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NEW JERSEY SUPERIOR OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

Affiliated with the Fraternal Order of Police as NJSOA Lodge 183

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Tuesday, February 08, 2006

Mr. George Hayman, Acting Commissioner
State of New Jersey
Department of Corrections
Office of Employee Relations
P. O. Box 863
Trenton, NJ 08625-0863

Re: Inmate "KOP" medication

Mr. Hayman:

A troubling scenario was recently brought to my attention. Unfortunately I wasn't provided all of the particulars of the incident. However, the incident is secondary to what I am concerned about.

I was advised that an inmate at New Jersey State Prison had been found to be in possession of a large amount of the prescription medication "ultram." It is my understanding that the is considered a "KOP" medication by the Department of Corrections and/or the medical provider. It is also my understanding that this particular medication is a very strong pain medication and/or muscle relaxer. I was unable to find any departmental standardized listing of approved "KOP" medications. My concerns are that this medication, left at the control of the inmate population, could be used to harm staff, and/or contaminate them or their food sources.

I would like to discuss this issue with you in more detail. In the meantime, could you please provide a listing of the medications that are approved and/or classified as "KOP", which allows for inmates to possess and control the medication.

Thank you in advance for your time and cooperation in this important matter.
Sincerely,

Jeffrey Smith, President

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