

From: Peters Colette S
Sent: Friday, February 10, 2012 4:47 PM
To: DL DOC-All - All DOC Employees
Subject: Message from Director Peters

For many of you, I would like to say hello again and for others, I would like to introduce myself. I am Colette S. Peters and I'm the new Director of the Department of Corrections (DOC). In 2004, I started with the Department as the Public Affairs Administrator. From 2005 to 2008, I was the Inspector General and the Assistant Director for the Public Services Division. Most recently, I was the director of the Oregon Youth Authority (OYA).

It was difficult to leave the OYA, but I am thrilled to be back at DOC and to continue the good work of Max Williams and the rest of the Department's leadership team. I am committed to our mission, advancing the principles of the Oregon Accountability Model and continuing to grow and implement the Correctional Case Management (CCM).

I look forward to visiting all of our institutions and meeting with many of you and, as I did as the Inspector General, I will continue to have regular visits to the institutions and administrative offices. However, the month of February has me meeting with many legislators and testifying at my Senate confirmation.

It was my sincere hope to send out a message to all DOC staff, without budget information. Unfortunately, this cannot be the case and I want share information with you, as we are midway through the 2012 Legislative Session.

Prior to the February 2012 session, we faced approximately a \$100 million deficit. The Co-Chairs of the Ways and Means Committee were able to give us back the majority of that money, which left the department with approximately a \$48 million hole. We will continue to manage the \$48 million by using various internal strategies such as limited hiring, training and travel and by utilizing vacancy savings.

Apart from that \$48 million hole, the department also is addressing the \$17.2 million reduction from the Co-Chairs plan. Our proposal to address the \$17.2 million includes multiple prison deactivations. In addition, the department has identified \$1.5 million in M73 dollars that can be applied to the deficit.

The department has not identified which institutions or what level of institutions will be deactivated. In order to achieve this additional \$17.2 reduction, 1,500 to 1,800 beds will need to be taken offline. The inmates from those institutions will be moved into new temporary and emergency beds in other facilities. These beds will be in addition to our existing 395 temporary and emergency beds.

If the institutions need to be deactivated, 350 to 400 positions would be laid off. If this occurs, there will be proportional cuts to the central office. Also, dollar estimates include proportional reductions to programming and treatment associated with prison deactivation.

Please beware that nothing is finalized. I, along with Deputy Director Morrow and Assistant Director Chane Griggs, have been at the Capitol meeting with the Governor's Office, legislators and labor leadership to discuss risks and potential impacts of these potential reductions.

Again, I am pleased to be back at DOC and am honored to be here in the role of Director, pending Senate confirmation.

I will continue to keep you updated at the budget process moves forward.

Sincerely,

Colette S. Peters

Director

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