to endure more than a month of unnecessary pain due to the total lack of quality medical care in the New York State Department of Corrections. It is really urgent that we make phone calls and write letters to both the Sullivan Superintendent and to Commissioner Fischer. Seth's wife, Sheila, has already called Albany several times and has been getting the runaround from the Commissioner's office.

Please take the time to write letters to both Superintendent Griffin and Commissioner Fischer, as well as calling both of them. Please also let us know what type of response you receive from them. Send us an email at nycjericho@gmail.com or call 718-325-4407 and leave a message.

Thank you ahead of time for your assistance in helping Robert Seth Hayes receive adequate medical care.

Anne Lamb, NYC Jericho Movement