Jane G. v. Solano Co.

ALICE C. SHOTTON GREER M. SMITH CAROLE B. SHAUFFER

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Attorneys for Plaintiffs

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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

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FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

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U. S. PINIERU GOURT STERM DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

> JANE G., by her Next Friend, ALICE C. SHOTTON, on behalf of herself and all others similarly situated,

CIVS-84-0080 RAR

ORDER RE:

SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT AND

INJUNCTIVE RELIEF AND DAMAGES

DECLARATORY AND

SOLANO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA; RICHARD W. GRABLE, Chief Probation Officer for Solano

County, California, individually, and in his official capacity; and A.M. BUKWICH, Superintendent of Juvenile Hall, County of Solano, individually and in his official

capacity,

Defendants.

Plaintiffs,

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This is a civil rights action for declaratory judgment and permanent injunction brought on behalf of children who are, who have been or who will be confined in the Solano County Juvenile Hall (hereinafter referred to as "Juvenile Hall"), challenging the constitutionality of certain practices, policies and regulations

of Juvenile Hall. The named plaintiff in this action also seeks compensatory and punitive damages.

The Complaint in this action was filed on January 17, 1984. The plaintiff, on behalf of herself and a class of juveniles similarly situated, alleged that the defendants have subjected or are subjecting plaintiffs to policies and practices that violate the United States Constitution: prohibiting juveniles from visiting or communicating by telephone with attorneys other than their attorney of record, effectively prohibiting plaintiffs access to courts to protect their rights; confining juveniles to continuous isolation for unreasonable periods (up to weeks at a time) and under unreasonable circumstances; and arbitrarily confining juveniles to isolation without any procedural due process safeguards such as notice and an opportunity to be heard.

The named plaintiff further alleged that as a result of the above-stated unconstitutional policies and practices, and that as a result of her continuous confinement in isolation from December 28, 1984, to January 4, 1984, with no access to showers, exercise, recreation or education, she suffered injuries.

Although defendants neither admit nor deny any allegations of fact or legal liability, the parties have now agreed to the entry of a Settlement Agreement and Order resolving all of plaintiffs' claims for declaratory and injunctive relief and for damages.

Now, therefore, based upon the stipulation and agreement of all parties to this action, by and through their respective counsel, and based upon all matters of record in this case,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that:

- 1. This Court has jurisdiction over this matter.
- 2. The named plaintiff in this action is JANE G., suing by and through her Next Friend, ALICE C. SHOTTON.
- 3. The defendants in this action are: SOLANO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA; RICHARD W. GRABLE, Chief Probation Officer for Solano County; and A.M. BUKWICH, Superintendent of Juvenile Hall, County of Solano. This Settlement Agreement and Order is binding upon the successors in office of defendants GRABLE and BUKWICH.
- 4. This action be maintained as a class action pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(a) and (b)(2). The class consists of all juveniles who are, who have been, or who will be confined in Juvenile Hall. The class is so numerous that joinder of all members is impracticable. There are both factual and legal questions common to the class. The named plaintiff's claims are typical of the class. The representative of the class will fairly and adequately protect the interests of the class members. Further, the defendants have acted or refused to act on grounds generally applicable to the class, making final injunctive and declaratory relief with respect to the class as a whole appropriate.
- 5. Effective upon entry of this Settlement Agreement and Order, the defendants and their employees shall allow children detained in Juvenile Hall to visit and to communicate by telephone with attorneys, other than their attorney of record, and in furtherance of this Agreement, defendants shall use the Attorney's

Visitation Request Form, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

- 6. Defendants and their employees shall not confine a child in isolation in Juvenile Hall unless that child presents an immediate danger to self or others. Defendants and their employees shall not use isolation for punitive or disciplinary purposes.
- 7. Defendants and their employees shall limit the duration of isolation to that period of time during which the child presents an immediate danger to self or others, and in no event shall defendants and their employees allow the duration of isolation to exceed twenty-four (24) hours.
- 8. Defendants and their employees shall provide to every child, while in isolation, the following:
 - a. A clean and sanitary room with adequate lighting, heat, and ventilation, and containing a bed, pillow, blankets and sheets;
 - b. Full meals;

- c. A full complement of clean clothes, including a change of undergarments and socks;
- d. Items necessary for personal hygiene, including soap, toothpaste, toothbrush, comb, towels, toilet paper, a shower and access to a toilet and water fountain as needed; and
- e. Writing materials, including pen, pencils, paper and a writing surface.
- 9. Defendants and their employees shall set aside a minimum

of one (1) hour during the twenty-four (24) hours maximum isolation period for out of room exercise for children in isolation.

- 10. Defendants and their employees shall allow children in isolation to communicate with attorneys by telephone and by mail.
- 11. For children in isolation, defendants and their employees shall not open outgoing mail from plaintiffs and may open incoming mail to plaintiffs only in the presence of the child to whom the mail is addressed.
- 12. Defendants and their employees shall allow children in isolation to attend religious services and/or religious counseling of the child's choice.
- 13. For children in isolation, defendants and their employees shall provide a room study program with daily visits by teaching staff.
- 14. For children in isolation, defendants and their employees shall provide the availability of medical attention at all times.
- 15. Defendants and their employees may remove from the room of any child in isolation any object that may endanger the child, other children or staff.
- 16. The Senior Counselor and/or Supervising Group Counselor shall visit children in isolation at least once during the 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. shift, and once during the 3:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. shift. A continuing written assessment of the child's behavior and attitude shall be maintained by such counselors.
 - 17. Defendants or their employees shall make regular checks

18. Defendants and their employees shall provide every child placed in isolation the following:

- a. Written notice to the child prior to isolation unless postponement of isolation would endanger the child, other children or staff. If so, defendants or their employees shall provide written notice to the child within thirty (30) minutes of imposition of isolation;
- b. Specific reasons for placing the child in isolation and a statement justifying isolation shall be specified by defendants or their employees in the written notice to the child;
- c. A hearing prior to isolation unless postponement of isolation would endanger the child, other children or staff. If so, defendants or their employees shall provide a hearing as soon as possible after imposition of isolation, but in no event shall the hearing be held more than twenty-four (24) hours after imposition of isolation.
 - d. A neutral factfinder to conduct the hearing;
- e. The right to respond to the allegations against him or her, to introduce evidence and to call witnesses, at the hearing.
- 19. Defendants or their employees shall post on the bulletin board of each unit a Grievance Procedure and/or Due Process

 Procedure incorporating the rights set forth in ¶18, above.

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- 20. Effective upon entry of this Settlement Agreement and Order, defendants shall pay to the named plaintiff JANE G., by and through her Next Friend ALICE C. SHOTTON, the sum of TWO THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$2,250.00).
- 21. Plaintiffs reserve the right to request such attorneys' fees and costs as this Court deems appropriate, and defendants reserve the right to oppose such request.
- 22. The agreement set forth herein constitutes a fair and reasonable resolution of plaintiffs' claims for declaratory and injunctive relief, and for damages, and is therefore approved by this Court.
- 23. It is the parties' intent that this Settlement Agreement and order shall not be published.

 DATED:

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

GREER M. SMITH

ÁLICE C. SHOTTÓN CAROLE B. SHAUFFER

MARK I. SOLER

YOUTH LAW CENTER

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THOMAS H. GORDINIER

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OFFICE OF COUNTY COUNSEL

County Courthouse

Fairfield, CA 94533

Attorneys for Defendants COUNTY, GRABLE and BUKWICH

ATTORNEY'S VISITATION REQUEST FORM

Attorney's Name:	Date:
Address:	Time:
Telephone:	
Name of Minor to be visit	
I certify under penalty of	of perjury that: (check appropriate box(es))
[] I am the minor's att	orney of record.
[] To the best of m	ny knowledge, the minor has no attorney of record; o
[] I have informed	the minor's attorney of record of this visit.
	f perjury that I have been retained by the minor (s) or guardian to counsel said minor and that;
[] I have contacted the	minor's parent(s), or guardian whom I believe to
have legal custody,	and he/she has authorized this visit; or
[] I have not commu	nicated with the minor's parents because such a
communication wo	uld violate my ethical obligation to protect the
minor's confiden	ce.
	(Attorney)
	Required Attorney's Personal Identification: California Bar Card I.D. #
	California Operator's License #Other
·	(Verifying Ufficer) (Date)
(Minor)	, agree to meet with
(Accorne	. a licensed attorney.
(

(Finor's Signature)