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STATE OF COLORADO

COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

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Bill Owens
Governor
Joe Ortiz
Executive Director

December 1, 2003

Representative Lola Spradley
Speaker
House of Representatives

Senator John Andrews
President
Colorado State Senate

Representative Andrew Romanoff
Minority Leader
House of Representatives

Senator Joan Fitz-Gerald
Minority Leader
Colorado State Senate

Re: Annual Report concerning the status of private contract prisons

Ladies and Gentlemen:

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) 226-4701.

Sincerely,

JOE ORTIZ
Executive Director

Attachment

- cc: Nolin Renfrow, Director of Prisons
- L.D. Hay, Director of Administration and Finance
- Bill Zalman, Manager of Offender Management
- Alison Morgan, Public Information Officer
- ✓ Cherrie Greco, Legislative Liaison
- Lou Archuleta, Private Prisons Monitoring Unit
- Michael Arellano, Private Prisons Monitoring Unit

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Bill Owens
Governor

Colorado Department of Corrections

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



Joe Ortiz
Executive Director

CONCERNING THE STATUS OF PRIVATE CONTRACT CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES

There are five private contract prisons in Colorado. They are: Bent County Correctional Facility (BCCF), Crowley County Correctional Facility (CCCF), Huerfano County Correctional Center (HCCC) and Kit Carson Correctional Center (KCCC) all owned and operated by Corrections Corporation of America. The newest private correctional facility is the Brush Correctional Facility (BCF) located in Brush, Colorado. This facility opened for operation October 21, 2003 with a capacity of 250 and is currently housing 50-75 female offenders from the state of Wyoming. The facility is operated by GRW, a Tennessee-based organization. The CDOC is not currently utilizing the excess housing.

The Department contracts directly with the Counties and the City of Burlington, who are in turn responsible for local oversight and to support the facility operation in the event of an emergency. These political subdivisions have subcontracted the operation of the facilities to private correctional corporations. As required in 17-1-202 (1)(c) C.R.S., each of the CCA facilities has achieved accreditation by the American Correctional Association (ACA), which reflects achievement of national standards in corrections. The capacity of the four CCA facilities is 3507; the DOC expects to be at capacity in December of 2003. The Crowley County Correctional Facility has been slated for expansion by CCA. The construction began November 2, 2003 and the first phase is expected to be completed by June 25, 2004, which will add 312 new general population beds. The second phase is estimated to be completed by October 2, 2004, with another 312 beds. The Crowley and the Kit Carson Facilities still house approximately 310 Wyoming offenders. The CDOC, Crowley Facility and the state of Wyoming are currently addressing the need for all the beds currently occupied by Wyoming offenders. The plan will include the possibility of moving Wyoming offenders to another facility, as the beds are needed to house Colorado inmates.

In May of 2001, HB 01-1370 was enacted, directing the Department to issue a request for proposal (RFP) for the construction and operation of a private contract prison to serve as a pre-parole and revocation center to contain at least 300 beds. This facility is envisioned as providing assessment, treatment, and programming services to inmates who meet the mandated criteria. Major program concentrations in this facility will be drug and alcohol, life skills and community re-entry services. The ultimate outcome should be decreased recidivism rates for inmates who have successfully completed programs. The CDOC selected two new private prison companies to build and operate two pre-release and revocation centers. The operators are Community Education Centers who will design and build a 500-750 bed unit in the Colorado Springs area with an anticipated occupancy date of January 2005 and WCC-Wackenhut who plan to construct a 500-750 bed unit in the Pueblo area. WCC has not confirmed an anticipated occupancy date, nor have they begun construction. Mr. Joe Ortiz, Executive Director, has assigned these two new facilities to report to Jeaneene Miller, Director of Adult Parole and Community Corrections. As of January 1, 2004, Wackenhut's name will officially

become The Geo Group, Inc.

The Private Prisons Monitoring Unit (PPMU) was created in 1999, and is a cash funded unit; its mission is to provide effective and efficient oversight of the contract facilities, ensuring the safety and security of the public, staff and inmates. Its vision is to provide a seamless transition of services between public and private facilities, resulting in consistent offender management and program services. To successfully accomplish these goals, the PPMU enforces contract provisions which direct the private contract prison operations. In addition to facility monitors, the PPMU staff includes program area specialists, who are able to provide credible feedback and advice to facility management in their respective areas. The facility monitors spend from 50-75% of their time in the facilities providing case management oversight, conducting security and program audits, and training contract staff in essential functions such as Code of Penal Discipline (COPD) processes and case management. The staff conduct unannounced visitor program and drug interdictions to discourage the introduction of contraband into the facilities. The PPMU coordinates interagency emergency drills to increase preparedness and to test the facilities' emergency plans.

Contracts in place for the Fiscal Year 2003/2004 reflect a per diem rate of \$50.37 per inmate per bed-day, with no increase in the per diem monitoring fees charged to the Counties by the Department. The cost to house offenders in private facilities will require and will most likely exceed the full appropriation provided in the Long Bill due to an increase in offender population growth. A supplemental request will be submitted for disposition to the General Assembly. Fiscal year 2003 and 2004 funded capacity is 3,026 of the 3,507 total private bed capacities. Current projections for June 2004 are that the state will exceed all bed space available. The Crowley expansion will elevate some of the bed space pressure but will be filled to capacity as the new beds become available.

As the correctional environment has evolved, the Colorado General Assembly has developed statutory language to support the PPMU operations, and has provided the impetus necessary to add substance to the contracts. 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. The following table describes program services that are available this year at the private facilities:

PRIVATE PRISONS:	Bent County Correctional Facility, Crowley County Correctional Facility, Huerfano County Correctional Center, Kit Carson Correctional Center and Brush Correctional Facility				
Offender Custody Level/Mix	Medium, Minimum R, and Minimum				
Number of Offenders	3,026 Contracted ADP in FY '03/04 Est. 300 Out-of-State Offenders to be housed in CCCF and KCCC.				
Physical Plant	These contracted facilities are rated as capable of safely maintaining 3,507 offenders.				
Special Needs Offenders		BCCF	CCCF	HCCC	KCCC
	Sex Offenders	171	216	n/a	129
	Mental Health/Chronic Needs	38	82	n/a	93
	Medical 4 - 5	5	4	6	10

OFFENDER ASSIGNMENTS:

Institutional Support

	BCCF	CCCF	HCCC	KCCC
Food Service	76	112	89	97
Laundry	11	24	6	15
Maintenance	17	67	34	14
Recreation	30	80	25	17
Porters	212	148	91	123
Clerks	3	15	n/a	109
Library	6	19	11	6
Law Library	incl	4	incl.	3
Barber Shop	6	6	2	4
Administration	0	2	7	2
Commissary/Whse	4	4	5	7
Medical	1	3	2	2
Hobby Shop	4	6	14	0
Intake/Supply	0	0	3	0
Yard Maintenance	1	20	4	0
Tutors	18	3	0	17
Chaplain	6	3	1	3
Photographer	0	1	n/a	0

Industries

N/A

Academic/Vocational

<u>Academic Education</u>	BCCF	CCCF	HCCC	KCCC
ABE/GED	78	18	42	112
ESL	11	20	31	31
Cognitive Education/Life Skills	0	30	51	36

<u>Vocational Education</u>	BCCF	CCCF	HCCC	KCCC
Building Trades	0	43	n/a	21
Computer	66	73	36	44
Business Management	0	0	n/a	25
Janitorial	0	21	25	11
Horticulture	0	28	34	0

<u>Vocational Education</u>	BCCF	CCCF	HCCC	KCCC
Electrical Mechanical	14	20	30	0
Electronics	0	20	n/a	0
Hobby Shop Participants	28	47	14	0
In-Cell Hobby Shop	153	221	83	61

Clinical Services/
Treatment

	BCCF	CCCF	HCCC	KCCC
Sex Offender Treatment	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Mental Health/Core Curr.	8	30	13	34
Drug & Alcohol Recovery	24	111	33	24
Anger Management	12	11	12	34

Actual Unassigned

<u>Temporarily Unassigned Offenders</u>	BCCF	CCCF	HCCC	KCCC
Offenders OTC/OTM unassigned	1	8	24	41
Offenders in Punitive/Admin. Seg.	22	63	19	23
Unassignable status (medical)	9	8	2	0
Unassigned	14	17	15	183

Food Service

The four private facilities provide meals to over 2,700 offenders. All facilities contract for this service with Canteen, Inc.

Laundry

Provides laundry services and delivery to approximately 2,700 offenders

Community Labor

BCCF runs a recycling center using 5 to 6 offenders. In addition, BCCF offenders read books to tape for visually impaired. CCCF builds cabinets for Habitat for Humanity. CCCF is presently providing a outside labor crew to Crowley and Otero Counties. HCCC has 6 inmates work in the community working on various community projects. Community Labor does not apply to Kit Carson Correctional Center.

Unique Features of Facility

KCCC and HCCC currently participate in a K-9 companion program and KCCC participates in Wheels for the World; a wheelchair refurbishing program.

The capacities and current populations of the four private facilities are as follows:

<u>Facility</u>	<u>Total Capacity On Grounds</u>		<u>Other States #'s</u>
BCCF	724	719	
CCCF	1185	862	Wyoming 272
HCCC	778	760	
KCCC	820	585	Wyoming 40
BRUSH	250	55	Wyoming only

The Colorado PPMU has been recognized nationally as a model in progressive contract facility management. The unit continues to be called upon by other agencies for feedback and information by those who are interested in pursuing or improving contract housing services for their inmates. Officials come to Colorado to discuss our procedures and experiences and tour contract facilities in Colorado.