

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

JOHN ARMSTRONG, et al., on behalf
of themselves and as
representatives of the class,

No. C 94-2307 CW

Plaintiffs,

ORDER DISTRIBUTING
AND ENFORCING THE
AMENDED COUNTY
JAIL ORDER AND
PLAN

v.

EDMUND G. BROWN, JR., Governor of
the State of California;
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF
CORRECTIONS AND REHABILITATION;
MICHAEL MINOR, Acting Director of
the Division of Juvenile Justice;
MATTHEW CATE, Secretary of the
California Department of
Corrections and Rehabilitation;
JENNIFER SHAFFER, the Executive
Officer of the Board of Parole
Hearings; DIANA TOCHE, Acting
Director of the Division of
Correctional Health Care
Services; CHRIS MEYER, Director
of the Division of Facility
Planning, Construction and
Management; KATHLEEN DICKINSON,
Acting Director of Adult
Institutions; and ROBERT
AMBROSELLI, Acting Director of
Division of Adult Parole
Operations,

Defendants.

_____ /

Attached to this Order is the Armstrong v. Brown County Jail
Plan. Armstrong is a class action under the Americans with
Disabilities Act (ADA) and the Rehabilitation Act (RA) against the
California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) and
other State defendants, brought by prisoners and parolees with
mobility, sight, hearing, learning, developmental or kidney
disabilities that substantially limit one or more of their major

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1 life activities. On January 13, 2012 and again on April 11, 2012,
2 as a remedy for violations of the ADA and RA, the Court ordered
3 that CDCR develop, disseminate, and implement a plan for
4 accommodation of disabled parolees and out-to-court prisoners
5 housed in county jails.

6 Defendants' appeal of the April 11, 2012 order is currently
7 pending before the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. Defendants
8 take the position that the counties are solely liable for
9 providing disabled non-life parolees with accommodations legally
10 mandated by the ADA and RA and that the State has no joint
11 responsibility for this. This Court has denied Defendants'
12 request to stay the April 11, 2012 order during the appeal and has
13 ordered that, while their appeal is pending, Defendants are
14 required to comply with the County Jail Plan that they developed
15 in conjunction with Plaintiffs' counsel. The Ninth Circuit Court
16 of Appeals has denied a stay of this Court's April 11, 2012 order.

17 Attached to this Order is the County Jail Plan, which
18 supersedes the draft plans that were distributed to the counties
19 on February 27, 2012 and July 12, 2012.

20 The County Jail Plan's requirements include the following,
21 among others:

22 (1) On or before September 1, 2012, CDCR will send an email
23 notification to each county's legal counsel or designee
24 identifying each parolee with a disability, including those
25 subject to California Penal Code section 3056, being held in that
26 county's jail facilities on that date. Beginning on September 1,
27 2012, CDCR will send email notifications once per day to each
28 county's legal counsel or designee identifying each parolee with a

1 disability booked in that county's jail facilities over the past
2 24 hours. The notifications must include each parolee's name,
3 CDCR identification number, and last release date from prison.
4 The notification must also include a plain-language description of
5 each parolee's last-known disabilities and the accommodations in
6 housing or programming the parolee received as of the date he or
7 she was released from prison.

8 (2) On or before September 15, 2012, CDCR will send an email
9 notification to each county's legal counsel or designee
10 identifying each CDCR out-to-court prisoner with a disability
11 being held in that county's facilities on that date. Beginning on
12 September 15, 2012, CDCR will send email notifications once per
13 day to each county's legal counsel or designee identifying each
14 CDCR out-to-court prisoner with a disability sent to that county's
15 facilities in the past 24 hours. The notification will include
16 each CDCR out-to-court prisoner's name and CDCR identification
17 number. The notification will also include a plain-language
18 description of the out-to-court prisoner's last-known disabilities
19 and the accommodations in housing or programming the prisoner
20 received as of the date he or she was transferred from a prison.

21 (3) Beginning on September 15, 2012, CDCR shall provide CDCR
22 grievance forms and stamped envelopes addressed to CDCR to all
23 parolees and out-to-court prisoners with disabilities housed in
24 county jails. The parolees and out-to-court prisoners can send
25 the grievance forms to CDCR through the standard mail. CDCR
26 personnel will encourage parolees and out-to-court prisoners also
27 to use the county jail's grievance process to request disability
28 accommodations. Whenever CDCR personnel receive a completed

1 grievance form from a parolee or out-to-court prisoner in county
2 jail, they shall forward the grievance form to the county's legal
3 counsel or designee as soon as possible and no later than three
4 business days after receipt. CDCR shall respond to the grievances
5 within the timeframes set forth in the County Jail Plan and may
6 contact counties to request information for a response.

7 (4) Beginning no later than September 15, 2012, if CDCR
8 personnel become aware that an out-to-court prisoner or parolee
9 with a disability faces an urgent or emergency situation (for
10 example, if there is an allegation of a condition that is a threat
11 to the individual's health or safety or that would prevent his or
12 her participation or effective communication in a parole
13 revocation proceeding), CDCR will notify the county's designee or
14 legal counsel immediately.

15 CDCR will implement all remaining provisions of the County
16 Jail Plan by September 15, 2012. This includes, but is not
17 limited to, the requirements that CDCR must review and respond to
18 grievances it receives from class members, promptly share
19 grievances with county officials, review grievances to identify
20 patterns of denials of disability accommodations, and investigate
21 any such patterns identified.

22 Any questions about the information received from CDCR may be
23 directed to the following email address:

24 Armstrongteam@cdcr.ca.gov.

25 IT IS SO ORDERED.

26
27 Dated: 8/28/2012

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CLAUDIA WILKEN
United States District Judge