For informational Purposes
October 16, 2013

CDCR Actions To Reduce Overcrowding

Realignment/AB 109: On April 4, 2011, Governor Brown signed AB 109 to realign certain responsibilities for lower-level offenders, and adult parolees, from state to local jurisdictions. Under Realignment, newly-convicted low-level offenders without current or prior serious or violent offenses stay in county jail to serve their sentence. Overall, the diversion of low-level offenders and parole violators to county jail instead of state prison since October 2011 resulted in a population decrease of about 25,000. AB 109 also provided funding for infill construction which will eventually provide up to 2,376 new beds at existing locations.

Increases in Prison Healthcare Bed and Treatment Capacity: In May 2007, AB 900 was enacted to address healthcare space deficiencies and overcrowding. CDCR has completed a number of projects to increase prison bed and healthcare treatment capacity including the addition of the California Health Care Facility in Stockton that provides medical and mental health treatment to inmates in a state-of-the-art facility, which activated its first 1,818 beds in July; another 1,133 beds in adjacent DeWitt annex will be activated in the spring of 2014. CDCR has also rolled out a comprehensive statewide Healthcare Facility Improvement Program to address healthcare space deficiencies at its existing prisons at a cost in excess of $700 million.

In-State Community Correctional Facilities: CDCR has one in-state contract with Corrections Corporation of America (CCA) for 2,381 beds at California City Correctional Facility in California City, Kern County. CDCR also has three contracts with The GEO Group Inc. for the following:
- 700 beds at Desert View Community Correctional Facility in Adelanto, San Bernardino County
- 700 beds at Central Valley Modified Community Correctional Facility in McFarland, Kern County
- 600 beds at Golden State Modified Community Correctional Facility also in McFarland.

Inmates Placed Out of State: CDCR temporarily houses inmates at out-of-state correctional facilities operated by CCA. They are located in Oklahoma, Mississippi, and Arizona. The three facilities are encompassed in a single contract for up to 8,988 inmates.

Increases in In-Prison Rehabilitative Programming
CDCR’s Office of Rehabilitative Programs is working to increase the percentage of inmates served in rehabilitative programs prior to their release to at least 70 percent of the department's target population. CDCR is expanding its use of vocational education programs where inmates can earn nationally-recognized trade certificates and earn well-paying jobs upon their release. The recidivism rate among those who participate in these programs is significantly lower than inmates who do not.

Implementation of Re-Entry Hubs
CDCR has formed “re-entry” hubs at prisons across the state to help inmates make the transition back to living in society. These re-entry hubs will service all level of inmates and will focus on providing job-finding skills such as resume writing and interview techniques, personal financial management, housing, and obtaining a California identification card. Helping inmates transition back into society can potentially keep them from cycling back into the correctional system.

###