

DONALD SPECTER – 083925
STEVEN FAMA – 099641
ALISON HARDY – 135966
SARA NORMAN – 189536
RITA LOMIO – 254501
MARGOT MENDELSON – 268583
PRISON LAW OFFICE
1917 Fifth Street
Berkeley, California 94710-1916
Telephone: (510) 280-2621

MICHAEL W. BIEN – 096891
ERNEST GALVAN – 196065
LISA ELLS – 243657
JESSICA WINTER – 294237
MARC J. SHINN-KRANTZ – 312968
CARA E. TRAPANI – 313411
ROSEN BIEN
GALVAN & GRUNFELD LLP
101 Mission Street, Sixth Floor
San Francisco, California 94105-1738
Telephone: (415) 433-6830

Attorneys for Plaintiffs

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURTS
EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
AND NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT COMPOSED OF THREE JUDGES
PURSUANT TO SECTION 2284, TITLE 28 UNITED STATES CODE

RALPH COLEMAN, et al.,
Plaintiffs,

v.

GAVIN NEWSOM, et al.,
Defendants.

Case No. 2:90-CV-00520-KJM-DB
THREE JUDGE COURT

MARCIANO PLATA, et al.,
Plaintiffs,

v.

GAVIN NEWSOM,
Defendants.

Case No. C01-1351 JST
THREE JUDGE COURT

**DECLARATION OF MICHAEL
BRODHEIM IN SUPPORT OF
PLAINTIFFS' EMERGENCY
MOTION**

DECLARATION OF MICHAEL BRODHEIM

I, Michael Brodheim, declare:

1. I am a Litigation Assistant at the Prison Law Office, counsel of record for *Coleman* and *Plata* Plaintiffs. I have personal knowledge of the facts set forth herein, and if called as a witness, I could competently so testify. I make this declaration in support of Plaintiffs' Emergency Motion.

2. I served 33 years in the custody of the California Department of Corrections. I was released from CDCR custody on July 23, 2015. While in CDCR custody, I lived in dormitories at the California Medical Facility (CMF) from 2000 to 2011.

3. Since my release from custody, I visited CMF once in November 2019, as a member of the Prison Law Office team monitoring compliance with the *Armstrong v. Newsom* Remedial plan. During that visit, I walked through many of the CMF housing units, including dormitories that I had once lived in.

4. Although I have not lived at CMF since July 2015, I observed during my November 2019 visit, that the conditions had changed very little since I had left, except that there were a few more single beds in some of the dorms than there had been before, in addition to the bunk beds. I believe there were also more people using walkers and wheelchairs in the dorms than when I lived there. This made the dorms even more crowded than they had been before.

5. The dormitories I lived in at CMF were in units J-1, J-2, and J-3. "J" refers to the wing of the prison, and the numerals refer to the floor.

6. On each floor of J wing, there were multiple dormitories. As I recall, there was one 8-man dorm on each floor of J-Wing. The other dorms were 12-man dorms, except for the front dorm which had more than 20 men. The latter dorm also had its own shower. Each dorm, except for the 8-man dorm, had one or two single beds with the other beds being double-bunked. Only the larger dorm had a common area where people could congregate. There was no similar space in any of the other dorms. Every dorm had a room in one corner with a toilet and sink. The room was about the size of a small closet.

1 Often, people would use that room to bathe (taking what was called a “bird bath”) and/or
2 do their laundry.

3 7. In the J-1, J-2 and J-3 dormitories that I lived in, there were usually 8 men
4 living in a room that measures roughly 20’ x 20’. These men and I shared the one toilet
5 and one sink that was located in the corner of the dormitory. There were four bunk beds
6 in the dorms I lived in. Even if our beds had been six feet apart, which they were not, it
7 would have been impossible to maintain a distance of six feet from each other while we
8 were sleeping, as we all slept within a couple of 2-3 feet of each other on the upper or
9 lower bunk. And whenever we left our beds to do any activities of normal life, including
10 dressing, bathing, getting food, going to the bathroom etc, we came within six feet of each
11 other.

12 8. Some of the people I lived with in the dorms used wheelchairs and/or
13 walkers. This made the small room more crowded and more difficult to maintain distance
14 between us.

15 9. We had to leave the dorm to take a shower. This was true for every dorm
16 except the first, larger dorm, which had its own shower. In order to shower, we had to wait
17 for the custody officer to unlock the door, which they did once an hour. We would have to
18 walk down the hallway to get to the shower room. When I showered, I would be locked in
19 the shower room (for about an hour), typically with about 5-10 other people. Two or three
20 people would use the shower at one time. It would not have been possible to maintain
21 social distance in the shower room, nor could I avoid passing people in my dorm on my
22 way to the shower.

23 10. Below are some photos of J-1 dorm, where I lived in 2011. These photos
24 were taken in April 2019 by plaintiffs’ *Armstrong* auditing team. The conditions that these
25 incarcerated people are living are very similar to the conditions in the dorm when I lived
26 there.

27 //

28 //





11. During my visit in November 2019, I observed that most people in the dorms at CMF are still living, showering, and sleeping within a few feet of each other most if not all of the time, just as they were when I lived there.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that the foregoing is true and correct, and that this declaration is executed at Berkeley, California this 24th day of March, 2020.

/s/_____
Michael Brodheim