



Seattle Human Rights Commission

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February 29th, 2016

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The Seattle Human Rights Commission writes to express grave concern about the treatment of Angel Padilla, a detainee who suffers from kidney cancer, at the Northwest Detention Center. Access to adequate medical care is guaranteed by the 8th amendment as well as by international human rights treaties, including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights¹. The Seattle Human Right Commission is extremely concerned that Mr. Padilla is being denied his right to life-saving medical treatment while being held unjustly in detention.

Angel Padilla learned he had a cancerous tumor in his left kidney after a CAT scan in December of 2015. On February 19th, 2016, Mr. Padilla required hospitalization after collapsing in his cell, only to be returned to detention the following day with medication for pain. Mr. Padilla is in need of surgery to improve his condition and potentially save his life, however, he is being denied his right to timely medical care under the threat of deportation.

In 2015, Mr. Padilla became eligible for parole and early release from state prison after serving 85% of his sentence for an aggravated felony conviction. During his sentence, Mr. Padilla earned his GED, became a skilled welder, and married. Upon his release from state prison, he was detained by Immigration and Customs Enforcement, and sent to the Northwest Detention Center.

The Commission urges that Mr. Padilla's human rights be fully respected, and that Mr. Padilla be immediately released from detention so that he can seek immediate, life-saving medical care.

Thank you for your attention to this pressing issue,
The Seattle Human Rights Commission

Handwritten signature of Margaret Babayan in black ink.

Margaret Babayan, Co-Chair

Handwritten signature of Marcel Baugh in black ink.

Marcel Baugh, Co-Chair

Handwritten signature of Danielle Wallace in black ink.

Danielle Wallace, Co-Chair

¹ See International Convention on Civil and Political Rights Article 10:
<https://treaties.un.org/doc/Publication/UNTS/Volume%20999/volume-999-I-14668-English.pdf>