

From: [Wanda Duryea](#)
To: [DOJ: Commission on Law Enforcement Accountability](#)
Subject: Commission on Law Enforcement Accountability, Community and Transparency
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 7:11:44 PM
Attachments: [Transcript.pdf](#)

EXTERNAL: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Commission on Law Enforcement Accountability, Community and Transparency

Please also consider that NH State Prison guards are trained at the PSTC

First of all after following the news articles about this commission I believe that if Police receive 100 hours of firearm training they should probably receive 200 hours of training in how not to apply deadly force! 100 hours of mental health training and 100 hours of DE-escalation training.

In fact, only about a quarter (27%) of all officers say they have ever fired their service weapon while on the job, according to a separate Pew Research Center survey conducted by the National Police Research Platform. The survey was conducted May 19-Aug. 14, 2016, among a nationally representative sample of 7,917 sworn officers working in 54 police and sheriff's departments with 100 or more officers.

<https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2017/02/08/a-closer-look-at-police-officers-who-have-fired-their-weapon-on-duty/>

Law enforcement agencies have reported that anywhere from five to 15 percent of their annual calls involve an individual struggling with mental illness. These calls may include a missing person, criminal activity, erratic behavior, or even someone threatening to harm themselves or others.

In any case, it's paramount for law enforcement departments to provide their officers with thorough policy and training for policing the mentally ill.

<https://www.powerdms.com/blog/policing-the-mentally-ill-tactics-best-practices/>

The NH State Prison for Men in Concord houses the Secure Psychiatric Unit which admits severely Mentally Ill men and WOMEN who have not been convicted of crimes, they have been civilly committed by a probate court for treatment. The corrections officers are again trained by the same Police Standards and Training Council.

In December of 2017 a young man 34 year old Phillip Borcuk died in the RTU a mental health unit for convicted prisoners above the Secure Psychiatric Unit. Transparency is not available in the prison and in fact if anyone brings in or possesses a cell phone within it can be charged

with Class B felony punishable by up to 3 ½ to 7 years in prison.

<http://indepthnh.org/2017/12/07/death-at-nh-state-prison-residential-treatment-unit-being-investigated-in-concord/>

<http://indepthnh.org/2016/02/18/mom-threatened-with-arrest-for-bringing-cellphone-to-visit-son-in-secure-psychiatric-unit/>

The prison refused to provide timely responses to records requests to The Disability Rights Center a statewide non-profit organization that is federally authorized to investigate possible violations of the Protection and Advocacy for Individuals with Mental Illness Act.

<http://indepthnh.org/2018/04/20/disability-rights-center-investigates-possible-abuse-and-neglect-in-mentally-ill-inmates-death/>

The court transcript details that 6-7 corrections officers entered the cell because the inmate who was scheduled for release was engaging in self injurious behavior. Also the DRC only received 2 seconds of video of an encounter that resulted in his death. NH has yet to provide the cause and manner of death to the public, or to the family some 2 and a half years later.

On November 2018 Representative Renny Cushing received a letter from DOJ indicating There is a federal “law enforcement proceeding” going on at the Secure Psychiatric Unit.

<http://indepthnh.org/2018/11/27/feds-say-there-is-ongoing-law-enforcement-proceeding-at-secure-psychiatric-unit/>

Other news articles about the Laurie list (EES) include someone from the SPU is on the list as well as someone at the Medical Examiners office.

<http://indepthnh.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/newapril.pdf>

There is no transparency through concrete prison walls!

Please consider all that work for the state in a Police capacity!

Wanda Duryea

Farmington, NH 03835