

STATE OF COLORADO

COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

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Bill Ritter, Jr.
Governor

Aristedes W. Zavaras
Executive Director

December 1, 2010

Representative Frank McNulty
Speaker
House of Representatives

Senator Brandon Shaffer
President
Colorado State Senate

Representative Sal Pace
Minority Leader
House of Representatives

Senator Mike Kopp
Minority Leader
Colorado State Senate

Re: Annual Report concerning the status of private contract prisons

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,

ARISTEDES W. ZAVARAS
Executive Director

Attachment

xc: Bob Cantwell, Director of Prisons
Karl Spiecker, Chief Financial Officer
Lou Archuleta, Deputy Director of Prisons
Robert Allen, Associate Director of Private Prisons Monitoring Unit
Amy Zimmer, Department of Education



Bill Ritter, Jr.
Governor

Colorado Department of Corrections



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Executive Director

*REPORT TO THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE
December 1, 2010*

CONCERNING THE STATUS OF PRIVATE CONTRACT CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES

The External Capacity Subprogram in the Long Bill provides options for the housing of Colorado Department of Corrections (DOC) offenders in other non-DOC facilities when numbers exceed the DOC's facilities physical capacity. The Private Prison Monitoring Unit (PPMU) currently contracts with five jurisdictions for housing and program services. Compensation is provided from appropriations made available by the Colorado General Assembly. In addition, the private contract prisons are authorized to house non-state offenders in their facilities after appropriate file review and approval by the PPMU, under the authority of the DOC Executive Director. The main objective of the PPMU is to ensure that private contract prison operations adhere to the standards set by the American Correctional Association (ACA) and the administrative regulations of the DOC. The provisions of each contract stipulate services to be provided, specific security and non-security related administrative regulations to be followed that include: training available through the PPMU and the DOC Corrections Training Academy, medical, food service, and educational service level to be maintained at each facility. The PPMU has facility monitors and program specialists who regularly monitor the facilities and program areas to verify compliance with the terms and conditions of the contracts and to provide for a transition of services between public and private facilities.

Colorado currently utilizes five private correctional facilities as follows:

The State currently utilizes the services of three Corrections Corporation of America (CCA) facilities, to include; 1) Kit Carson Correctional Center (KCCC) located in Burlington, CO, 2) Crowley County Correctional Facility (CCCF) located in Olney Springs, CO, 3) Bent County Correctional Facility (BCCF) located in Las Animas, CO.

The State also employs the services of the Park County Jail (PCJ) located in Fairplay, CO. Currently, offenders housed at PCJ are there on a transitional basis awaiting transfer to Buena Vista Correctional Facility (BVCF) and/or Denver Women's Correctional Facility (DWCF).

The fifth private correctional facility is Cheyenne Mountain Re-entry Center (CMRC) located in Colorado Springs, CO, and owned and operated by CEC (Community Education Centers) based in Roseland, New Jersey. This facility is a pre-parole and revocation center that is monitored jointly by PPMU and Adult Parole and Community Corrections.

An additional private correctional facility located in Colorado that is currently not housing any Colorado offenders is the Hudson Correctional Facility (HCF) which is located in Hudson, CO. This facility is owned and operated by Cornell Companies, Inc., a subsidiary of GEO Group. The official groundbreaking of the facility was September 10, 2008, and the opening ceremony was conducted on November 17, 2009. The facility opened with a general population bed capacity of 1,188 beds. At this time, the Colorado Department of Corrections does not utilize the Hudson Correctional Facility to house any Colorado offenders. GEO Group contracted with the state of Alaska to house Alaska Department of Corrections offenders. The first Alaska offenders arrived the weekend after Thanksgiving 2009 and currently, there are 965 offenders at the facility. The contract that CDOC developed is directly between CDOC and Cornell Companies, Inc. Statutorily CRS Title 17-1-202, PPMU must still monitor any private prison in the state of Colorado; therefore, per the contract, CDOC must provide a monitor to effectively administer this contract.

Two other private facilities, Huerfano County Correctional Center (HCCC) and High Plains Correctional Facility (HPCF) no longer house DOC offenders or other state's offenders. From November 1997 to March 11, 2009, the State utilized the services of CCA's Huerfano County Correctional Center in Walsenburg, Colorado for housing male offenders. CCA requested that CDOC vacate the facility of Colorado offenders and asked that we place these offenders in other Colorado CCA facilities. This request came as CCA was awarded an out of state contract from the Arizona Department of Corrections to house a considerable number of Arizona offenders. Due to the fact that BCCF and KCCC had recently expanded, the CDOC was able to transfer the Colorado offenders that were housed at HCCC to these two private facilities. The Arizona Department of Corrections housed offenders at HCCC from May 2009 to March 2010. In early 2010, the Arizona Department of Corrections made the decision to remove offenders from HCCC and to move them back to Arizona due to that state's budget concerns. DOC did not need to utilize the empty HCCC beds and CCA closed the facility in May 2010.

The CDOC was advised on November 5, 2010, that CCA was awarded a contract from the California Department of Corrections to house offenders at the Crowley County Correctional Facility beginning in 2012. This will require CDOC to move Colorado offenders presently housed at CCCF. This may necessitate the reopening of the Huerfano County Correctional Center to meet the DOC bed space needs.

Since July 2004, the DOC utilized the services of the High Plains Correctional Facility Center in Brush, Colorado for housing female offenders. On March 8, 2010, the Colorado Department of Corrections notified Cornell Companies Inc. that they would not be utilizing HPCF for female bed space due to the decrease in female offender incarceration rates. As a result, Cornell Companies closed HPCF at the end of June 2010.

As of November 22, 2010 the current population capacity of all of the private facilities is 4504.

Facility	Bed Capacity/ Beds Occupied	Type of Offender
Bent County Correctional Facility (BCCF)	1,466/1,377	Male
Crowley County Correctional Facility (CCCF)	1,794/1,625	Male
Kit Carson Correctional Center (KCCC)	1,488/825	Male
Cheyenne Mountain Re-entry Center (CMRC)	776/656	Male
Park County Jail (PCJ)	250/21	Male/Female

The Colorado Department of Corrections' Private Prisons Monitoring Unit 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 offenders. Officials visit Colorado to discuss our procedures and experiences and tour contract facilities in Colorado.

Exhibit A:

SERVICES PROVIDED BY PRIVATE CONTRACT PRISONS

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 tables describe program services that are available this year at the private facilities:

PRIVATE PRISONS: Bent County Correctional Facility, Crowley County Correctional Facility and Kit Carson Correctional Center, Cheyenne Mountain Reintegration Center

Custody Level/Mix Medium, Minimum R, and Minimum

Number of Offenders 5,384 Contracted ADP

Physical Plant These contracted facilities are rated as capable of safely maintaining 6,185 offenders.

		BCCF	CCCF	KCCC
Special Needs Offenders	Sex Offenders	552	621	330
	Mental Health/Chronic Needs	324	296	153
	Medical 4 (no 5's at privates)	2	41	8

<u>OFFENDER ASSIGNMENTS:</u>		BCCF	CCCF	KCCC
Institutional Support	Food Service	144	170	123
	Laundry	27	9	10
	Maintenance	6	15	10
	Recreation	63	59	13
	Porters	477	0	273
	Clerks	23	3	0
	Library	0	0	0
	Law Library	0	3	5

Industries		BCCF	CCCF	KCCC
	Recycling	2	0	0
	K-9 Program	0	0	18

Academic/Vocational	<u>Academic Education</u>	BCCF	CCCF	KCCC
		ABE/GED	145	435

	<u>Vocational Education</u>	BCCF	CCCF	KCCC
	Voc. Electronics	42	21	0

Voc. Equipment	0	0	0
Voc. Custodial	28	0	0
Voc. Computer	74	0	71
Re-Entry	28	13	0
In Unit	40	438	0
AA/NA	0	69	107
Voc. Masonry	0	0	40
Voc. Plumbing	0	0	26
CDL	0	0	19
Horticulture	0	0	22

Clinical Services/ Treatment		BCCF	CCCF	KCCC
	Sex Offender Treatment	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Mental Health/Core Curr	0	34	0
	Drug and Alcohol Recovery	430	458	326

Unassigned	<u>Temp. Unassigned Offenders</u>	BCCF	CCCF	KCCC
	Unassigned	267	204	108

Food Service The private facilities provide meals to over 4,300 offenders. The three private CCA facilities contract for this service with Canteen, Inc.

Laundry Provides laundry services and delivery to approximately 4,300 offenders.

Community Labor/Relations

CCA's Bent County Correctional Facility has a Community Relations Board comprised of members of various outside law enforcement agencies, vendors, school officials and city/county government employees. The board meets twice a year.

BCCF supports several community organizations to include: Las Animas Southeast and East Central Recycling Association/Board, Las Animas/Bent County Golf Course Advisory Board, Las Animas School District Accountability Committee, Las Animas FFA Advisory Board, Las Animas/Bent County Community Center Board (Boys and Girls Club), 4-H Project Leaders, Bent County Deputy Officers (Reserve Officers), Las Animas/Bent County Chamber of Commerce, Bent County Development Foundation, Las Animas High School Booster Club and the Bent County Ball Association, Bent County Health Care Center Board of Directors, and the Bent County Fair Board.

BCCF offenders also contribute to the community by participating with the Southeastern Colorado Recycling Center. Offender work detail is supervised by a CCA/BCCF Sergeant. It is the largest single rural recycling program in the U.S., covering approximately 36,900 square miles in area. The processing center handles the following materials: old newspaper, office pack, mixed glass, steel cans and aluminum cans.

CCCF has a community relations committee that consists of facility managers as well as community representatives, including nearby residents, local officials/leaders and local media. The committee holds a quarterly community relations luncheon. Members of the community exchange ideas, voice

concerns, discuss the facility's operation and activities and addresses community questions or concerns. CCCF does a number of projects for Habitat for Humanity to include building cabinets (most recently for 16 local homes), the home economics room at Crowley High School and the nurses station at Crowley Co Nursing Center. The VITP Truss Shop manufactures roof trusses and recently delivered trusses to 12 homes. CCCF also has the Birdhouse Program where offenders decorate birdhouses with positive messages for local nursing homes that the facility adopts, schools and hospitals. The Project Linus program at CCCF is designed to allow offenders to crochet blankets, scarves, mittens, etc. to donate to charities through out the world. CCCF has a greenhouse where plants are grown and then donated to community gardens, schools, nursing homes, etc. In addition, CCCF is involved in other local organizations which include 16th Judicial Drug Task Force, Salvation Army, Rocky Mountain SER (Employment Service partnership), Ordway Chamber of Commerce, the Colorado Department of Transportation, and the school systems/towns of Rocky Ford, Crowley, Manzanola, and Fowler.

KCCC holds community relations meetings with 14 leaders of the city of Burlington and Kit Carson County. These meetings are effective in clearly communicating information between the facility and the community/county. KCCC staff is involved in the community to include the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts of America, Rotary Club, Chamber of Commerce, Preventive Justice Arts Council, Prairie Family Center, Library, Old Town and Kit Carson County Carrousel, Fort Morgan Community College classes, and the many activities of the Burlington School system.

Unique Features of Facility

BCCF has a reading program for offenders where they can read a book to their child while being recorded. The CD and book are then mailed to the offender's child.

CCCF conducts CDOT Flagger certification classes. The facility teams up with the Department of Labor for several apprentice programs to include Cabinet Making, Cook/Bake Laundry Machine Repair, Maintenance Repair, Construction Painter, Plumbing and Combination Welder. CCCF continues its partnership with Friends of Retired Greyhounds in an Adoption/Foster Care Program.

KCCC also conducts CDOT Flagger certification classes as well as classes for Commercial Drivers License (CDL). KCCC currently participates in a CCI Canine Companion Program. This prepares animals for final placement that will enable them to provide assistance to handicapped persons. They also have a dog program named "Second Chance Dog Program." This provides second chance training for pound dogs in order to be adopted by families in the surrounding area. KCCC also participates in a wheelchair refurbishing program named Wheels for the World.

Colorado Department of Corrections
Private Prisons Monitoring Unit (PPMU) – Organizational Chart / Effective October 1, 2010

