

PERSONAL ACCOUNTS FROM SURVIVORS  
OF PRISON SEXUAL ASSAULTS

MR. NOLAN: Explain that. I'm not familiar with that.

MR. DEBLASIO: Well, the grievance procedure starts with a BP9 supposedly that is filed to the warden's office and then you have your BP10 filed to the regional office and the BP11 filed to the General Counsel of the central office.

But by policy, many institutions say that you have to have an informal complaint first where you try to resolve it before filing the official paperwork that will be given a receipt number and sent to the warden's office. And in many institutions that informal complaint is going to go to the individual you're complaining of, whether it be -- in my case it was the counselor who moved the assailant into my cubicle, knowing that I was already reporting that I felt threatened by him. But, that's the procedure that allows you to be able to even go into court for civil action.

The Prison Litigation Reform Act requires you

to have exhausted your administrative remedies,  
which that informal complaint by policy becomes the  
first step. I'm not going to go to a person that  
I've already been threatened by to hand him an  
informal complaint and say, you know, I'm about to  
start a process against you and you're the person  
who's supposed to protect me now as I go through  
this process. It is not going to happen.