TO: NV Board of State Prison Commissioners

FROM: Mercedes Maharis MA MS MA, 1910 W Oakey Blvd, Las Vegas, NV 89201

RE: Change of Director Request

Honorable Commissioners:

According to 2013 legislative minutes Dir. Cox gave back $7 million dollars to the NV General Fund per Assemblywoman Fiore:

"Kudos to our director, Mr. Cox, who is doing an incredible job. He has returned $7 million to our General Fund. That says a lot for how he runs our state prisons." Source: Page 25, last paragraph. http://www.leg.state.nv.us/Session/77th2013/Minutes/Assembly/JUD/Final/615.pdf

$7 million could have surely secured NV prisons' accreditation from both NCCHC for health care and for ACA accreditation, too. That money could have also provided officer education and prisoner education and programming so they leave better than when they arrived. It could have saved lives.

Please do not allow Director Cox to return money to the General Fund again. Please replace Director Cox and his upper level employees today to spare more social suffering and future disasters.

This 2015 budget shows 1 new person for re-entry administration when a reported approx. 365 prisoners already given parole are still in prison costing us $6.5 million? More mismanagement? I think so?

My research reveals that 1/3 NV of prison deaths 2007 through 2014 (please feel free to check and correct them if there are errors) are from 1/5 of the NV prison population==our sex offenders, a disabled population. With the new 24.4% recidivism rate, surely a few dollars to finally set up a proper, credentialed program could stop these deaths and returns to prison because this population is being released with no idea of why they committed offenses... but, of course, there are the innocent among them, as we know. Officials need to consider adopting the Iowa sex offender template, quite successful at a 3.5% recidivism rate.

The recently reported shooting incident at High Desert and the dental disaster of an inmate having to pull his teeth demonstrates serious areas of neglect, in my opinion, as reported in the NV Review Journal. These are continuing unacceptable policies and practices.

I have observed and studied NV prison issues for too many years and see no other solution to be able to move forward instead of steadily downward without replacement of current leadership. Business and educationally oriented leadership could surely right the direction of this ship.

Thank you for all you do.

Mercedes Maharis MA MS MA
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