

Free Marius Mason!



Get in touch with Halifax Prisoner Solidarity:

halifaxprisonersolidarity.noblogs.org

halifaxprisonersolidarity@riseup.net

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supportmariusmason.org/

Marius Mason is an anarchist, environmental and animal rights activist currently serving nearly 22 years in federal prison for acts of property damage carried out in defense of the planet. After being threatened with a life sentence in 2009 for these acts of sabotage, he pled guilty to arson charges at a Michigan State University lab researching genetically modified organisms for Monsanto, and admitted to 12 other acts of property damage. No one was physically harmed in these actions. At sentencing the judge applied a so-called “terrorism enhancement,” adding almost two years to an already extreme sentence requested by the prosecution. This is the harshest punishment of anyone convicted of environmental sabotage to date.

Marius is incarcerated in the high security Administration Unit at the Federal Medical Center Carswell in Fort Worth, Texas, a unit “designed for female inmates with histories of escapes, chronic behavior problems, repeated incidents of assaultive or predatory behavior, or other special management concerns...” ([FMC Carswell Information Packet](#)). Marius did not have a record of violating prison rules. It appears he is being held in this unit because of his political beliefs and in an effort to silence him.

Marius came out to his friends, family and supporters as transgender in 2014. Previously known as “Marie Mason,” he changed his name, uses male pronouns, and embarked on a course to get a medical diagnosis that would allow him to seek gender affirming surgery and hormone therapy. The Board of Prisons (BOP) has already diagnosed Marius as having gender dysphoria, and has made some clothing and commissary accommodations in accordance with their established policy. Subsequently, Caswell ran a plethora of medical diagnostic tests to screen him as being healthy enough to receive the care he has requested. Finally, on September 14, 2016, Marius received his first “T” hormone shot.

Marius has a long history of activism going back to his high school years. Born in 1962, his early activism included anti-war and environmental organizing, as well as anti-nuclear work and service with the anarchist publication, the *Fifth Estate*. Marius continues to contribute to that publication today. As Marius deepened his involvement in environmental and animal rights campaigns he organized or helped organize non-violent civil disobedience direct action campaigns, including actions to protect public lands, tree-sits to protest development, and anti-fur demonstrations. Marius’ advocacy also involved much work with many conservation and human rights groups tackling issues of water grabs and poverty, while also fighting to create local spaces like community gardens.

Write to Marius:

Letters are one of the only ways Marius can connect to the outside world. He loves to hear about people’s projects, what they’re reading, sensory information, animals, daily life, political thoughts. Even brief postcards, especially if they are sent regularly, help him feel connected. You can also send in printed out copies of articles, which helps him keep up to date on the world.

Marius has a list of 100 pre-approved people he can write to; this means he will be able to receive your letter but until your name is added to his list he cannot write back. Marius can request people to be added/removed but this takes time and is not always granted.

Dos and Don’t of writing to Marius:

When writing to Marius, keep in mind that all his mail is read by prison staff.

For this reason, do not mention any illegal acts or actions. Letters that mention other Green Scare prisoners may be rejected.

Your letter and envelope must contain your first and last name when writing.

If letters are not entirely in English, they may be delayed up to several months. Be sure to include your return address on the envelope and in the letter/card. You may also want to include his name and prisoner number on the letter/card in case it gets separated from the envelope during processing. Page numbers are also helpful in case of lost pages (example: page 1 of 5).

Last, letters and envelopes with anything “affixed” to the letter or card – such as glitter, glue, or white-out are not permitted but do not let that stop you from sending a colorful letter! Pen, pencil, crayon and paint in the letter (not on the envelope) are accepted. Marius can also receive articles printed from the internet or photocopies but no newspaper clippings.

If your mail is rejected, let folks know at supportmariusmason@riseup.net

Marius can be written to at:

Marie (Marius) Mason #04672-061
FMC Carswell
P.O. Box 27137
Fort Worth, TX 76127

Please address letters to “Marie (Marius) Mason.” Contrary to previous reports, Carswell is not accepting mail addressed to “Marius.” You can also send Marius books directly from Amazon, Powells, or directly from the publisher - your name must be included as the sender.