

NORFOLK INMATE COUNCIL

FOOD REPORT

February 2018 - February 2019

Invoices

July 2019

Massachusetts Correctional Institution
(MCI-Norfolk)
2 Clark Street , P.O. Box 43
Norfolk Massachusetts 02056

NORFOLK INMATE COUNCIL
Food Invoice Report

Introduction :

This report arose from a growing concern among the Inmate population at MCI-Norfolk as to the quality and portion of food being served to Inmates at MCI-Norfolk. Additionally it had become clear to anyone within the confines of MCI-Norfolk that staff were receiving better quality and portions of food in their overtime meals being provided from the same Main Line Kitchen (MLK) and budget as inmates were being fed. Recently it has come to light that 67,000 pounds of food waste is being shipped from MCI-Norfolk monthly at an expense of over \$1,000. This supports the poor quality of inmate food claims. Concerns were expressed by this NIC Executive Board and Food Committee members without corrective action being taken by staff for more than 2 years. As is the responsibility and duty of the NIC to investigate any concerns from inmates the NIC began to review this matter.

Methodology of Research :

In October 2018 a Public Records request for all invoices was submitted to then Superintendent Brad (Alden) Cowen for one year of invoices. Approximately May of 2019 invoices (1000 plus pages) for February 2018 - February 2019 were turned over to the NIC Executive Board. With invoices in hand a long and tedious review of the invoices began with assistance from a FSC Member and Inmate Council Representative.

Notes and charts were reviewed in combination with Code of Massachusetts Regulations (CMR's) and (DOC's) and applicable law.

103 DOC 214, clearly states that staff overtime meals are to be the same as what inmates are provided.

103 DOC 522 Internal Affairs Unit was also reviewed for clarity. Aspects taken into consideration; 522.08 (3)(b) Misuse of state property (Funds). 522.08 (4)(B)(a) Felonious conduct.

Findings :

After a careful review of data available a determination has been made that several items (420) were purchased to benefit MLK staff and for staff overtime meals from the inmate food budget in violation of regulation, policy and law. The portions which were purchased cannot be argued that they were for inmate consumption, thus violation 103 DOC 214. Lettuce was purchased for inmate consumption while a better quality Salad Mix was purchased for staff via the Inmate Food Budget. Plantains Green were purchased in amounts which can only be accounted for staff use via the Inmate Food Budget.

Smuckers Peanut Butter and Jelly Sandwiches were purchased 20 separate times which can only be accounted for as staff consumption violating the Inmate Food Budget.

Creamer $\frac{1}{2}$ & $\frac{1}{2}$ at .375/.38 servings were purchased in amounts not meant for inmate consumption violating the Inmate Food Budget.

Bvrian Eclairs were purchased (12) lots for staff consumption, violating the Inmate

Food Budget.

Pizza Rounds purchased 27 occurrences violating the Inmate Food Budget.

Doritos Chips (16) purchases for staff only violating the Inmate Food Budget.

Various fish, chicken and beef products were purchased in quantities for staff use.

Bacon & Pork Sausage Patties were also purchased in direct opposition to the pork free stance of the Religious Review Committee.

Water Poland Springs (211, cases) were purchased from the inmate food account. Inmates never received one bottle. This was given to staff and volunteers. This was purchased in spite of the persistent assertions by administrators that the water is fine and safe. If this is the fact then why purchase water.

The violations of the Inmate Food Budget noted within the data sheets and findings has been reduced to maintain a higher level of accuracy.

Please see Invoice Analysis from US Foods Inc., Performance Food Services, JW Lopes Inc. & Nasiff Fruit Company. All invoice numbers and product violations of the Inmate Food Budget are detailed in the attached data sheets taken from DOC invoices.

Conclusion:

It is now apparent that the food budget designated for inmates has been misused and fraud has been committed with this account more than 420 times as detailed on the attached data sheets. \$23,075.79 has been extracted on the following pages as to one year of violations in the Inmate Food Budget at MCI-Norfolk. Corrective Action needs to be taken to improve the food quality and quantity in order to better provide for nutritional requirements of the inmate population. Correctional staff which are among the highest paid in the Country should not be living on the life sustaining food budget of inmates at the oldest prison in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

The Norfolk Inmate Council Executive Board respectfully requests a full investigation into staff misconduct and misuse of state property (funds), taking of gifts in February 2018 which led to further purchases of the same item. Also of failure to properly feed the inmate population.

There needs to be a review of these noted violations and the mishandling of funds across the Department of Correction (DOC) for further investigation and review of illicit activities.

The Norfolk Inmate Council Executive Board respectfully submits this report requesting review and appropriate action.

Respectfully Submitted,

cc: file

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NORFOLK INMATE COUNCIL

Food Invoice Data Analysis

February 2018 - February 2019

Monthly Totals

Monthly	Total Products	Separate Purchases
February	\$1,559.76	31 (1, Smuckers PBJ \emptyset fee Per. Food)
March	\$853.38	19
April	\$387.78	9
May	\$2,281.96	44
June	\$2,705.09	46
July	\$1,970.04	42
August	\$930.88	13
September	\$3,160.70	53
October	\$2,300.77	41
November	\$1,829.94	24
December	\$1,036.34	18
JW Lopes/2018	\$816.15	15
Nasiff/2019	\$73.75	3
US Food/2019	\$28.37	52
JC Lopes/2019	\$332.29	11
	\$23,075.79	420

NORFOLK INMATE COUNCIL

Food Invoice Data Analysis

February 2018 - February 2019

U.S. Foods Inc.

Quantity	Product #	Description	Pack Size	Label	Unit Price
2	7640661	Sandwich PBJ	22/2.6 oz	Smuckers	\$38.32
3	7815137	Philly Beef Flat	40/4 oz		\$49.42
11	4009221	Rice Pilaf	6/2.25 lb	Near East	\$17.28
1	5874404	Single Chicken Brst	15 lb		\$34.85
1	5228182	Hot Sauce	4/1 gal	Monarch	\$30.63
2	8128019	Tangy Hot Sauce	4/1 gal		\$34.67
15	9341223	Creamer $\frac{1}{2}$ & $\frac{1}{2}$	360/.375 oz		\$14.91
12	8002149	Eclair Bvrian Crm Fll	4/12/2 oz	Rich's	\$32.94
27	1019520	Pizza Chs Rnd 5" Fzn		Tony's	\$44.38
32	5663422	Stuffed Chicken Brst	24/7 oz	Patuxent	\$54.67
7	3382389	Cheese Moz / Prov	4/5 lb	Roseli	\$45.32
2	9019691	Pork Sausage Patty	2/5 lb	Jimmy Dean	\$20.27
2	0766964	Ice Cream Van.	3 gal		\$16.50
3	9019697	Coffee	5/100 each	Maxwell	\$43.81
1	48344933	Pollock Loin	10 lb		\$36.35
3	5597968	Corn Chips	64/2 oz	Fritos	\$29.36
26	9174558	Hot Dogs	2/5 lb	Ball Park	\$24.85
2	6328082	Italian Sausage	10 lb	Roseli	\$23.83
1	8714180	Sheet Cake $\frac{1}{2}$ Yellow	8/44.75	Allen	\$63.02
1	2974772	Tortilla 12"	6/12 each		\$18.32
23	9777335	Chicken Flt	2/5 lb	Tyson	\$37.44
4	7037996	Diet Pepsi	24/12 oz	Pepsi	\$10.44
163	4719823	Poland Spring Water	24/5 lt	Poland Spring	\$6.19
14	9770132	Chicken Strip Brst	2/5 lb	Tyson	\$35.94
3	3364593	16" Pizza Rounds	20/26 oz	Roseli	\$37.66
2	1058718	Choc Chip Muffin	24/4 oz		\$13.04
5	5129837	Tortilla	6/12 each		\$25.41
11	5058686	Blue Berry Muffins	24/4 oz		\$13.20
2	5232764	Blue Cheese Dressing	60/1.5 oz	Kens	\$12.32
1	9597810	Doritos Chips	64/1.75 oz	Doritos	\$29.36

1	4375531	Bread Crums	2/7.5 oz		\$15.70
6	1372389	Pizza Rounds 16"	14/16		\$28.73
2	1332889	Pizza Rounds 16 "	14/18		\$28.73
1	7627383	Chicken Brst	4/5 lb		\$61.20
1	9397221	Egg Rolls	60/3 oz		\$46.41
3	8389921	Pollock	10 lb		\$26.19
4	3680942	Chicken Strip	2/5 lb		\$44.24
3	7365141	Cod	10 lb	BW/HB	\$41.68
2	7775622	Chicken Tenders	2/5 lb	Pat-	\$24.00
1	6879878	Turkey Brst	4/5 lb		\$51.68
1	7833882	Chicken Brst	4/5 lb		\$45.98
8	5614144	Haddock	10 lb		\$48.20
1	6328082	Italian Sausage	10 lb		\$23.34
2	8638249	Chicken Breast	2/5 lb		\$34.74

NORFOLK INMATE COUNCIL

Food Invoice Data Analysis

February 2018 - February 2019

Performance Food Service

Quantity	Product #	Description	Pack Size	Label	Unit Price
1	907926	Bacon	15 lb	Farmland	\$48.41
2	312039	Hot Sauce	4/1 gal	Westcreek	\$33.30
5	939343	Franks Chicken	5/6 lb	Good Srv	\$22.41
26	981694	Creamer $\frac{1}{2}$ & $\frac{1}{2}$	360/.38 oz	Ntrs	\$14.53
2	238641	Parm. Cheese Grat	5 lb	Rom	\$16.11
6	269306	Chicken Tender Fr	5 lb	RedB	\$28.98
1	926937	Hot Sauce	1 gal		\$11.99
24	319575	Hot Sauce	1 gal	West Cr	\$8.33
15	230048	Dorito Chips	64/1.75 oz	Dorito	\$28.56
1	309192	Creamer Container	24/12 oz	West Cr	\$29.69
52	93306	Chicken Wings	3/5 lb	Tyson	\$65.43
12	267897	Chicken Brst Strip	2/5 lb	Red-	\$33.12
21	336258	Beef Stk Shaved	2/5 lb	Lincoln	\$45.13
18	38518	Sandwich PBJ	72/2.6 oz	Smuckers	\$39.34
3	921912	Cauliflower	20 lb		\$11.37
2	235577	Beef Wafer Stk	40/4 oz	GLDN	\$53.44
2	241436	Tortilla			\$42.54
12	1956	Rice Pilaf	36 oz	Near East	\$16.45
2	158758	Chicken Thighs	4/10 lb		\$60.57
10	924312	Roast Beef	2/5 lb	Hormel	\$4.91 lb
1	35086	Pizza Dough	20/26	Richs	\$43.68
1	405207	Haddock, 6-8 oz	10 lb	West	\$34.81
30	9491724	Gen 7 Fries	6/4.5 oz	Gen 7	\$20.25
29	2358	Fries	6/5 lb	Lambseas	\$20.25
48	489940	Water P/S	24/16.9 oz	Poland Sp.	\$6.95
7	238641	Parmensan Cheese	5 lb	Roma	\$16.11
10	231681	Raviolo	3/4 lb	Roma	\$28.16
1	355204	Oatmeal Inst App/Map	64 ct		\$16.56
2	197500	Cheese Moz Shred	6/5 lb		\$66.66
1	247123	Cheese Binder	5 lb	Roma	\$10.08
1	962558	Seafood Base	1 lb	Gold Bl	\$11.93

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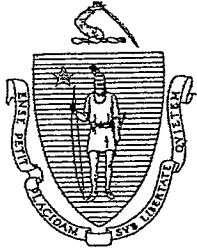
NORFOLK INMATE COUNCIL
 Food Invoice Data Analysis
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J.W. Lopes, LLC

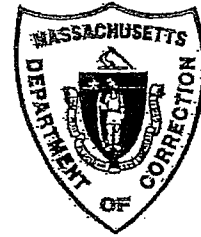
Quantity	Product #	Description	Pack Size	Unit Price
11	12685	Salad Mix	4 x 5	\$22.10
9	15230	Tomatoes	6 x 7	\$28.60
4	11010	Cauliflower	12ct	\$4.10
2	855	Plantain Green		\$32.50
1	10470	Broccoli Crowns	20#	\$4.45
1	12555	Lettuce Mescul	3#	\$16.75
2	15250	Cherry Tomatoes	12 ct	\$15.50
6	11360	Cucumber Euro	12 ct	\$2.45
12	2305	Lemons	95 ct	.85 ¢ lb
10	13540	Scallion	48ct	.90¢ lb
1	11351	Cucumber Super	12 ct	\$8.50
3	12565	Lettuce Radicchio	12 ct	\$2.45
3	12215	Swiss Chard	Brightlights	\$3.55
1	10620	Gourds	Small	\$32.75

Nasiff Fruit Company

Quantity	Product #	Description	Pack Size	Unit Price
2	151	Salad Mix	4 / 5	\$17.00
1	PLAN	Plantain Green		\$39.75



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
 Executive Office of Public Safety and Security
 Department of Correction
 Massachusetts Correctional Institution Norfolk
 2 Clark Street, P.O. Box 43
 Norfolk, Massachusetts 02056
 Telephone (508)660-5900



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STEVEN SILVA
 Superintendent

March 14, 2019

MCI-Norfolk.
 P.O. Box 43
 Norfolk, MA 02056

Public Records Request # 79

This letter constitutes the response of the Department of Correction to your correspondence received March 7, 2019, in which you are requesting the following:

- The farm(s) contracted or authorized to remove/pick up the swill (disposed of food waste) at M.C.I. Norfolk for the years of 2017, 2018, and 2019.
- Any records for the same time period that reflect if there is any type of payment(s) or cost(s) to this facility or this department [D.O.C.] for the removal of said waste. Please also include a list of all of the farm(s) or contractor(s) for the same time periods authorized for said removal(s).
- Provide what measurement method is used, i.e. truck weight or contents, tank or barrel capacities etc. and the numbers of tank(s), barrel(s), and or tons of disposed food waste annually for the same time periods.

For the years of 2017, 2018 and 2019 to date, the Department of Correction has paid Hidden Acres Farm (67 Main Street, Medway MA) \$1,050 per month to remove food waste from MCI Norfolk.

Based on the average weight of 300 lbs. per barrel, for FY 2019 to date, the site averages 67,930 lbs. of food waste per month totaling 475,500 lbs. (238 Tons) year to date.

During FY 2018, the site totaled 812,400 lbs. (406 tons). During FY 2017, the site totaled 889,800 lbs. (445 tons).

Sincerely,

 Steven Silva
 Superintendent

MCI Norfolk food expenses FY 2017-FY2019

Culinary total
MCI Norfolk - Fiscal Year 2017
 \$27,273.11 Annual Food Budget: \$1,849,991.08
 \$ 522,587.20 Bulk
\$2,372,578.28

Active Vendors:
 Bimbo Bakeries
 F. Nasiff Jr. & Co.
 Garelick Farms
 Maines Paper & Food Serv
 Performance Food Group
 US Food Service

Culinary total
MCI Norfolk - Fiscal Year 2018
 \$25,973.26 Annual Food Budget: \$1,779,779.15
 \$520,031.51 Bulk
\$2,299,810.66

Active Vendors:
 Bimbo Bakeries
 F. Nasiff Jr. & Co.
 Garelick Farms
 J.W. Lopes LLC
 Performance Food Group
 US Food Service

Culinary total
MCI Norfolk - Fiscal Year 2019 *totals only thru 3/15/2019
 \$14,537.56 Annual Food Budget: \$1,644,325.00
 \$ 289,023.85 Bulk Y to D
\$1,933,348.85

Active Vendors:
 Bimbo Bakeries
 F. Nasiff Jr. & Co.
 Garelick Farms
 J.W. Lopes LLC
 Rosev Dairy
 Performance Food Group
 US Food Service

The Melancholy Truth of Jailhouse Suicide

By

Charles N. Diorio

Jeffrey Epstein and Aaron Hernandez remain the two most high profile jailhouse suicides in decades. In each instance, deplorable conditions of incarceration contributed to the deaths. In the case of Epstein, sleeping guards failed to make rounds, there was a breakdown within the institution's safety and security protocol allowing time for a suicide. In the matter of Hernandez, guards failed to make rounds, and more importantly, a culture of violence, drugs, and administrative indifference contributed to the former pro-football player and convicted murderer's death. In each case, there remains a crisis of arrest and detention leaving these victims to kill themselves.

More than three-hundred people commit suicide each year in American jails, twenty-five percent within the first 24 hours of incarceration and half within two weeks. About a third of deaths inside jails are caused by suicide, partly because people are reacting to the shock of incarceration.

People awaiting trial or serving short sentences are housed in jails, while convicts are held in prisons.

Modern American prisons are bleak places where technology has created a sterile hopelessness. I have witnessed the result of such despair. I've lived among inmates contemplating suicide. Lived and observed inmates who endure suicide watch: naked inmates locked in cells with no more than a metal frame for a bed and a "turtle suit", a polyester wrap-around smock.

Too often prisoners facing the brutal unknown of detention make threats to "kill themselves". These threats are taken seriously triggering suicide watch.

Suicide watch may last twenty-four hours, or longer. Many inmates who attempt suicide, or merely threaten it, find themselves forever labled in a mental health folder. This mental health "jacket" follows prisoners throughout their prison experience. Classification decisions are made based upon whether an inmate has attempted suicide or threatened it. Often, it is this determination by mental health officials that decide where inmates likely to hurt themselves end up. There are prisons and jails in every state where prisoners prone to hurting themselves do their time.

The dirty secret of detention remains a mystery to all but those who suffer through it. Modern American jails in particular, are designed to enhance misery and desperation - prosecutors use this tedious horror to exact plea agreements and swiftly end cases. The painful suffering of fighting a case can be so cruel most accused inmates take the first deal they get. In the case of Jeffrey Epstein, there would be no deal. For Epstein, suicide was his escape.

The unspoken truth of prison life is suicide remains an option for any inmate who desires to end the misery and uncertainty of their circumstances. Too many correction centers foster a culture of indifference - like the staff misconduct that allowed for the death of Epstein and Hernandez, for example.

Portrayed as a cowards way out, suicide is condemned among many behind bars as unmanly. There is a deeply entrenched "convict code" that holds suicide as a weakness. The hardship of prison life is something to be endured at all cost. Today's prison culture, however, is evolving. Suicide and attitudes about taking ones life, are no longer governed by the values of Spartan endurance which held among prisoners of these dark dangerous institutions. Today, suicide is considered

The Melancholy Truth of Jailhouse Suicide

Charles N. Diorio W103769 p.3 9/9/19

the result of mental illness. Even among hardened convicts, there's an acceptance; a tacit acceptance suicide is both a shallow weakness and a mental illness. This modern ambivalence among prisoners is a dangerous trend that increases the likelihood of suicide as an option - when in the past it would have been met with condemnation.

The gruesome examples of Epstein and Hernandez allow the public a spectacular view of deplorable conditions of confinement facing anyone entering America's jails and prisons. The public was given an unvarnished glimpse into the callous disregard for life held by prison officials tasked with the welfare of prisoners.

The melancholy truth of jailhouse suicide is not the lonely result, but the circumstances that inexplicably drive the decision to take one's life in a grim squalid jailcell. It is said, society is judged by its treatment of prisoners; a suicide behind bars must haunt our collective conscious.

END

Author Charles N. Diorio is currently serving a prison sentence at MCI-Concord. Please visit www.inmateauthorproject.org for more information about the work of Charles Diorio. Also, please visit RUN CHARLIE RUN and BREACH OF SECURITY on AMAZON.com, Barnes&Noble.com and GooglePlay.com.

Charles Diorio did serve on the same cellblock with Aaron Hernandez at the maximum security Souza-Baranowski C.C., his non-fiction memoir: **HARD TIME WITH AARON HERNANDEZ** is currently seeking a home, and literary agents are encouraged to enquire.

Please contact Charles Diorio c/o W103769 P.O.Box 9106, Concord MA 01742 or by e-mail by registering at www.corrlinks.com

