



BRIAN SANDOVAL
Governor

JAMES DZURENDA
Director

BARBARA K. CEGAVSKE
Secretary of State

ADAM LAXALT
Attorney General

STATE OF NEVADA
BOARD OF PRISON COMMISSIONERS

Board of Prison Commissioners Meeting
Wednesday, August 30th, 2017

MINUTES

The Board of Prison Commissioners held a public meeting on Wednesday, August 30th, 2017.

The meeting began at approximately 9:00 AM at the following locations:

Meeting Location:	Old Assembly Chambers State Capitol Building 2nd floor 101 N. Carson Street Carson City, NV	Video Conference:	Grant Sawyer State Office Building Room 5100 555 East Washington Ave. Las Vegas, NV 89101
--------------------------	---	--------------------------	--

1. Call to Order
2. *Attendance:* Governor Brian Sandoval; Secretary of State Barbara Cegavske. The Governor stated that Attorney General Laxalt was attending via teleconference.
Action: The meeting was called to order by Governor Brian Sandoval.
Department Attendees: James Dzurenda - Director; John Borrowman - Deputy Director Support Services; Kim Thomas - Deputy Director Programs; David Tristan - Deputy Director Prison Industries; Harold Wickham - Deputy Director Operations;
Public: Refer to [Item 2 Exhibit](#)
3. Public Comment. Mercedes Maharis thanked Governor Sandoval for SB 402 regarding solitary confinement. She said she would like to see a time limit on when medical questions are answered. She said she did not know if there was one or not however it was not good to have to wait 2 weeks for a response.
4. Acceptance and Approval of Minutes – May 16th, 2017 meeting.
Action: Secretary of State motioned to approve the Minutes and the Acceptance and Approval of Minutes was passed two – zero with no changes. Attorney General Laxalt abstained from the vote since he was not in attendance at the meeting.
5. NDOC general updates – James Dzurenda, Director – For Discussion Only. Director Dzurenda explained that the administrative regulations under consideration will be updated with today's date upon approval. He went on to discuss that the inmate population has decreased somewhat. Felony sentences from the County have gone down. He explained reentry will help reduce victimization in the community and decrease felony convictions. Director Dzurenda said currently there are 300 inmates in nonconventional beds that were incorporated into rooms that were not originally designed as housing. They ensure that they have adequate water, toilets and showers to be consistent with Supreme Court guidelines. The RFP for out-of-state housing of 200 offenders which was approved through legislation was responded to by CCA in Arizona. He discussed which inmates will be sent out of state; as committed to the Legislature, NDOC will focus on out-of-state residents, gang leaders, inmates who are trying to extort other prisoners, and who are actively recruiting for their gangs. He said this will show there is no tolerance for gangs and victimization.

Director Dzurenda explained that Southern Desert Correctional Center has been moving inmates out of their cell blocks so maintenance and repair could be conducted. The 2nd week in December they will be closing unit 8 which houses approximately 200 inmates to completely renovate and repair issues that have been neglected for years. He said he hopes the timing will accommodate when they will move the 200 inmates out of state. He said he expects the building to reopen in 12 to 18 months which will reopen with 400 potential beds.

Director Dzurenda went on to discuss incident rates and how he and staff look at how they could have prevented incidents. He said the incident tracking show staff where the rates are going and can show how safe or non-safe incidents are trending. Two and a half years ago the ASCA report made 10 recommendations for safety improvements. Deputy Director of Operations Harold Wickham discussed in-service training and Range qualification for staff now being 40 hours long in accordance with American Correctional Association guidelines. The less lethal 40 mm launcher systems have been ordered and they are creating a training and qualification plan in accordance with the vendor's recommendations for staff that will use them. All correctional officers have been 100% certified with OC spray and expandable batons and have access to handcuffs for use. Governor Sandoval clarified that the NDOC is now in compliance with the ASCA recommendations.

Director Dzurenda discussed mental health saying they hired a new Director of Mental Health. He said they are waiting for a NIC grant for a mental health delivery system. The Vera Institute has been auditing segregation procedures and rates of discipline and will provide their 1st formal audit results by the end of the year. Director Dzurenda said they are looking at mental health inmates discipline in regards to various factors such as medicine, Alzheimer's, whether they are diabetic, etc. which will be taken into account to see if discipline will be administered or not.

Governor Sandoval asked how has the 6% salary increase impacted employees and correctional officers. Director Dzurenda said it has played a huge role in morale. However, it is still hard to recruit new officers as the competition for these people is pretty stiff. He said Metro is hiring hundreds at top salaries and with less percent coming out for their pensions so their take-home pay is a lot more. He explained when you have a county jail a local jail and a prison near each other, all 3 staff are doing the exact same things every day and when you compare benefits and salary, people will go to the agencies that have better take-home pay and benefits. Director Dzurenda said that for the staff we do have, the morale has picked up with the pay increase, they know that people understand that they have a difficult job and they're not forgotten about. He said this was a huge plus for retention.

6. Update on Second Chance Act Statewide Adult Recidivism Reduction Strategic Plan Implementation – Director Dzurenda said Dave Tristan, Deputy Director Programs will speak on the subject but he wanted the Board to know that he has hired a new Deputy Director of Programs and David Tristan will become the Deputy Director of Prison Industries. Deputy Director David Tristan said the department is doing an excellent job of meeting the requirements of this grant and have received positive feedback from the Bureau of Justice and State Council of Governments. He said they are working with partner agencies, both private and public, and working on education as it relates to improving a person's ability to be able to go back into the community. He explained they are going to start literacy testing on all new inmates. It will be a self-administered test. They are working with The College of Southern Nevada on a variety of projects. They received simulators from Clark County for heavy equipment training. They are working on obtaining tablets for inmate's education. The tablets will not have Internet access. NRAS has been incorporated into NOTIS and is in the testing phase. They hired a Quality Assurance Manager, Dr. Whitney Lewis and NDOC has developed numerous audit instruments that are also in the testing phase. He said they are working on wraparound community services. Via the UNLV and UNR's research unit units, they will be able to tell which programs work and which don't work. He said this project is off to a tremendous start. Governor Sandoval said he believes these improvements will make a difference in people's lives and make the community safer as we move forward and allow inmates being released to be more prepared to come back into society.

Secretary of State Cegavske said she is very proud of these achievements. Deputy Director Tristan thanked the staff, instructors, psychologists and correctional officers for their amazing effort. He said that the Bureau of Justice said NDOC accomplished in one year what other agencies were not able to accomplish in 3 years. Sheila Lambert said this would not have been possible for them to accomplish without the Board of Prison Commissioners, the legislature and other folks giving NDOC the support and resources they needed. She said that this was truly a team effort that includes Governor Sandoval, Secretary of State Cegavske, Attorney General Laxalt and their entire team and staff who have regularly helped circumvent hurdles as they moved forward with this project. She said they are very grateful for the leadership that is continually demonstrated. Governor Sandoval said that the NDOC is on the front lines and do it every day and he truly appreciates it as this is not easy work. He said this is work that we can be proud of and it has started to receive national attention. Governor Sandoval said this has become a national model for other states.

7. Incidents update – James Dzurenda, Director - For Discussion Only. (*Item 7 Exhibit*) Director Dzurenda discussed various trends they look for to see where they have to shift resources as needed. He said facilities have plans to concentrate resources on units that have more incidents. Inmates are not safe unless staff is safe. Staff safety plays the 1st important role. When they feel safe they control units better. Seeing how to improve staff safety and reduce incidents is also a key to inmate programming. Inmates won't go to programs unless they feel safe. First inmates receive a verbal warning then an immediate use of force. Planned use of force usually is in regards to forced medicines. Changing how staff handles mental health inmates corresponds to a dramatic decrease in planned use of force. By consolidating inmates to a mental health therapeutic environment staff work together as a treatment team. This helps the inmates become healthier. There has been a drastic reduction in planned use of force. They are conducting more training than ever before in these areas and staff are utilizing more tools. Director Dzurenda attributed the reduction not to one specific thing. The immediate use of force has gone down dramatically and is half of what it was in 2016 and the planned use of force is now about a quarter of what it was in 2016. Director Dzurenda said he cannot attribute this to one specific thing. He said it is between the change in policy of the way we treat mental health inmates and the way we classify offenders, crisis intervention training, and being able to recognize an inmate who is decompensating so they can react before it becomes a problem, all these things result in a safer environment. He said the more staff becomes trained in these areas, the better it becomes. He said he is excited to see how this will impact the community in the future. He believes the way they have teamed up with Health and Human Services in the community and Parole doing a better job with their mental health discharges makes a difference. He met with Las Vegas Metro police last week and they said there is a 27% decrease in felony convictions and arrests. He said that is huge because it shows impacts are being made on the community and he expects better success than that in the future.

The Governor asked if recidivism is being tracked for the inmates released in the past 18 months. Director Dzurenda said yes. The 2nd Chance Act auditing tool looks at those who are returned to prison with a sentence. 28% of the current population is not from Nevada and are released to other states so they shouldn't be listed as successes. Director Dzurenda said they need a new standard tool that takes out offenders that are not from this country or this state for more accurate reflection.

Secretary of State Cegavske thanked Director Dzurenda and clarified the date of the incident charts that the numbers are taken through the end of July. Secretary of State Cegavske asked about various trends. Director Dzurenda said that there were mass moves of inmates in March so there was a spike and then the amounts went down. He discussed how court sentencing trends also affect NDOC's intake numbers. Secretary of State Cegavske congratulated Director Dzurenda on the improved numbers.

Attorney General Laxalt congratulated Director Dzurenda on the great numbers. Deputy Director Wickham said he sees a huge cultural shift due to the leadership. He said moving the seriously mentally ill inmates out of Ely State Prison also helped.

8. Presentation and Discussion of Report of Chief Medical Officer pursuant to NRS 209.382- Doctor John DiMuro, M.D., Chief Medical Officer or his designee. For Discussion Only. (*Item 8 Exhibit*) Doctor DiMuro said there was

only one new issue with a dietary complaint at High Desert State Prison. He said he sent an environmental health specialist to check it out in an unannounced audit and they found it was not a valid complaint. He said he wrote to the inmate who was very happy with their ability to investigate so expeditiously. He explained inmate Stockmeiers appeal has been dismissed. Dr. DiMuro stated that the Florence McClure Women's Correctional Center has been approved for an electronic medical record system. Dr. DiMuro briefly discussed that the Vivitrol program is just getting started and they will have data later in the year. He said they are also considering a pilot program with an implantable product and he will be discussing that with Director Dzurenda. He said that it is very easy working with Director Dzurenda as they remain in constant communication and all issues are addressed very expeditiously. Governor Sandoval asked if the menus are the same at all institutions. Director Dzurenda said yes the meals are all the same but not necessarily scheduled on the same day at each location.

Secretary of State Cegavske said she was excited about the Vivitrol program and how everyone is working so diligently on this reentry initiative

9. Administrative Regulations – James Dzurenda, Director. For Possible Action. Administrative Regulations considered:

- AR 114 Board of Prison Commissioners Meeting
- AR 123 Divisional Reporting
- AR 153 Critical Incident Review
- AR 300 Recruitment and Hiring
- AR 302 Meet and Confer Procedures
- AR 305 Sexual Harassment
- AR 306 Employee Formal Grievance Procedure
- AR 317 Employee Awards and Commendations
- AR 319 Workplace Safety
- AR 321 Workplace Violence
- AR 330 Employee Resignation and Reinstatement/Rehire
- AR 339 Employee Code of Ethics and Conduct
- AR 349 Employee/Applicant Alcohol and Drug Testing
- AR 350 Grooming and Dress Standards
- AR 352 Staff Identification Cards
- AR 357 Summons and Complaint Service of Process
- AR 364 Respiratory Protection Program
- AR 430 Transportation of Inmates
- AR 431 Transportaton of Inmates to Court
- AR 494 Evaluation, Placement, and Treatment of Transgender and/or Intersex Inmates
- AR 545 Serious Illness/Escorted Leave
- AR 610 Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) and Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome AIDS
- AR 638 Consent/Refusal of Treatment
- AR 734 Inmate Disciplinary Detention
- AR 740 Inmate Grievance Procedure
- AR 817 Community Re-Entry Program

Governor Sandoval asked the other Board members if they wanted to discuss any particular AR. Attorney General Laxalt commented on AR 114 Board of Prison Commissioners Meeting. He discussed the reference to fees which will be removed and the AR will be resubmitted at the next Board meeting.

AR 305 Sexual Harassment was discussed; NDOC has adopted the Governor's policy and is taking a stronger stance with increased discipline on sexual harassment issues. AR 339 Employee Code of Ethics and Conduct; due to the new NRS, timelines on investigations have been changed. There will be a staffing analysis conducted to assure there is significant staffing coverage to be able to follow the 90 day timeline. Additionally, Director Dzurenda now has to sign off on the start of investigations. AR 494 Evaluation, Placement, and Treatment of

Transgender and/or Intersex Inmates was discussed. This is a national issue that the Department of Justice audits. Director Dzurenda invited the ACLU, public community stakeholders from Las Vegas and Reno, and the Attorney General's office to work on the new standards and has met with staff from the Department of Health and Human Services as well. AR 734 Inmate Disciplinary Detention is constantly being updated. Director Dzurenda said you will see it at the next Board meeting and future Board meetings with additional updates as needed.

Governor Sandoval asked if all staff had the opportunity to comment on the AR's put forth at this meeting and Director Dzurenda said yes and discussed the process.

Action: The Board approved all of the regulations with the exception of AR 114 and with the inclusion of recommended corrections regarding typos or grammatical issues. [Link to AR section will be added](#)

10. Public Comment. Mercedes Maharis discussed AR 610 Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) and Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome AIDS and said the word "should" needs to be changed to "will". She said that placing inmates in administrative segregation is the same as solitary confinement which means AR 402 is not applicable to them and asked the Governor to do something about that. (*Item 10a Exhibit*) Sheila Lambert Management Analyst said the policy that was approved as temporary by Director Dzurenda and the backup of the markup are not the same. She Suggested that the Board amend the last motion so that AR 610 can be pulled and the markup version be edited to match the approved temporary version for submission at the next meeting.

Secretary of State Cegavske made a motion to reconsider the action of approval of AR 610. Attorney General Laxalt seconded the motion. Governor Sandoval approved the motion. AR 610 is no longer approved and will be edited and reconsidered at the next Board meeting.

Philip Lyons said he was an inmate with NDOC for 25 years and currently works for attorney Travis Barrick. He discussed the grievance process and the 3 levels. He said inmates are given offensive responses and recommended that the Attorney General's office should either review the last level of grievances or an additional level for the AG's review should be added. He said it would keep some grievances from going to court. Mister Lyons discussed the trends of violence in prison and said that he would like to see staff on inmate assault incident trends be recorded as well. (*Item 10b Exhibit*)

Secretary of State Cegavske thanked Prison Industries for the 2016 history book they published for the Secretary of State's office.

11. Adjournment was at approximately 12:15 PM

APPROVED THIS DAY, MONTH OF , 2017

GOVERNOR BRIAN SANDOVAL

SECRETARY OF STATE BARBARA K. CEGAVSKE

ATTORNEY GENERAL ADAM PAUL LAXALT

Transcribed by Cynthia Keller, Executive Assistant, Nevada Department of Corrections

NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
 BOARD OF PRISON COMMISSIONERS MEETING
 August 30, 2017
 Attendance Roster – Carson City, NV

	NAME (please print)	Organization	Request to Speak	
			Yes	No
1	Elizabeth Coleman	NDOC RE-Entry		X
2	Ann Gutwirth	NDOC RE-Entry		X
3	Jim Del Aborro			
4	Elizabeth Wash	NDOC WSCC		X
5	Isidro Baez	NDOC NNCC		
6	BROOKE KEAST	NDOC Admin		X
7	Dwayne Deal	NDOC OMA		X
8	Kathy Swain	NDOC		X
9	Chelsea Langley	NDOC		X
10	Bill Quenk	NDOC-PZ		X
11	GELE COLUMBUS	NEVADA CORRECTIONS ASSOCIATION		X
12	Cameron Vandenberg	AGO		X
13	HAROLD WICKMAN	NDOC		
14	Kim Peterson	NDOC		X
15	Ronda Hansen	NDOC		X
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

**NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
 BOARD OF PRISON COMMISSIONERS MEETING
 August 30, 2017
 Attendance Roster – Las Vegas, NV**

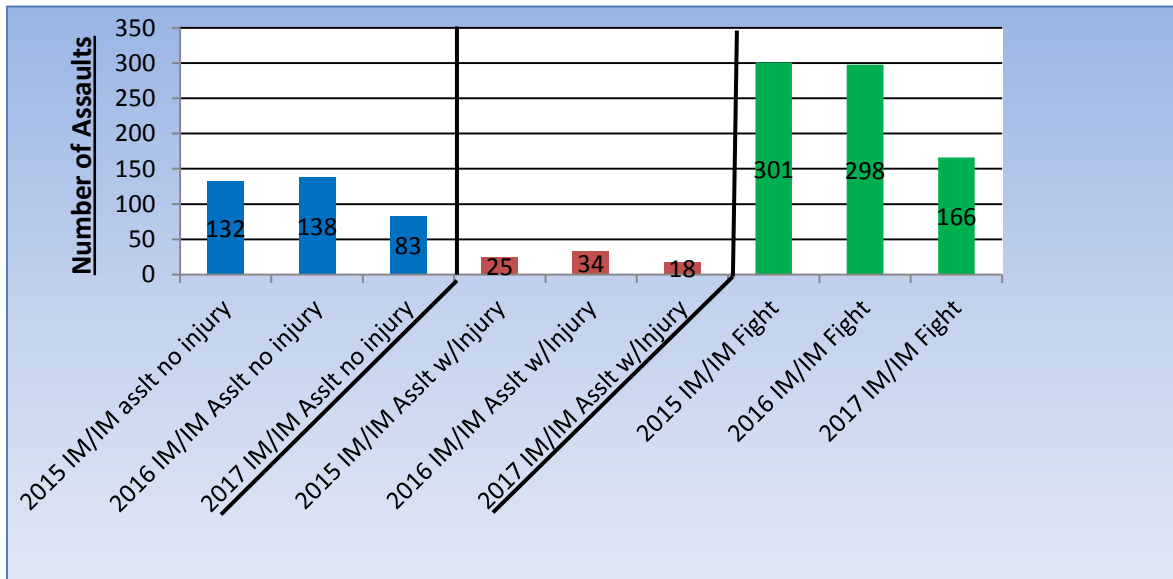
	NAME (please print)	Organization	Request to Speak	
			Yes	No
1	Cynthia Keller	NDOC		✓
2	Kim Thomas	NDOC		✓
3	DAVID TRISTANO	NDOC	✓	
4	SHEILA LAMBERT	NDOC		✓
5	Mercedes Valenzuela		✓	
6	CAROLINE BATEMAN	OAG		✓
7	Ann McDermott	AG		✓
8	Phillip Lyons		✓	
9	Barbara K. Ceganske	SOS		
10	Myra Bennett			✓
11	John Witherow		✓	
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				



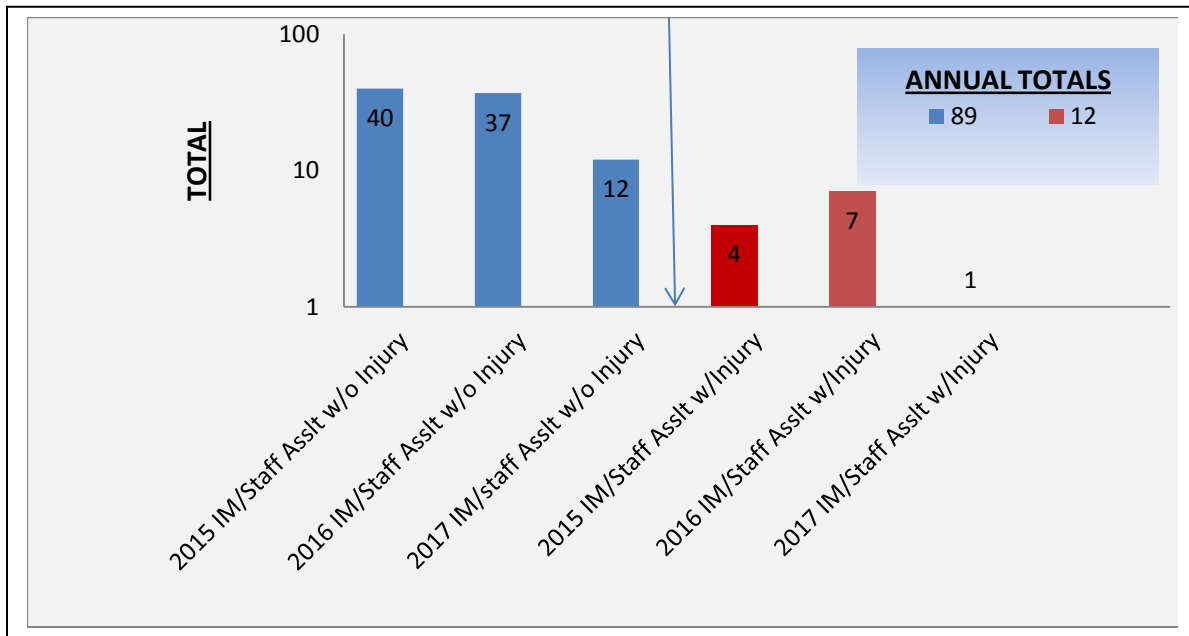
Nevada Department of Corrections

Trending of Incidents (2015-2017)

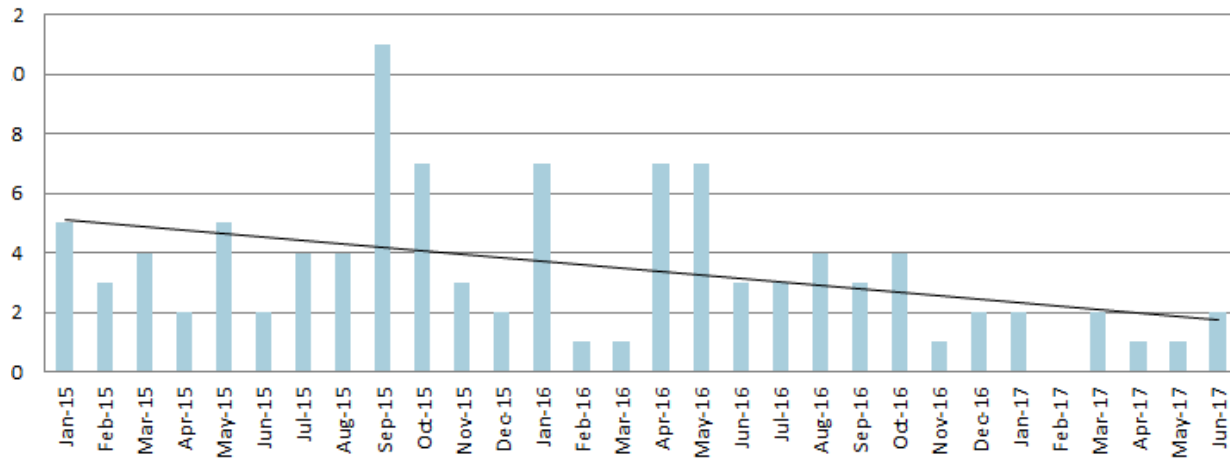
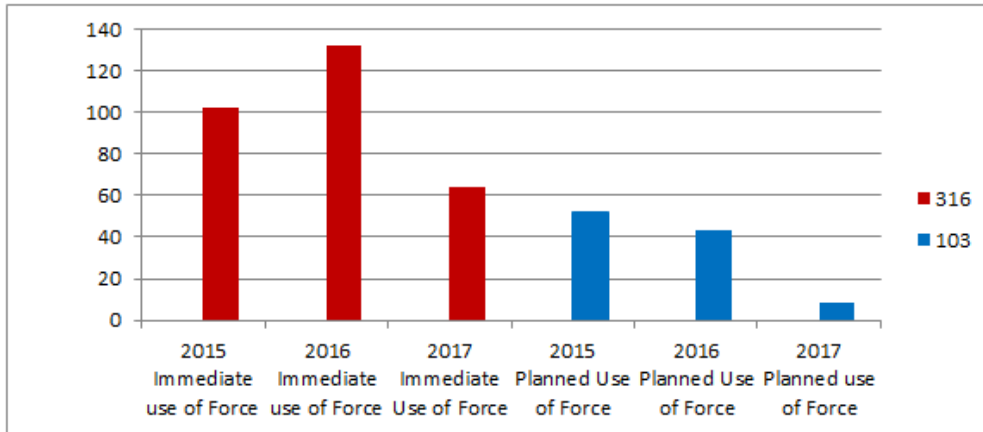
Inmate-on-Inmate Assaults/Fights



Inmate-on-Staff Without and With Injury



Immediate/Planned Use of Force Trends



STATE OF NEVADA

BRIAN SANDOVAL
Governor

RICHARD WHITLEY, MS
Director, DHHS



AMY ROUKIE, MBA
Administrator, DPBH

JOHN DIMURO, DO, MBA
Chief Medical Officer

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF PUBLIC AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
4150 Technology Way, Suite 300
Carson City, Nevada 89706
Telephone: (775) 684-4200 · Fax: (775) 687-7570

MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 31, 2017
TO: Board of Prison Commissioners
FROM: John DiMuro, DO, MBA, Nevada Chief Medical Officer
RE: CMO Report to the Board of Prison Commissioners for the August 15, 2017 meeting

Since my last report to the Board of Prison Commissioners on May 16, 2017, I respectfully submit the following report to the Board. I continue to remain in constant contact with DAG Linda Anderson, NDOC compliance officer Alexander Archie and Vincent Valiente, REHS, Environmental Health Specialist III, in order to ensure expediency in responding to any issues within the prison system.

Section I: New Issues:

- a) **New Dietary Complaint:** I received a letter from inmate Frank Peck dated May 7, 2017 about diet/menu offerings at High Desert State Prison. I immediately contacted DAG Linda Anderson and Mr. Vinny Valiente REHS, Environmental Health Specialist III. An unannounced inspection was performed on May 12, 2017 which demonstrated no validation of inmate Peck's claims. I immediately corresponded back to inmate Peck about our findings and he responded that he was happy we investigated so quickly and acknowledged his concerns.
- b) **Prison Inspections:** See section III below

Section II: Dietary Update

- a) **Lovelock Dietary Issues with Inmate Robert Stockmeier:** Dietary issues at Lovelock Correctional Center with inmate Robert Stockmeier appear to have been resolved. I

received a report from DAG Linda Anderson that Mr. Stockmeier's appeal was dismissed. This order dismissing the appeal was filed July 28, 2017.

b) Lovelock Dietary Concerns: Mr. Valiente reports that he has been evaluating the recommended changes from this office during his prison inspections. Please see below Section III.

Of note, no additional correspondence from the two inmates who filed the 41-page mailing to me back in the spring regarding dietary concerns at the Lovelock facility.

Section III: Environmental Health Specialist Report Update from V. Valiente, REHS, EHS III

a) **Environmental Health Inspection Status:** Mr. Valiente reports that three of the prisons have been inspected thus far in 2017. High Desert State Prison, Southern Desert Correction Center and Florence McClure Women's Correctional Center were all inspected over the course of July 19-20, 2017. The final reports were sent to NDOC compliance officer Alexander Archie. The remaining four state prisons will receive a full environmental health inspection and dietary inspection this calendar year. The inspections were performed by both Mr. Valiente and Dominick DiFranco.

These inspections included a complete environmental/sanitation inspection and nutritional adequacy verification at each institution. The environmental and sanitation issues were reported to the facility at the time of the inspection and to the NDOC Compliance Enforcement Unit for correction. A complete summary of environmental issues for each State prison will be presented via report later this year when all have been inspected.

No issues of nutritional adequacy were documented during inspection and interview with facility staff within the culinary and medical at SDCC, HDSP and FMWCC. The nutritional adequacy tool was utilized at each of these institutions to verify special diets prescribed and followed, certified menus followed, physician orders followed, certified menus available, inmate menu request processes in place, inmate medical nutritional assessments conducted by a physician, religious/common fare menus available, and overall communication between medical and culinary to ensure special diets are being served.

b) **Recommended Changes Update:** Mr. Valiente reports that SDCC, HDSP and FMWCC has placed each of their offered menus in their Law Libraries for inmates to review. SDCC has increased their medical staff and FMWCC has been approved for an Electronic Medical Records (EMR) system.

- c) **Medical Surveys:** Per protocol, two of the seven state prisons are slated to receive full medical surveys this calendar year. The two facilities will be Ely State Prison slated for September 12, 2017 and Northern Nevada Correctional Center for October 4, 2017.

Section IV: Other Update

- a) **NDOC Vivitrol® Pilot Program:** This program was implemented the first week of April 2017 and is being coordinated between Alkermes Pharmaceuticals through NDOC director James Dzurenda, Deputy Director David Tristan, and Management Analyst IV Sheila Lambert and remains a partnership with both Parole and Probation and the Parole Board. As mentioned in my last report, we are targeting one hundred inmates at both Warm Springs Correctional Facility in Carson City and Southern Desert Correctional Center in Las Vegas. I do not have any hard data to report at this time but will be reaching out to the Managed Care Organizations once my office is apprised of the number of inmates released and placed into one of the Managed Care Organizations. I hope to have some data for the next meeting.

Section IV: Conclusion

To my knowledge, we remain in compliance with all relevant NRS. I believe we have adequately addressed the dietary concerns at the Lovelock facility and are thankful to the Department of Corrections for their cooperation in implementing our recommendations on dietary postings. I hope to have some data on the Vivitrol® pilot program by our next meeting.

_____ Date: _____

John M. DiMuro, DO, MBA
Nevada Chief Medical Officer

29 August 2017

TO: NV State Board of Prison Commissioners

FROM: Mercedes Maharis MA MS MA, 1910 W. Oakey Blvd., Las Vegas, NV 89102

Honorable Commissioners:

First, I want to thank you, Governor Sandoval, for Senate Bill 402 on Disciplinary Segregation changes. Though we are not up to speed with the National Commission on Correctional Health Care standards of no more than 14 days of solitary, we have made progress which may save lives... and for that, thank you.

=====

RE: HISTORY OF NV PRISON DEATH LIST INFO ADDENDUM Info addendum from May 2017 minutes:

I received the original NDOC death lists (2) in 2000 from NDOP and presented them to the Advisory Commission on the Administration of Justice (NCAJ) and also to Governor Gibbons' prison board in 2008 and 2009 (why does my exhibit link for the April 2009 board meeting not open) respectively. So, you see, they were released prior to 2008, as written in the May 2017 minutes. May we correct this? You can see the original lists on the NCAJ site, however:

https://www.leg.state.nv.us/74th/Interim_Agendas_Minutes_Exhibits/Exhibits/AdminJustice/E112108Q.pdf

http://doc.nv.gov/uploadedFiles/docnv.gov/content/Home/Prison_Commissioners/Minutes_BoPC20090414.pdf

I noticed that 11 years of data were not present and I have yet to receive it... as you can read in my ACAJ submission. I would still like to have that data, please?

Today's NDOC Inmate Mortality Statistics website contains less information than the lists in earlier years. Does that mean it is secret now, as CO Clark suggested in May's draft of the minutes? I do not know. I hope not, but, let's go back to being more open about our prisoners' deaths, and reveal the coroner's cause of death, as in earlier times, after families have been notified, of course... for the benefit of all interested in doing research,

For research purposes, please fill in these gaps in the website announcing inmate deaths? For example, not on the current NDOC internet death lists are the following important items:

- 1) the county of conviction,
- 2) received date,
- 3) institution and
- 4) cause of death.

It is good, however, to have press releases with the conviction information, though *habitual criminal* does not tell us the crimes committed that led to the label habitual criminal. This does not reveal, for example, whether individuals were sex offenders or not. So, it would be helpful if these crimes were included in the records.

Shouldn't most of what a person says in our NV prison board meetings in the minutes? I do not see most of my closing remarks in May 2017 about retaliation and the deaths in the draft. Why?

=====

INMATE MORTALITY PRESENTATION ERRORS?

On the 2016 NDOC INMATE DEATHS Mortality Statistics website I see that Ali Shair Sahadat's press release is actually Paul Stone's press release; plus, Sal Auditore's press release is actually James Delwin Thomas. May we please correct these?

=====

SEX OFFENDER DEATH DATA RESEARCH UPDATE

---My research continues to reveal that a disproportionate number of our sex offender population continues to die in our NV prisons. This is a disabled population. How can 1/3 of deaths 2007 - 15 Aug 2017 be coming from this small group in Nevada prisons = a population of about 2000 sex offenders (1/6 th) when we now have about 12,000 other prisoners? Sex offender 2015 Average Death Age: 54; 2016 Average Death Age: 60; 2017 Average Death Age: 67. *See updated attached graph.* Will you please tell me what is causing this and how you plan to stop it?

When are you going to mandate action that will reduce these deaths? Can you not do this -- just as I see you are doing to reduce use of force?

Why aren't the increasing deaths in our sex offender population, a disabled population, being made a priority, an emergency? I do not understand. Please reply.

=====

GRIEVANCE PROCESS

45 days to answer a prisoner is just too long. For example, in a cell move, Ronald E. Jenkins' 48209 reports that his TV would not work in the new cell, that it was taken away... and that some of his belongings did not arrive. Papers show that he was ruled not guilty of a battery, but, he has been punished, by these losses, anyway, hasn't he? And in administrative segregation so long before prison employees make a decision? This is unhealthy for any that endure this process, in my opinion.

What happens to the appliances and clothing and other belongings that do not make it to prisoners when they are moved?

Are there sanctions against officers who do not follow procedures and process possessions properly? If not, why not?

=====

POWER OF ATTORNEY

Why do those of us with POA's have to file more than 1 time in NDOC? Why does a separate division have to have their own copies, like inmate banking, for example, or medical? Why can't filing with the central office be enough? This is a hardship and unnecessary.

Are employees allowed to deny access to POA's to speak with NDOC medical nurses and doctors when POA's discover drug interactions for prisoners? How can this be remedied for the benefit of all?

=====

MPG PLAYERS and TV's

Why doesn't the department offer extended warranties for electronics? This is, for example, the second TV that has gone bad for Ronald, if that is truly the case. Prison TV's are very expensive... \$345, I believe, now. If this were retaliation for his speaking out in my film on solitary, that is so wrong and should cause dismissal, in my opinion, of those involved.

Does the department take a cut from the sale of TV's, MPG players and other electronics or items sold in the store? If so, I disapprove. Friends and families should not be gouged. The department would do well to provide TV's to all, especially those with mental issues since many a lawsuit on the use of force would no longer happen and the resulting medical bills would be drastically reduced.

=====

VERA REPORT 2010

Will all the recommendations made in this report be respected and implemented, or not? I hope that they will, for the benefit of all.

=====

MEDICAL NEGLIGENCE

See attached 2 photos of prisoners who died in NDOC. Was it medical negligence to not remove these growths while in state care? Or, did the prisoners not want them removed?

Thank you,

Mercedes Maharis

Mercedes Maharis MA MS MA

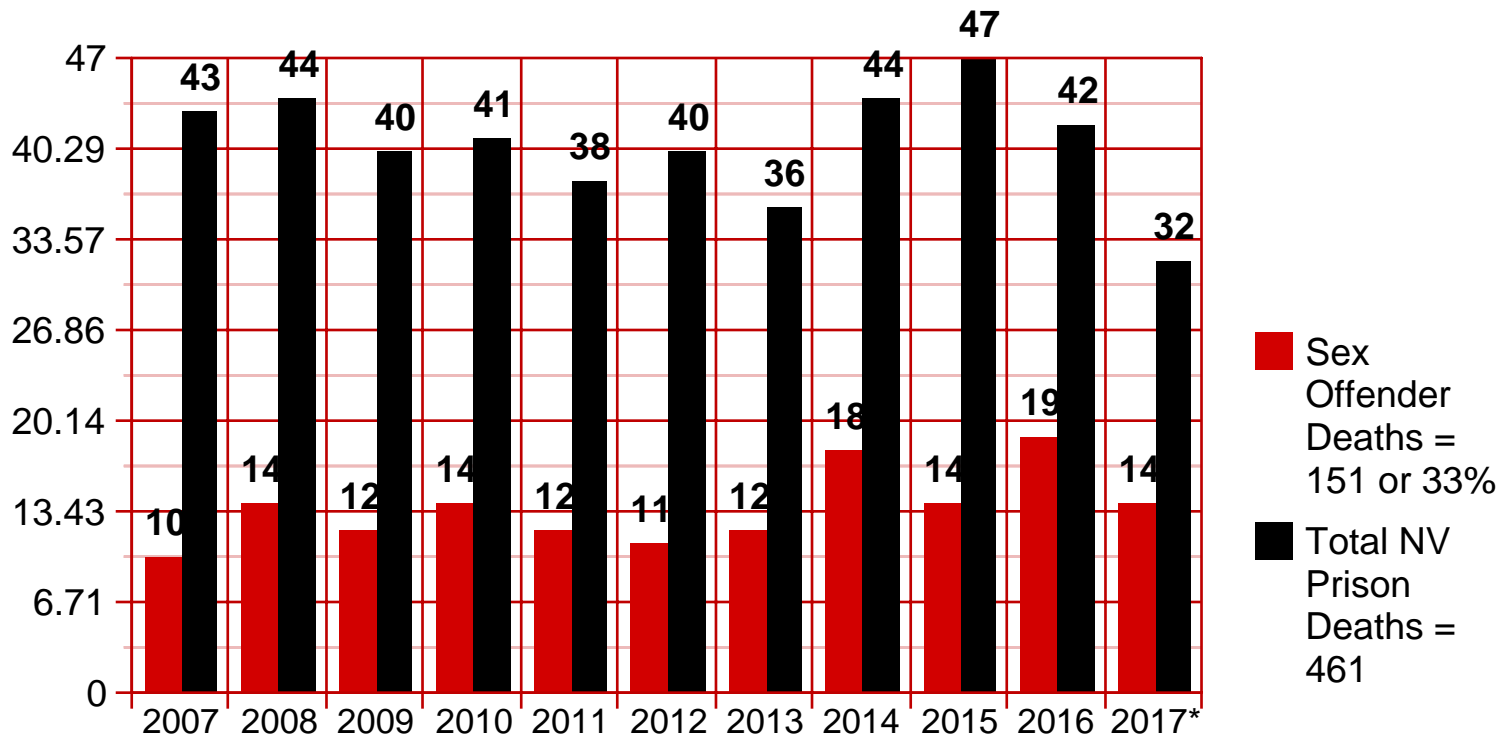
Past Director NV CURE

Lifetime CURE Member

NV Chaplain

Encl: 3 attachments: NV SO Death Graph; 2 Prisoner Press Release Photos

NV Sex Offender Deaths + Total NV Prison Deaths 2007 - 15 Ag 2017



Sex Offender Deaths: 2007 = 23%; 2008 = 32%; 2009 = 30%; 2010= 34%; 2011 = 32%; 2012 = 28%; 2013 = 33%; 2014 = 41%; 2015=30%; 2016=45%; 2017* (up to 15 Ag 2017)=44%

Data Source: NV LCB and NDOC; Disclaimer: Nevada may have more current or accurate information, therefore, we make no warranties or guarantees about the accuracy, completeness, or adequacy of the information contained in this document.

**Board of State
Prison Commissioners**

BRIAN SANDOVAL
Governor
ADAM LAXALT
Attorney General
BARBARA CEGAVSKE
Secretary of State



STATE OF NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS



Northern Administration
P.O. Box 7011, Carson City, NV 89702
Phone: (775) 887-3285 - Fax: (775) 887-3138

Southern Administration
3955 W. Russell Rd., Las Vegas, NV 89118
Phone: (702) 486-9938 - Fax: (702) 486-9961

BRIAN SANDOVAL
Governor

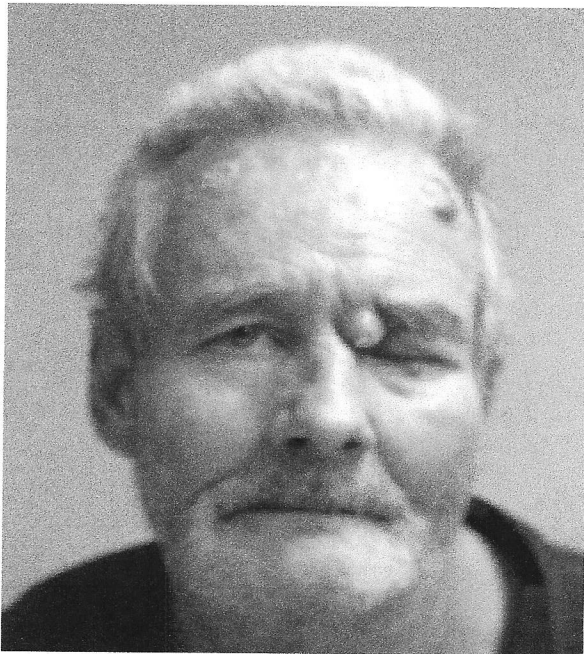
JAMES G. COX
Director

BRIAN CONNETT
Public Information Officer

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release:
February 6, 2015

The Nevada Department of Corrections (NDOC) reports that on Thursday, February 5, 2015, inmate Dale Prater, NDOC #71814, died at the High Desert State Prison in Indian Springs, NV. Inmate Prater was a 60 year old male committed from Washoe County serving a sentence of 12 to 30 months for conviction of possession of controlled substance for sale. The Coroner from the Clark County Coroner's Office responded to the institution. An autopsy will be conducted to determine cause of death. Inmate Prater had been incarcerated with the NDOC since May 21, 2014. Next of kin have now been notified.



**Board of State
Prison Commissioners**

BRIAN SANDOVAL
Governor
ADAM LAXALT
Attorney General
BARBARA CEGAVSKE
Secretary of State



**STATE OF NEVADA
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS**



Northern Administration
P.O. Box 7011, Carson City, NV 89702
Phone: (775) 887-3285 - Fax: (775) 887-3138

Southern Administration
3955 W. Russell Rd., Las Vegas, NV 89118
Phone: (702) 486-9938 - Fax: (702) 486-9961

BRIAN SANDOVAL
Governor

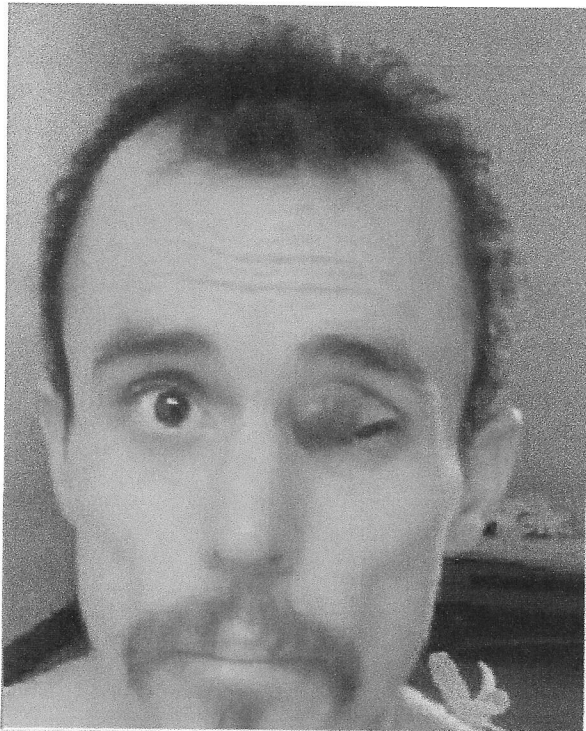
E.K.MCDANIEL
Interim Director

BRIAN CONNETT
Public Information Officer

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release:
October 23, 2015

The Nevada Department of Corrections (NDOC) reports that on Friday, October 23, 2015 inmate Travis Gray, NDOC #1068645, died at the Regional Medical Facility at the Northern Nevada Correctional Center in Carson City, NV. Inmate Gray was a 31 year old male, committed from Clark County, NV. Inmate Gray was serving a sentence of 18 months to 48 months for Attempted Theft. The Coroner from the Carson City Sheriff's Office responded to the institution. An autopsy will be conducted to determine the cause of death. Inmate Gray had been incarcerated with the NDOC since July 13, 2015. Next of kin has been notified.



Brian Connett
Public Information Officer
Nevada Department of Corrections

Phillip Lyons
21 W. Owens #342
N. Las Vegas, NV 89030
Cell: 702-715-6755
sabreewalee@gmail.com

September 5, 2017

Cynthia Keller, Ex. Asst
NDOC
3955 Russell Rd.
Las Vegas NV 89118
ckeller@doc.nv.gov

Re: Comments for Prison Board Meeting of 8-30-17

Dear Miss Keller:

Per your request, I am summarizing the comments I made at the above referenced Prison Board Meeting for inclusion in the minutes from the meeting.

The present NDOC grievance procedure, AR 740, only allows for a final review of grievance appeals by NDOC administrative staff, usually an assistant NDOC director. These assistants, however, may not have the legal training necessary to assist them in effectively processing constitutional related grievance appeals.

I believe the NDOC would benefit from an additional appellate level to their current grievance procedure, where final grievance appeals alleging constitutional violations can be reviewed by a person with adequate legal training. A person with

adequate legal training would have the ability to recognize valid constitutional allegations with a goal toward resolving them short of the judicial stage.

A deputy from the Attorney Generals' Office might be best suited for this task since it is the AG's Office that usually represents NDOC employees on civil suits filed by prisoners. A system of this nature might serve to head off many potential lawsuits before a case is filed and a court and defense attorney become involved.

Heading of potential lawsuits would help to avoid the expense of litigating cases for thousands of dollars when they may be able to settle for a few hundred or so at the administrative grievance stage. I would be open to discussing this idea more with the appropriate individuals should there be interest on the part of the Board.

In closing, at the meeting Mr. Dzurenda shared his data regarding the decline in violent assaults by prisoners on one another and staff. I commend him for whatever role the NDOC has played in that decline. However, Mr. Dzurenda's data did not appear to account for staff on inmate assaults. I would be interested to know whether there has been a decline or rise in those incidents as well.

Best regards,


Phillip Lyons