



Press Release

Date: Thursday, January 28th, 2021

Statement on the Confirmation of Acting Commissioner of Correction Angel Quiros

Hartford, CT – As the legislature considers the confirmation of Angel Quiros to the role of Commissioner of Correction, Stop Solitary CT firmly believes that the new commissioner must unequivocally commit to supporting legislation that would end the use of solitary confinement. It is not enough to speak about the need for change. Instead, we expect that the new commissioner will commit to working with legislators to codify changes in law that will protect the lives of incarcerated people.

At Stop Solitary CT, we look forward to working with the new commissioner to pass into law minimum standards, like those outlined in the [PROTECT Act](#), that would effectively end the use of prolonged isolation and ensure robust DOC oversight. In particular, the new commissioner must commit to closing Northern C.I. by the end of 2021. These reforms would be the basis for moving Connecticut's Department of Correction into the 21st century.

We believe firmly that it is time for Connecticut to reject outdated, cruel, and expensive forms of punishment. We believe that torture has no place in our justice system and we are eager to work with next Commissioner of Correction to safeguard the lives of people who live and work in prisons and jails.

"In the interest of sheer humanity and public safety Connecticut cannot continue inhumane practices that leave men and women broken in spirit and mind. We are not asking the Commissioner to take unheard of measures. We are simply asking him to bring Connecticut in line with progressive measures taking place in other states," said Stop Solitary CT Steering Committee Member and Organizer Barbara Fair.

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