

[REDACTED]
Five Points Correctional Facility
State Route 96 - P.O. Box #119
Romulus, New York 14547

August 18th 2000

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROT. AGENCY
Office of Civil Rights
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW. Rm #0540
Washington, D.C. 20460

AND
Richard F. Danes, M.D. Commissioner
State of New York Department of Health
Nelson Rockefeller Empire State Plaza
Albany, New York 12237

Dear LADIES / Gentlemen:

I write directly to the abate addressed
Federal and state agencies today concerning
pollution by state officials at the Five Points
Correctional Facility in Seneca County, New York
State.

Specifically, Facility officials at Five Points
Correctional Facility are refusing to place cigarette
butt cans in the out of doors staff smoking areas
throughout the facility.

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AUG 27 2012

(continued on back)

P. # 2

As a result of this failure to act, staff smokers recklessly toss their lit cigarettes onto the lawns and grounds.

Besides littering state grounds, I have witnessed sparks carry towards the wooded area adjacent to the prison. E.g. when the cigarettes hit the ground at night, the light explodes sending sparks in all directions to the wooded area. I am told by staff, is a protected wild life reserve.

When the cigarette butts become an eye-sore, the facility uses its men/pain ill inmates to pick up the cigarette butts by hand.

I have advised the superintendent here at Five Points and have filed a grievance (which was assigned grievance # FPL-26389-12) that these smoking practices are a danger to humans, and wild life, and is degrading and may violate N.Y. Pub. Health Law, and US Environmental Laws, and suggested that the 1 lb fruit / vegetable cans used to store and ship inmate food

(continued on page 3)

P.#3

is to be used as cigarette butt cans.

Simply Rinse them out, send them over to maintenance to sand the metal rim and print butt cans on them. Place some dirt in them and situate one or two in the out of doors staff smoking areas.

Now you have a clean and safe environment and the inmates that change the dirt, at least degraded.

This is met with profound resistance and both staff and prisoners lives and wild life are all in danger. Especially during this unusually dry season, where a small spark off the head of a lit cigarette can start a forest fire merely 50 yards away from where the smokers congregate.

The second issue is the manner in which the five points superintendents processes sanitation, (trash).

Specifically, when putting out trash staff place the trash in large clear plastic bags; then pile the bags into an open movable cart, and leave it like this overnight, out of doors.

(continued on page #4)

and open to the elements.

Often times the file talks as it's used, it is assisted by winds. The bags break by hitting ground or are torn open by the seagulls and crows.

The trash blows all over the state grounds, and right up into our exercise pens located at the rear of the cells. This same trash is carried away by the seagulls and crows onto the wild life reserve adjacent to the prison.

The seagulls are often injured digging through the trash. I witnessed cuts at the corners of the seagulls' beaks, and along their necks.

There are several seagulls whose legs are tangled together by green thread, (pulled out of the bed sheets by inmates to make fishing lines with). These lines, when confiscated by staff are thrown into the trash, and the seagulls get caught in the line when digging through the trash.

(continued on page # 5)

P. 15

I have also witnessed brown birds
thing the gulls legs together.

Furthermore, there are numerous seagulls missing
their fins, and at least one gull missing both of
its fins.

I suggested to facility officials, both verbally
and in writing. (See grievance # FLT-06389-12)
that they have maintenance build a trash bin with
a lid out of wood, and use them to replace
the old cart for trash, to prevent the pollution
that themselves are committing, and to prevent
themselves from causing injury to the area
wildlife, in that it is cruelty to animals in
violation of New York Law.

Like the issue surrounding the dangerous
smoking practices at two points, facility officials
are profoundly opposed to adhering to New York
public health and animal protection laws and
and U.S. environmental and department

(continued on back)

P. 6

of the ~~INTERIOR~~ Fish and Wildlife Laws
Rules and Regulations. and that responses to
[REDACTED] grievance no. FRT-06389-12
Please This.

wherefore, [REDACTED], respectfully urges
the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the U.S.
Department of ~~INTERIOR~~ Fish and Wildlife Programs
and the U.S. Department of Health, to intervene
on the behalf of prisoners, staff and wildlife
alike for the reasons as though more fully stated
above and direct the N.Y.S. DEC's Commissioner
et al. to correct its dangerous environmental
practices, and procedures described herein.

Dated: August 18, 2012
Romulus, New York
Seneca County.

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