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Ray Roberts, Secretary of Corrections

Department of Corrections

Sam Brownback, Governor

Date: April 30, 2012

To: Senators McGinn, V. Schmidt, and the Senate Ways & Means Committee

From: Ray Roberts, Secretary of Corrections

RE: TCF GBA Funding

When J Cell House was renovated and reopened in FY 2002, the facility was allocated 26 classified FTE, of which 21 were security positions, but was provided no funding for any of the positions. Four of the 21 security positions were subsequently funded, eight more were funded with Federal Bureau of Prisons monies and placed into service in J Cell House, leaving nine critical but as yet unfunded security as well as two non-uniformed correctional officer positions remaining. These positions are necessary to provide appropriate staffing levels for J Cell House, to prevent escape, and to ensure its safety, security, and operational needs. According to the facility's December 2009 National Institute of Corrections audit, "current custody staffing levels are insufficient to effectively monitor activities at TCF – even considering the use of cameras throughout the facility. This impairs the safety of both staff and inmates, including sexual safety."

The cost of a Corrections Officer I position averages to a cost of \$44,000 per year, including salary and benefits. The positions already exist. In order to regain proper security staffing levels, the requested amount of \$440,000 is needed to fund 10 of the 11 unfunded FTE as Corrections Officer I positions. The first pay period of FY 13 starts on June 10, which would be an ideal time to start the staff.

Please contact me if you have any remaining questions about this Governor's Budget Amendment item. Thank you for your support of this vital public safety funding.

Communications with Gary Haulmark re: Surveys at the State Hospitals. The following information has been provided to the Chair's office:

Next Annual Survey's for OSH, KNI and Parsons

Parsons – CMS will be there in October or November of this year.

KNI – CMS completed their annual survey in February of this year. KNI was cleared of the one deficiency last month. The next visit will be in approx. one year.

OSH – The Joint Commission (TJC) will be there this summer, most likely July.

The Joint Commission will not be at Parsons or KNI, they are DD hospitals. CMS does the survey for DD hospitals and it is very similar to TJC. They survey annually. TJC comes approx. every three years.

Rainbow – Due to the construction at the facility TJC was out this spring and will be out again in the fall.