

From: jide@bringboldback.ca
Sent: September 19, 2018 1:10 PM
To: Heather Pope
Subject: Re: Dementia and Criminal Justice - Ottawa Municipal Election

Hello Heather,

Thank you for reaching out on this matter.

My father-in-law suffered from dementia for years, and that definitely included violent episodes.

I believe those suffering from dementia should, of course, not be charged criminally (or otherwise) as what lawyers call "mens rea" - the guilty mind - is absent. I believe it is important to train first responders on this.

Other than raising the awareness of first responders, much of what leads to a charge has to do with the process followed. Thus, I would work on advocacy, and with other levels of government, on ensuring that the process followed by first responders in instances of violence by dementia sufferers cannot lead to a charge.

I would also work on acquiring better training for municipal long-term care home staff, and would happily support research into strategies for the compassionate management of violent episodes.

I look forward to working with the Dementia Justice Society of Canada in the event my bid is successful.

Kind regards,
Jide Afolabi

On 2018-09-18 17:01, Heather Pope wrote:

> Dear Candidate:
>
> On behalf of the Dementia Justice Society of Canada, I am writing to
> ask a campaign question: "If elected, how will you work to improve the
> lives of people with dementia who live in a municipal long-term care
> home and become involved with the criminal justice system (e.g., are
> violent toward staff or another resident and are charged with
> assault)?
>
> Dementia Justice is a federally-incorporated non-profit society
> dedicated to advancing the rights, needs and dignity of people with
> dementia who are, or are at risk of becoming, involved with the
> criminal justice system. We strive to achieve our objectives through
> public advocacy, awareness-raising, education, and interdisciplinary
> legal and policy research.
>
> Our current volunteer advisory board members are:
>
> * Nicole Dalmer, PhD candidate, Faculty of Information and Media
> Studies, University of Western Ontario;
> * Professor Margaret Isabel Hall, Faculty of Law, Thompson Rivers
> University;
> * Barbara Lindsay, Director of Advocacy and Education & Marketing and
> Communications, Alzheimer Society of British Columbia;
> * Helene Love, doctoral candidate, Faculty of Law, University of

> Toronto;
> * Aileen McGinty, Crown Attorney, Mental Health Court and Court
> Monitored Drug Treatment Program, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia; and
> * Daina Stanley, PhD candidate, Medical Anthropology, McMaster
> University.
>
> For your reference, several of our advocacy materials are posted on
> our website, including our 2017 submission [1] to the federal
> Department of Justice in response to its transforming the criminal
> justice system initiative.
>
> Kindly note that we intend to post your response on our website for
> voters to read.
>
> Thank you for your time and consideration.
>
> We look forward to hearing from you.
>
> Best wishes with your campaign.
>
> Sincerely,
>
> Heather Pope, BA (Hons.), LLB, LLM
>
> Director
>
> Dementia Justice Society of Canada
>
> www.dementiajustice.com [2]
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> Links:
> -----
> [1]
> [http://www.dementiajustice.com/uploads/1/0/2/4/102466336/crimjusreform
> _submission.pdf](http://www.dementiajustice.com/uploads/1/0/2/4/102466336/crimjusreform_submission.pdf)
> [2] <http://www.dementiajustice.com/>