



December 30, 2022

The Honorable Michael Schmidt  
Multnomah County District Attorney's Office  
1200 SW First Ave.  
Portland, OR 97204

Re: 2022 Corrections Grand Jury Report

District Attorney Schmidt,

The Multnomah County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) has received the 2022 Corrections Grand Jury Report. I want to personally thank the Grand Jurors and your staff for the hard work that went into this year's review of our Multnomah County Correctional facilities.

As an agency, we value the meaningful work by the Corrections Grand Jury, as they review the conditions and management of corrections facilities throughout Multnomah County. This oversight review process provides transparency and accountability into critical jail operations.

As in past years, the response to COVID-19 continues to impact our jail system. I was heartened to see the Grand Jurors acknowledge the the efforts our agency has made to protect staff and the adults in our custody. We will continue our alignment with recommendations made by public health officials to ensure the safety of everyone at our facilities.

It's important that the Grand Jurors took time to hear the perspectives of both our members and the adults in our custody. The voices of line staff and adults in custody adds value to the overall understanding of the institutional environment.

As the report indicated, a top priority for MCSO is filling vacancies in our agency. Sheriff-elect Nicole Morrissey O'Donnell is committed to continuous improvement of our recruitment, hiring and retention efforts to ensure that we are well-positioned for the future as a large number of corrections deputies become retirement eligible.

Managing correctional operations is challenging work in the best of circumstances as we try to provide the necessary resources to help people heal. Our commitment today, and in the future, is to the restorative justice practices that connect adults in custody to resources and skills necessary for a successful reentry into our community.



Michael Reese, SHERIFF

Thank you, and your team, for your dedication to this citizen-led process as it continues to increase transparency and accountability in an important area of public service.

Sincerely,

*Michael Reese*

MICHAEL REESE

SHERIFF

CC: Chair Kafoury, Commissioner Meieran, Commissioner Jayapal, Commissioner Vega Pederson, Commissioner Stegmann, Chief Deputy Gaidos, Chief Deputy Alexander, Chief of Staff Katie Burgard, Captain Denise Diamond, Communications Director Chris Liedle