

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY  
(Division of Criminal Justice)  
FY 2010-11 JOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE HEARING AGENDA**

**Tuesday, January 6, 2010  
11:00 am – 12:00 pm**

**11:00-11:10 INTRODUCTIONS AND OPENING COMMENTS**

**11:10-11:20 OVERVIEW QUESTIONS**

1. How many beds are actually available in the community corrections system? How many beds are available that provide specific services to people, such as alcohol treatment or mental health therapeutic beds? Are inmates trained to transition from prison to the community in the community corrections system? What percentage of programs provide high school diplomas to the offenders?
2. What are the recidivism rates for transition placements as compared to those inmates who are released directly to parole?
3. What happens to a transition community corrections client with regard to treatment of alcohol or mental health issues? Does community corrections work in conjunction with BHOs or cities and counties?
4. Please explain the growth in General Fund appropriations for the Division given that the provider rate for community corrections has remained relatively flat.
5. What is status of community corrections charging offenders subsistence rates? How has that changed over the last several years? How much revenue does that generate for community corrections providers?

**11:20-11:30 QUESTIONS SPECIFIC TO DECISION ITEMS**

Decision Item #8: Additional Fleet Vehicles

6. How does the Department justify buying vehicles versus reimbursing employees for mileage expenses?
7. Will this request be audited in the future to confirm that it was better to lease than to reimburse employees?
8. Will any of these vehicles be used for commuting? Why does the Department have 357 vehicles used for commuting?

9. If the Department were to reduce the number of commuter vehicles, could these new vehicles be absorbed?
10. Why were the vehicles in the decision item funded with federal funds?

Base Reduction Item #2: FTE for Recidivism Reduction Package Research and Evaluation

11. Will this function be absorbed somewhere else so the General Assembly has research to indicate the success or failure of these programs?
12. How often are recidivism numbers updated? Will the loss of research FTE impact the divisions ability to track recidivism?

**11:30-11:35 QUESTIONS SPECIFIC TO OVERVIEW OF NUMBERS PAGES**

13. Are the increasing federal funds due to ARRA dollars or just normal federal dollars? If normal, what are they? If ARRA, what will they be used for and when will they go away?

**11:35-11:40 COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS FUNDING LEVEL**

14. What does department think of current funding level? Should mix be changed? Why or why not?
15. If the General Assembly were to increase the assumed percentage of inmates in community corrections could part of the savings be used to increase the provider rates?
16. What would be an appropriate weighted average cost when comparing the cost of a community corrections bed to a prison bed?

**11:40-11:50 OPEN ALLOCATION FOR COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS**

17. What is the average backlog time for an inmate who has been approved for a community corrections placement but was in prison awaiting a placement in the community? What are the reasons an inmate remains on the inmate backlog? Do those reasons impact the length of the wait? If so, in what way?
18. How do other states administer their community corrections programs? Do they have local board control or are clients placed into programs at the state level?
19. What number of inmates are rejected because the community in which they will be placed does not have enough beds versus number rejected because of crime they committed? What percentage of clients are rejected by the community corrections boards for jurisdictional reasons? How difficult is it to acquire new beds in community corrections? Are different decisions made by community corrections boards for placement based on whether it is diversion or transition beds? If so, in what way?

20. Please discuss whether there would be state savings if the minimum criteria for accepting clients was standardized across all community corrections boards.
21. What is the percentage of rejections per community corrections board? Is there inconsistency in the decisions each board makes? If so, what types of inconsistencies?
22. Does the type of treatment available to a community corrections board impact the decision on whether an inmate is placed in that community?
23. Under the open allocation method, are community corrections boards still allocated funding on a quarterly basis? Could this be changed to improve the utilization of funding?
24. Do community corrections offenders have to go back into state facility before they are released, or can they be released from community correction facilities directly?
25. Do all community corrections boards have waiting lists for their programs? Which boards have waiting lists and which do not?

**11:50-12:00 GENERAL QUESTIONS**

26. Has the Department received any gifts, grants, or donations for the recidivism grant program established by H.B. 09-1022? If so, how much?
27. Are community corrections providers for profit or non-profit organizations? How many of each? Any other financial structures? Does the State contract directly with them or are they contracting with community corrections boards?
28. Are there community corrections facilities that specialize in certain types of programs, i.e. drug offenders or mentally ill? Could offenders from all judicial districts be placed in these facilities?
29. Do the prison population projections include the level of unemployment or general economic conditions in projecting the prison population growth? Why in a bad economy is the inmate population going down rather than up?
30. Is the reduction in the inmate population related to a drop in crime rate or a change in sentencing practices? Are the projections differentiating between the type of crimes that are contributing to the drop in population?
31. How do community corrections boards spend their funding? Please provide a general breakout of each board's costs in relation to their funded level.

**ADDENDUM: OTHER QUESTIONS FOR WHICH SOLELY WRITTEN RESPONSES ARE REQUESTED**

32. What entities pay for community corrections placements in Colorado? What state agencies pay for these placements? Do any non-state entities pay for these placements?
33. Does the Department have information about total state expenditures for substance abuse treatment? If not, what action could the General Assembly take to assist in gathering such information and to help coordinate treatment resources statewide?
34. Are existing substance abuse treatment services provided through the Judicial Department, the Department of Human Services, the Department of Corrections, and the Department of Public Safety adequate to meet the need for services? Are available treatment services effective?
35. Organizational charts for your department, showing divisions and subdivisions (with geographic locations).
36. Definitions of the roles and missions of your department, its divisions and subdivisions.
37. The number of current personnel and the number of assigned FTE by division and subdivision (with geographic locations), including all government employees and on-site contractors.
38. A specific list of names, salaries, and positions by division and subdivision of any salaried officer or employee making over \$95,000 per year in FY 2009-10.
39. A specific list of names, bonuses, and positions by division and subdivision of any salaried officer or employee making over \$95,000 per year who received any bonuses in FY 2008-09.
40. Numbers and locations of any buildings owned or rented by any division or subdivision (by location) and the annual energy costs of all buildings.
41. Any real property or land owned, managed, or rented by any division or subdivision (by geographic location).
42. List essential computer systems and databases used by the department, its divisions and subdivisions, with their actual FY 2008-09 expenditures.
43. Any actual FY 2008-09 expenditures over \$100,000 total from the department or from its divisions and subdivisions to any private contractor, identifying the contract, the project, and whether the contracts were sole-source or competitive bid.
44. The amount of actual FY 2008-09 expenditures for any lobbying, public relations, gifts, public advertising, or publications including:

- a. expenditures for lobbying by public employees, contract lobbyists, or "think tanks;"
  - b. expenditures for lobbying purposes at other levels of government;
  - c. expenditures for lobbying purposes from grants, gifts, scholarships, or tuition;
  - d. expenditures for publications or media used for lobbying purposes;
  - e. expenditures for gratuities, tickets, entertainment, receptions or travel for purposes of lobbying elected officials; or
  - f. expenditures for any public advertising. Include all advertising campaigns, including those that are not for public relations.
45. List of all boards, commissions, and study groups, including actual FY 2008-09 expenditures, travel, per diem budgets and assigned FTEs.
46. Suggest budget and staff reductions, including reductions in FTE and hours, by division and subdivision, that will reduce your department's total FY 2010-11 General Fund expenditures by 12.5% relative to FY 2009-10 appropriations before any adjustments that have been announced since the end of the 2009 session.
47. Suggest budget and staff reductions, including reductions in FTE and hours, by division and subdivision, that will reduce your department's total FY 2010-11 General Fund expenditures by 25.0% relative to FY 2009-10 appropriations before any adjustments that have been announced since the end of the 2009 session.