

Press Release

Minneapolis, MN,
September 16, 2023



The Minnesota Department of Slavery & Criminal Prison System

Within the custody of the Minnesota Department of Corrections are countless black men, enslaved as teenagers, labeled as criminals, and forgotten about. The incarcerated at some Minnesota Department of Corrections Locations like Stillwater, Oak Park Heights & Rush City do not have air conditioning or heat (in the winter), fans, access to ice or clean water for drinking or bathing, and have been enduring cell temperatures upwards to 115 degrees all summer long.

Lincoln Caldwell: 217588 - Jonathan Corbett: 242543 - Cory Edwards: 201598 - Domenico Newton: 248948 and Joseph Thoresen: 255019 are currently in solitary confinement and being punished for peacefully protesting their rights:

- to daily showers
- after working 8-12hrs days
- for 50 cents to \$2.00/hr.
- in a facility with no air conditioning or fans
- in extreme heatwaves
- with no access to ice or clean drinking water

These 5 individuals stood up for their rights along with hundreds of others, protesting extreme conditions most wouldn't even leave their pet in. They have been isolated and labeled as the "ring leaders" of the protests. When asked how long their punishment will last, "until further notice" according to Commissioner Paul Schnell, who also reports the "protest was resolved peacefully." The fact is these conditions have not been resolved, and over 8,000 incarcerated humans are being treated inhumanely at the hand of the government and state, and on the tax payers dollars. Jonathan Corbett, incarcerated at Oak Park Heights, states that the facility has gone to lengths of turning off the shower water in his cell, but allowing the sink faucet water to remain.

Press Contact:

Nichole Lee | President

Lee Johnson Global PR

+1.323.334.0049

LeeJohnsonGlobalPR@gmail.com

Our Work:

Lee Johnson Global PR is committed to engaging, exposing, and changing harmful cultures and global patterns that oppress people of the world today. We are a team of world-changing visionaries who do our part to shine light and lead the way to a better tomorrow and future.

www.leejohnsonglobal.com



LJPR GLOBAL will be acting as the voice and official media representative for the wrongfully convicted in the State of Minnesota.

“VOICES OF THE VOICELESS”

Partnering with the Minneapolis NAACP, Minnesota Vikings, several nonprofits, lawyers and consultants, we will be the VOICE OF THE VOICELESS. We plan to expose, challenge, and dismantle the systems and infrastructure of the Minnesota Department of Corrections that continue to entrap young black men. We loudly fight not only for the freedoms of those who have unjustly lost their lives to this system, but ensure their restoration and reparations match the crimes committed against them and their families.

Jonathan Corbett, wrongfully convicted in 2012 at age 18.

“My name is Jonathan. I’m a 29yr old black male who has sat in the Department of Corrections for 11yrs. I work a job for 50 cents to \$2.00 an hour. I am currently in isolation and being punished because I stood up for myself and wanted to take a shower and speak to my family after long days at work. If I was a normal civilian, it would be an injustice that would raise voices all around the world. But because you feel that this is a place for the guilty, you turn your head at the inhumane treatment we receive.”



At what point do we continue to turn a blind eye to systematic oppression and blatant violations of human rights? Guilty or Innocent, the incarcerated are still human beings and deserve to be treated with basic levels of dignity and respect which include daily showers, clean drinking water, and phone calls to loved ones.

We dare you to listen to the **VOICES OF THE VOICELESS.**

We dare you to take a new lens and view to what’s happening all around you. Human entrapment & enslavement of black men all around America. We dare you to open your heart to truth and be the difference. Find a way to change the future history and story of this country.

Deaunteze Bobo, wrongfully convicted in 2006 at age 18.

“At young ages, so many minorities are wrongfully incarcerated, intentionally silenced, diminished, then forgotten about as if we're not human. These wrongful incarcerations go unnoticed due to us not having the proper knowledge, resources, or outlets to inform the public of our unjust situations. Our lack of knowledge about the justice system as a culture doesn't aid our cause. Innocent men are caged behind these walls lost and suffering while their agony constantly falls upon deaf ears. Without being heard or seen, this abuse will surely continue to affect our community and keep us divided.”