May 21, 2010

David J. Rosen
Legislative Budget and Finance Officer
State House Annex
P.O. Box 068
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0068

Dear Mr. Rosen:

Please find the department’s responses to the additional questions raised by members of the Assembly Budget Committee.

**Assemblyman Greenwald:**

1. Please provide the committee with an accounting of the cost of providing treatment to non violent, drug and alcohol addicted inmates as patients in community mental health treatment centers vs. the cost of housing them as inmates in State facilities. How does the recidivism rate differ from those participating in drug treatment programs to those who have not?

**Response:** The Department is not able to provide an accounting of the cost of providing treatment to non-violent drug and alcohol addicted inmates as patients in community mental health treatment centers. The closest comparison to such programming is that provided by the Mutual Agreement Program (MAP), which is made available through the Department of Human Services, Division of Addiction Services (DAS). This program provides licensed substance abuse beds for inmates in a community residential setting.

Pure MAP vendor costs are $68 per day. Based on the DOC’s experience in managing its 3rd Party Contracts, additional costs would apply to this operation. Complementary costs such as program administration, staff fringe benefits, contract compliance and auditing are not available to the DOC therefore a fully loaded cost is not able to be calculated.
The DOC does not have New Jersey specific recidivism data at this time on treatment participants versus non-participants; however DOC is currently engaged in partnership with the Department of Statistics, Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey in the review of treatment outcomes for those offenders who participated in the treatment continuum versus those who did not. The preliminary indications of the Rutgers study are showing a trend toward improved outcomes of program participation; the study is in progress and has not been finalized.

**Assemblyman Johnson:**

1. **What is the ratio of inmates to custody staff?**

**Response:** The ratio of inmates to custody staff is as follows: First shift -- 7.9 to 1; Second shift - -11 to 1 and Third shift-- 21.5 to 1. These ratios are based on 3 shifts of direct and indirect custody staff seeing the same inmate population. Indirect custody staff serving in property, mail and tower posts are included because they are required to respond to inmate codes when called. Not included in the custody count are those units where officers have little or no direct ongoing inmate supervision for example, centralized transportation and medical, Special Operations Group (SOG), and the training academy.

Should you have need for additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at your convenience.

Sincerely,

Gary M. Lanigan
Commissioner

GML:CME:KB:nlm
c: Mark Cranston, Chief of Staff
   Lydell Sherrer, Assistant Commissioner
   Carmella M. Elmer, Assistant Commissioner
   Grace Rogers, Assistant Commissioner
   Kathleen Baker, Director
   Patricia Loreti, Supervising Administrative Analyst