

TO: Warden Samuel
FROM: Dr. Angela Cotellessa
DATE: September 2, 2024
SUBJECT: Request for Reinstatement of Visiting Privileges

Dear Warden Samuel,

I hope this message finds you well. I am writing to humbly request your support in reinstating the visiting privileges for my family at the California Men's Colony. Attached, you will find the required application to approve me and Lily for visits, the losing of which have had a profound impact on our family, particularly our young daughter.

I know that you, like me, value fairness, integrity, and the well-being of the individuals under your care. These values are the cornerstone of public service, and I believe they should guide the decisions of any Warden. I can only imagine the difficult decisions you must face daily, balancing the needs of the institution with the rights and well-being of the inmates and their families. I want to acknowledge the challenges you face, and I appreciate the care you take in considering these matters.

At the heart of this request is a simple desire: to maintain the connection between a family. Family bonds are crucial to the rehabilitation process and provide a foundation of support that can inspire positive change. Reinstating our visits would not only help heal our family but would also reinforce the role of CMC as a place where humanity and justice coexist.

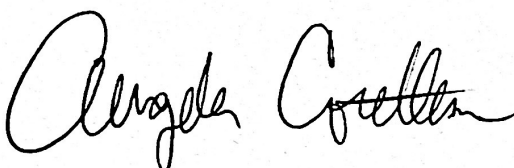
Your leadership in resolving this matter with kindness and fairness will send a powerful message to your staff and the broader community. It will show that under your guidance, CMC is a place where the values of empathy, respect, and justice are not just upheld but celebrated.

In light of Shawn's 602 about Sgt. Valencia asking my husband to break a CDCR rule on June 28 being sustained as valid, perhaps you can begin to see what we see, which is that unfortunately some members of the staff at CMC haven't behaved in ways which I'm sure you would expect them to as the senior leader onsite at CMC. Also, please note that in January, I reported the misconduct of CO Montes in Visiting; she had given my husband a 115 that contained many lies. That Rules Violation Report was overturned due to the video footage which proved her claims were false. I hope that knowing that our claims have been deemed as valid several times now will help guide your decisions here.

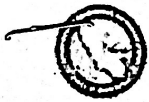
Time is of the essence for us. Every day that passes is another day of unnecessary emotional strain on our family. The separation is bad for us. I humbly request that you consider this matter with the urgency it deserves, so we can begin the healing process and move forward with renewed hope.

I want to thank you in advance for the care I know you will bring to this situation. Your decision will have a profound impact on our lives, and I am deeply grateful for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Angela Cotellessa', written in a cursive style.

Dr. Angela Cotellessa



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT of
Corrections and Rehabilitation

NOTICE OF VISITOR SUSPENSION

VISITOR COPY

Inmate Name: RODRIGUEZ, SHAWN M.

CDC#: V16387

Application Date: 06/28/2024

Facility: CMC-Facility C

Visitor: ANGELA J. COTELLESA



Permission to visit was suspended on 06/28/2024 for:

Disruption of the Visiting Area

Suspension due to disruption in the visiting room and visiting processing area. Per Warden

This suspension will expire on 08/27/2024 after which time the visitor may reapply by writing the Warden.

Action taken by: A. Stewart

Date: 06/28/2024

Signature:

Visitors may appeal any action taken above by following the established appeal process outlined in the California Code of Regulations, Title 15 Division 3, Section 3179, Appeals Relating to Visiting.

All supplemental information sent must include a copy of this notice.

CALIFORNIA MEN'S COLONY

P.O. Box 8101

San Luis Obispo, CA 93409-8101



July 2, 2024,

Control #9477

Angela Cotellessa
6200 Rolling Road, #523142
Springfield, Va, 22152
Email: acotellessa@gwmail.gwu.edu

Ms. Cotellessa,

Your email dated was received at the California Men's Colony (CMC) and has been forwarded to me for a response.

In your email, you are formally appealing the decision to suspend your visiting privileges for sixty (60) days following your visit on June 28th, 2024. You also believe the decision to suspend your visitation is disproportionate and is a result of misunderstanding of events that transpired the day of your visit. On June 29, 2024, a letter addressing your visiting restrictions and a brief synopsis was provided to you.

Based off these circumstances, your visiting privileges were suspended for 60 days per the California Code of Regulations (CCR) Title 15, Section 3176. You may request to have your visiting privileges reinstated by submitting a written request to the Warden after August 27, 2024. Please include a copy of this letter with your correspondence, along with a new Visiting Questionnaire

If you have any questions, please contact the Visiting Sergeant at any California State Prison. You may also refer to CCR, Title 15, Section 3179 Appeals Relating to Visiting.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "H. Shirley", is written over a horizontal line.

H. Shirley
Associate Warden, Central Operations
California Men's Colony