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COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

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December 1, 2000

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Colorado State Senate

Representative Dan Grossman
Minority Leader Elect
House of Representatives

Senator John Andrews
Minority Leader Elect
Colorado State Senate

Greetings,

It is our pleasure to attach for your review and use the Annual Report concerning the status of private contract prisons.

This report is submitted as directed in 17-1-201 (CRS) Corrections Privatization - Requests for Proposals Process - Duties of department.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at (719) 226-4930.

Sincerely,

Lou Archuleta, Director
Private Prisons Monitoring Unit

Attachment

- cc: Jerry Gasko, Deputy Director of Prison Operations
- Mary West, Ph.D., Deputy Director of Special Operations
- Brian Burnett, Deputy Director of Administration
- Alison Morgan, Director of Public Affairs

REPORT TO THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

CONCERNING THE STATUS OF CONTRACT PRIVATE CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES

In FY 1995/1996, four FTE were assigned to provide case management services to Colorado offenders housed in out-of-state privately-run facilities for what was intended to be a temporary arrangement. As offender populations continue to grow, along with future projections, the reliance on contracted housing services has proportionately increased. Privatization of these services is now a permanent reality.

The Private Prisons Monitoring Unit (PPMU) was created in 1999 to provide oversight of safety and security standards in the contract private correctional facilities. By early FY 2000, the DOC completed the return of all Colorado offenders from out-of-state contract facilities to contract facilities physically located in Colorado. As a result of this evolution in offender housing, the scope of work of the case managers naturally evolved from file and classification review, to auditing programs, evaluating security systems, recommending corrective actions, and providing training services for private facility staff. By providing these functions, the PPMU staff ensures consistency in delivery of services to offenders, and safety and security to facility staff and the general public.

There are currently four private prisons in Colorado. They are: Bent County Correctional Facility (BCCF), Crowley County Correctional Facility (CCCF), Huerfano County Correctional Facility (HCCF), and Kit Carson Correctional Facility (KCCF). Each facility has achieved accreditation by the American Correctional Association (ACA); the PPMU conducts internal ACA audits to ensure continued compliance with their national standards.

Contracts in place for the Fiscal Year 2000/2001 encumbered the full appropriation allowed in the Long Bill, including funds expected to be provided by the Federal Alien (SCAAP) Grant. The contracted average daily population of inmates to be housed in the private facilities is 2,008. The contract provisions were reviewed by several key staff members, and changes were made to provide clear direction to the facilities for operational practices necessary to be in compliance with both ACA and DOC standards and policies.

The PPMU ensures consistency in delivery of services to offenders through enforcement of the contract provisions which incorporate the Department of Corrections' Administrative Regulations and ACA accreditation standards. The unit's staff spends from 50-75% of their time in the private prisons conducting physical plant inspections, training contract staff in essential functions, and providing case management oversight. Audits of program and support service areas, along with quality control training efforts, combine to improve service delivery to offenders. Emergency management techniques have been shared and implemented at the private facilities to emulate DOC practices with excellent results.

The PPMU utilizes cash funds to pay its personal services and operating expenses, obtained through monitoring fees assessed to each contractor on a quarterly basis. There are 13.5 FTE authorized to perform auditing and administrative functions for the DOC. The organization is comprised of: (a) a director, providing oversight for the unit as a whole, ensuring consistent delivery of service; (b) an administrative assistant, who maintains efficiency and harmony in the unit by providing administrative support to the director and staff; (c) seven monitors who audit programs, evaluate security systems, recommend corrective actions, and provide training services for private facility staff; (d) three specialists who focus primarily on mental health, food service (0.5 FTE), and clinical services and who perform auditing, reporting, and training functions in their respective areas; (e) a contract compliance monitor, conducting contract development and performance audits, as well as fiscal management for the unit; and (f) an administrative assistant who works in records management.

The ultimate goal of this unit is to bring the standards and practices of the private facilities in line with those already in place at the state-run facilities. Major projects for the unit are to develop emergency management plans, conduct emergency drills, review formularies practices and program delivery, report and analyze audit results. Successful completion of this challenge will result in safe, fair and humane housing conditions, as well as consistent program opportunities for the offender population.

The following table describes program services that are available at the private facilities:

Number of Offenders 2,008 Contracted ADP in FY '01, 250 Out-of-State Offenders housed at CCCF

Physical Plant These contracted facilities are rated as capable of safely maintaining many more offenders than Colorado's anticipated need for FY '01.

		BCCF	CCCF	HCCF	KCCF
Offender Custody Level/Mix	Medium	391	324	353	231
	Minimum Restricted	180	94	160	80
	Minimum	61	31	82	28
Special Needs Offenders	Sex Offenders	132	20	158	75
	Mental Health/Chronic	7	n/a	5	2
	Medical 4 - 5	n/a	n/a	3	0
<u>OFFENDER ASSIGNMENTS:</u>					
Institutional Support	Food Service	70	111	85	68
	Laundry	12	11	7	5
	Maintenance	15	22	35	10
	Recreation	26	14	32	8
	Porters	176	55	99	106

OFFENDER ASSIGNMENTS: (continued)

	BCCF	CCCF	HCCF	KCCF
Institutional Support				
Clerks	17	9	2	n/a
Library	3	7	15	5
Law Library	2	6	n/a	n/a
Barber Shop	3	6	4	n/a
Administration	0	1	7	n/a
Commissary/Whse	12	1	4	7
Daily Living Asst.	n/a	n/a	2	n/a
Medical	1	1	1	2
Hobby Shop	2	3	7	n/a
Intake/Supply	1	1	5	n/a
Yard Maintenance	12	48	4	n/a
Tutors	21	n/a	n/a	13
Chaplain	7	2	n/a	6
Photographer	0	1	n/a	1
Academic/Vocational				
<u>Academic Education</u>				
ABE/GED	70	17	93	55
Cognitive Ed/Life Skills	40	3	7	30
ESL	n/a	n/a	14	n/a
<u>Vocational Education</u>				
Building Trades	0	n/a	n/a	6
Computer	42	29	27	17
Janitorial	28	4	23	2
Sheet Metal/Woodshop	0	10	0	n/a
Horticulture	0	11	n/a	7
Electrical Mechanical	28	n/a	6	n/a
Electronics	n/a	7	n/a	n/a
Hobby Shop Participants	n/a	18	n/a	n/a
In-Cell Hobby Shop	n/a	23	n/a	n/a
Clinical Services/ Treatment				
Sex Offender Treatment	n/a	0	n/a	n/a
Mental Health/Core Curr	62	13	n/a	28
Drug & Alcohol Recovery	77	44	35	28
Anger Management	12	12	n/a	28
Self study Anger Mgt.	n/a	15	n/a	n/a
Wellness	n/a	6	n/a	n/a
Community Labor	BCCF runs a recycling center, CCCF builds cabinets for Habitat for Humanity, HCCF builds cattle guards for the entire county and participates in parks projects.			

The private contract facilities are mandated by statute to provide a range of dental, medical, psychological services and diet, education, and work programs at least equal to those services and programs provided by comparable state correctional facilities.

DOC capacity levels and population projections have been evaluated by the director of budgets and the contract compliance officer of the PPMU. An additional \$2.6MM will be needed to pay for contracted housing for Colorado offenders through the end of the 2000/2001 fiscal year. In addition, we have been notified that this year's SCAAP grant allocation may be decreased by \$1.2MM. A supplemental budget request will be submitted, requesting additional funding to the private facility appropriation which will address the additional needs in this subprogram.

The Colorado PPMU has been recognized nationally as a model in progressive contract facility management. The Director of the PPMU receives invitations to speak to groups interested in pursuing contract housing for their offenders, and officials come to Colorado to discuss our procedures and experiences and tour contract facilities in Colorado. Techniques and policies are shared with other State's Departments of Corrections as requested.

If you have any additional information needs, please feel free to call Lou Archuleta, Director of the Private Prisons Monitoring Unit, at (719) 226-4930.