

Meeting to Review Report of Facilitator Inappropriateness at SCC
Claremont, CA 8/28/06

IN attendance: Ann Boone, John Shuford, Joyce Banzhaf, Alice Waco, Vicki Rumbaugh, Kenya Williams, George Ramos, Katherine Youngmeister, Bob Barns, Pat Hardy

Review of circumstances surrounding a complaint brought to AVP/CA at the CCPOA conference by COs at the Sierra Conservation Center about a facilitator, Giri Sequoya, who was filmed inappropriately touching an inmate.

After extensive discussion and personal sharing, the group decided that two issues were of concern in relation to Giri's facilitation: Not following CDCR regulations and not functioning as a team member. The issue of touching was brought up by George (with Vicki and Bob) in the car after a workshop at SCC and she was told that touching was not acceptable in CDCR. A conference call when Giri returned in June to California was held with her on the phone where she was advised of AVP/CA need to develop apprentices and that functioning as a team member was an important part of apprenticing.

These issues are of enough concern that the group decided that a letter would be sent to Giri outlining the issues and advising her of AVP/CA's one year suspension of her at which time she might contact AVP/CA for the next steps to prepare her to return if she was interested. Though no final decision was made about the re-apprenticing, it was clear she should start facilitating on a team in the community until she has shown that she is ready to function on a team and to follow CDCR regulations.

Katherine will write the letter to get to Australia before Bob arrives there. This group felt very clearly that Bob should not be the bearer of this news.

Pat will write a memo to be sent to the prison administration advising them of our decision. Memo can be used to communicate what has been done to inmates.

Both written pieces will be reviewed by those in attendance prior to mailing.

A discussion of this should be at the Fall Gathering.

Pat Hardy, recorder