



Kansas Sheriffs' Association

PO Box 1122, Pittsburg, KS 66762

Phone: (620) 230-0864

Fax: (620) 230-0866

Sheriff Sandy Horton, Ret., Executive Director

February 23, 2015

Senate Committee on Judiciary
Senator Jeff King, Chair
Senator Greg Smith, Vice Chair

Mr. Chair, Vice Chair and members of the Committee,

The Kansas Sheriffs' Association requests your support of Senate Bill 185 – An act concerning sexually violent predators; relating to reimbursement for costs incurred by counties. This bill is extremely critical to Sheriffs who house sexually violent predators.

The Johnson County Sheriff's Office currently houses two sexually violent predators for Pawnee County, one since March 4th, 2014; and one since July 25th, 2014. The current costs incurred for each of these inmates include \$130 per day for housing and \$6.78 per day for food. The costs for medical care and treatment vary widely depending on medications and services rendered.

It should be noted that housing these inmates also presents challenges over and above normal expenses: One of these inmates has received 55 citations, ranging from insubordination and disrespect to five instances of openly masturbating in front of female staff, four instances of throwing fecal matter, three instances of exposing himself to staff, two instances of battery on officers and one instance of assault toward an officer. He has received two new charges for battery against a corrections/detention officer. Due to his continuing disruptive and assaultive behavior, we have only been able to house him either in administrative segregation or disciplinary segregation. He is not a candidate for general population at this time. Additionally, he has filed 231 grievances of varying degrees on a multitude of topics. To date, he has filed one lawsuit against Correct Care Solutions.

The second inmate has received 11 citations, ranging from possession of homemade alcohol to assault and battery. We have made two attempts at placing him in general population. The first attempt resulted in him entering another inmate's cell and battering him. After serving disciplinary time, he was sent back to general population where he refused to lock down and threatened violence towards the module officer. He has remained in administrative or disciplinary segregation since that time. Any time our mental health professional goes to speak with him, the inmate will stand at the door and masturbate. He has filed 14 grievances since his arrival, mostly on medical services.

Senate Bill 185 would greatly assist Sheriffs in recovering the monetary expenses from the Larned State Hospital – Sexual Predator Treatment Program Account of the State General Fund for housing sexually violent predators. Thank you for your support of this bill.

Sheriff Frank P. Denning
Kansas Sheriffs' Association Legislative Chair
913-715-5505
frank.denning@jocogov.org