

IN MEMORY OF RUBEN FEBO – FREEDOM FIGHTER

ATTENTION: JOURNALISTS, ACTIVISTS,
PEOPLE OF FAITH, AND FELLOW CITIZENS OF CONSCIENCE

The following exposé is dedicated to the memory of RUBEN FEBO.



Ruben was a prisoner housed at Santa Rita Jail (“SRJ”) in 2017. He was subjected to acts of torture and abuse by Alameda County Sheriff’s deputies.

Specifically, Ruben was targeted because he blew the whistle on deputies who had recruited a fellow inmate known as “Preacher.” Preacher doused inmates with fecal matter and urine for these rogue “peace officers.”

Once Ruben was released from SRJ, he had a very hard time coping with the trauma he was subjected to while inside the jail. Ruben tried to seek relief from the local United States Courts, however he found out what many of us already know. The United States Courts have clearly become an extension of the States’ apparatus for repression.

Ruben killed himself in 2019. Although he is gone, he surely is not forgotten. After you review the following article and documents, I believe you will ask yourself, "What really has changed inside the infamous Santa Rita Jail?"

We would like all of you to focus on the words of former Alameda County District Attorney, Nancy O'Malley:

"These four deputies directed, facilitated, enabled and committed sadistic and terrorizing acts against several men whose protection fell directly within the responsibility of their positions as correctional officers."

We are not sure how sincere the former District Attorney was when she said these words, but no one can question their relevancy then and NOW!

O'Mally continued with:

"The conduct of these four defendants violates the law and there is no rational explanation for their actions aside from abject cruelty and a disregard for the humanity of the inmates."

And O'Malley finished by saying:

"IT IS THE MISSION OF THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE TO PROTECT LIFE AND PROPERTY WHILE PROVIDING HUMANE TREATMENT TO THOSE IN ITS CUSTODY. THOSE ENTRUSTED WITH SUPERVISING AND CARING FOR INDIVIDUALS WHILE INCARCERATED MUST BE HELD TO THE HIGHEST ETHICAL AND PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS." (Emphasis added)¹

Even though these statements were made by former D.A. O'Malley, they ring hollow because NOTHING HAS CHANGED. Furthermore, the

¹ Source: Terrorizing Acts: Four Santa Rita Jail Deputies Charged with Allegedly Letting Inmate Toss Feces, Urine at Others by Bay City News/Published September 5, 2017

cries and pleas of prisoners housed inside SRJ has been for the creation of meaningful civilian oversight of the jail.

Thus far, their voices have remained unheard in regard to this request.

‘They made me do it’: Ex-Alameda County deputies to stand trial for inmate feces-throwing

Justin Linn and Erik McDermott held to felony charges



Alameda County Sheriff’s Deputy Justin Linn, center, walks out of a court room at the East County Hall of Justice on Tuesday, Sept. 5, 2017, in Dublin, Calif. The Alameda County District Attorney’s Office has filed felony charges against four Alameda County Sheriff’s Deputies who worked at the the Santa Rita Jail in Dublin. (Aric Crabb/Bay Area News Group)

By [ANGELA RUGGIERO](#) |

PUBLISHED: April 16, 2019 at 2:23 p.m. | UPDATED: April 16, 2019 at 4:46 p.m.

OAKLAND — Two Alameda County sheriff’s deputies accused of ordering inmates to spray human waste on other inmates will be tried on felony charges, a judge ordered on Monday.

Former deputies Justin Linn and Erik McDermott face several charges each of assault under the color of authority and witness intimidation that stem from 2016 allegations at the Santa Rita County Jail in Dublin.

Alameda County Superior Court Judge Morris Jacobson also held both defendants on the charge of having allegedly choked an inmate to unconsciousness — previously only McDermott had been charged.

The deputies are alleged to refer to the throwing of feces and urine as “spreading the gospel,” or nicknamed them “crappuccinos,” one inmate testified. The term for the waste-throwing is commonly called “gassing” in the county jail.

Judge Jacobson said that he listened carefully to what the witnesses described as a pattern of behavior between Linn and McDermott.

“[Linn and McDermott were] acting in concert together with a common goal in abusing these inmates while on duty,” the judge said.

Last week, a victim inmate testified to the details of when he was awakened by McDermott and Linn in his cell. He remembers being choked from behind, and passing out, McDermott’s face in front of him. Her said he remembered hearing Linn’s voice from behind him, saying something along the lines of “I got you little b****.”

Taking a big pause and getting emotional on the witness stand, he told prosecutor Tim Wagstaffe that when he woke up later, he saw that there was blood on his underwear. He found that he was bleeding from his buttocks area — indicating a potential sexual assault.

“I just know it was wrong,” the man said.

The Alameda County District Attorney’s Office has not filed any sexual assault-related charges against the deputies, nor did Judge Jacobson add any in relation to the statement.

One of the inmates who the deputies allegedly used to facilitate the attacks against other inmates who were giving them problems, or were being combative, was [William Epting](#), known as “Preacher.” Epting is currently in jail awaiting trial on murder charges.

As he was leaving the courtroom last week, he said to no one in particular, “Tell Soria I’m sorry. They made me do it.”

He testified Monday that he was ordered by the deputies to “gas” [Fernando Soria](#) about three times. Soria, who at times said he was confused by the attorney’s questions on the witness stand, estimated it was up to eight times that he was gassed.

Soria testified that “Preacher” gassed him by using a shampoo bottle filled with fecal and urine matter, and threw it on him through a cubby portal of his cell door — a slot typically used to give inmates their food.

Although Judge Jacobson did drop some charges against the two former deputies, including conspiracy to obstruct justice, the judge added additional counts of felony assault under the color of authority for victim Soria, inmate [Robert Brown](#) and another inmate, Ruben Febo. Febo is said to have sent a letter to authorities that started the investigation into the actions of the deputies. In a letter he sent to this news organization in 2017, he detailed the allegations and general culture of the jail.

“These specific deputies ... aren’t guilty of creating this practice, rather guilty of being a part of a frat house style loosely ran organization of criminal cops in this jail who target the mental inmates or weird inmates for fun and thrills,” Febo wrote.

Another inmate and key witness, Shane Woodcook, testified that after word got around about Febo's letter, he was told by the defendants to spread the word that Febo was a snitch, which he refused to do.

Febo said in his letter that he was constantly in fear for his safety, health and property.

The two defendants are expected to appear in court at the end of the month for an arraignment on their charges.

<https://www.timesheraldonline.com/2019/04/16/they-made-me-do-it-ex-alameda-county-deputies-to-stand-trial-for-inmate-feces-throwing/>

