

STATE OF COLORADO

COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

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Bill Owens
Governor

Joe Ortiz
Executive Director

December 1, 2004

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

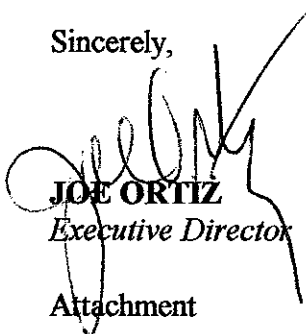
Ladies and Gentlemen:

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
Michael Arellano, Private Prisons Monitoring Unit
Karen Hoff, Department of Education



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 fifth private correctional facility is the Brush Correctional Facility (BCF) located in Brush, Colorado. This facility is operated by GRW, a Tennessee-based organization.

The Department contracts directly with the Counties and the Cities of Burlington and Brush, 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 4,146 and 268 at the Brush Correctional Facility. The Crowley County Correctional Facility was slated for expansion by CCA. The construction began November 2, 2003 and the first phase was completed in June 2004. This first phase added 312 new general population beds. The second phase was completed in October 2004 and that added another 312 beds. The Bent and the Kit Carson Facilities currently house approximately 130 Wyoming offenders. The Crowley County Correctional Facility is currently housing approximately 200 offenders from the State of Washington. In addition, the Brush Correctional Facility is housing approximately 70 female offenders from Colorado, 60 female offenders from the state of Wyoming and 60 female offenders from the state of Hawaii.

During 2004, the Department experienced a significant increase in gang-related activity, and was called to quell a disturbance at the Crowley County Correctional Facility in July 2004.

During FY 2004, the Department experienced a dramatic increase in the number of gang-related critical incidents occurring within the Department of Corrections and within the Colorado private prisons. As a matter of public safety and due to the demand to house disruptive security threat group inmates appropriately, the Department requested and received authority to place up to 128 special management inmates identified as most responsible for these activities in out-of-state private prison facilities. CRS 17-1-104.9 precludes the Department from housing inmates with a custody designation higher than medium in private prisons located in Colorado. Construction of CSP II remains on hold pending the outcome of litigation. The Department issued an Invitation for Bid, resulting in a five-year contract with CCA to house this special population in their Tallahatchie County, Mississippi facility.

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 and GEO Group, Inc., formally known as WCC-Wackenhut. Mr. Joe Ortiz, Executive Director, has assigned these two new facilities to report to Jeaneene Miller, Director of Adult Parole and Community Corrections. Community Education Centers began construction of its facility in April 2004 with a scheduled opening date of August 1, 2005. The contract is for 500 beds; however, the building is designed to house 750. The GEO Facility in Pueblo is still in the deliberation stage and not expected to come on line until 2006.

The Private Prisons Monitoring Unit (PPMU) was created in 1999, and until this current fiscal year, was a cash funded unit with a monitoring fee paid by the private prisons. The conversion of Cash Funded to General Fund was based on the per diem rate of \$0.81 per inmate as the base cost of providing monitoring services. Both statutorily and contractually, the Department has certain obligations that are associated with the increasing populations of inmates. The Department is mandated statutorily to monitor the private prisons, as well as to assess a fee for the workload associated with the review and monitoring of out-of-state inmates housed therein. The level of resources needed for monitoring private prison operations is largely dependent upon the number and size of the facilities, their geographical location and the number of inmates housed in each. As the private prison population continues to increase, the duties and responsibilities of the Private Prisons Monitoring Unit (PPMU) also increases.

The mission of the PPMU 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 conducts 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 2004/2005 reflect a per diem rate of \$49.56 per inmate per bed-day. Effective July 1, 2004, there is no monitoring fee assessed to the Counties/Cities for Colorado offenders; however, the fee to monitor non-State offenders remains at \$0.41 per day. Fiscal year 2004 and 2005 funded capacity is 3,314 of the 4,146 total private bed capacities.

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

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

3,314 Contracted ADP in FY '04/05. Approximately 130 Out-of-State Offenders housed in CCCF, KCCC and BCCF.

Physical Plant

These contracted facilities are rated as capable of safely maintaining 4,146 offenders.

Special Needs Offenders

	BCCF	CCCF	HCCC	KCCC
Sex Offenders	197	192	227	200
Mental Health/Chronic Needs	62	44	63	77
Medical 4 - 5	3	5	9	9

OFFENDER ASSIGNMENTS:

Institutional Support

	BCCF	CCCF	HCCC	KCCC
Workers	458	100	339	508
Education	166	0	367	357
Intensive Labor Program	0	0	0	0
Specialized Program Participation	0	0	0	0
Unpaid	23	0	0	0
Unassigned	73	614	54	210
Correctional Industries	0	0	0	0
Canteen	2	2	4	5

Job Coordinator Statistics

	BCCF	CCCF	HCCC	KCCC
Total Assigned to Facility	722	760	763	830
Total Avail for Assignment	699	83	707	623
Segregation Population	23	141	19	42
Unassigned Population	73	619	21	210
% of I/Ms Working/Programming	89%	13.4%	92%	61%
Jobs Approved	108	83	205	95
Jobs Denied	23	0	20	0
Jobs Requested	131	0	225	95
Outside Clearances Granted	7	0	0	0

Offender Programs

** Programming will resume @ CCCF when normal operations resume as a result of July 2004 inmate disturbance

<u>Educational/Vocational Enrollment</u>	BCCF	CCCF**	HCCC	KCCC
Vocational Computer	66		34	43
Vocational Electronics	14		32	0
Vocational Horticulture	0		30	0
Vocational Custodial	18		24	0
Vocational Plumbing	0		0	33
Vocational Masonry	0		0	1
Vocational K-9 Science	0		0	34
Vocational Sm. Bus. Mgmt	0		0	29
GED	56		40	53
ESL/ABE	12		139	25
Cognitive Education/Life Skills	0		33	5

<u>Vocational Programs</u>	BCCF	CCCF	HCCC	KCCC
AA/NA	102		27	29
Relapse Prevention	0		25	0

Relapse Aftercare	0	11	0
Religious Programs	211	446	432
<u>Required Classes</u>	BCCF	CCCF	HCCC KCCC
Core Curriculum	21		25 21
Anger Management	12		15 18
Sex Offender Treatment	0		0 0

Food Service The four private facilities provide meals to over 2,900 offenders. All facilities contract for this service with Canteen, Inc.

Laundry Provides laundry services and delivery to approximately 2,900 offenders

Unique Features of Facility BCCF runs a recycling center using 5 to 6 offenders. In addition, BCCF offenders read books to tape for the visually impaired. CCCF builds cabinets for Habitat for Humanity. HCCC has 6 inmates work in the community working on various community projects. 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 private facilities are as follows:

EXTERNAL CAPACITY			
FACILITY	G P	SEGREGATION	TOTAL
Bent County (Male)	680	44	724
Brush (Female)	256	12	268
Crowley County (Male)	1512	312	1824
Huerfano County (Male)	752	26	778
Kit Carson (Male)	768	52	820
Tallahatchie (Male Ad Seg)	128	00	128

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.