

**Corrections Grand Jury
2022 Report**



**Review of the Correctional Facilities
In Multnomah County, Oregon**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	2
Statutory Background.....	2
Methodology	2
PRISON RAPE ELIMINATION ACT (PREA).....	2
MULTNOMAH COUNTY SHERIFF’S OFFICE (MCSO)	3
Multnomah County Detention Center (MCDC).....	3
Programming	3
Facility Maintenance	4
Multnomah County Inverness Jail (MCIJ).....	4
Programming	4
Facility Maintenance	5
Observations of MCSO Facilities as a Single Organization	5
PREA Results	5
Safety and Grievance Procedure.....	5
Staffing	6
Medical Services.....	6
Food	6
Laundry.....	7
DONALD E. LONG JUVENILE JUSTICE CENTER (JJC).....	7
Programming.....	7
Food.....	7
Staffing	7
PREA Results.....	8
Facility Maintenance	8
Medical.....	8
COLUMBIA RIVER CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION (CRCI)	8
Programming	8
Food.....	9
Staffing	9
PREA Results.....	9

Facility Maintenance	9
Medical	9
ADDITIONAL AREAS OF FOCUS.....	10
Electronic Tablets.....	10
Prevalence of Controlled Substances	10
COVID-19	11
Equity and Inclusion.....	11
Current Legal System Challenges	12
Communication and Cooperation among Stakeholders	12
GENERAL FEEDBACK.....	13
WITNESSES.....	14
ABBREVIATIONS AND DEFINITIONS.....	16
JUROR SIGNATURES	17

INTRODUCTION

Statutory Background

Pursuant to Oregon Revised Statute (ORS) 132.440, a grand jury convened on November 4, 2022, with the ultimate goal of writing a public report about the condition and management of the four correctional facilities in Multnomah County.

Under ORS 132.440:

- At least once yearly, a grand jury shall inquire into the condition and management of every correctional facility and youth correctional facility as defined in ORS 162.135 in the county.
- The grand jury is entitled to free access at all reasonable times to such correctional facilities and juvenile facilities, and, without charge, to all public records in the county pertaining thereto.
- Other than indictments presented under ORS 132.310 or presentments presented under ORS 132.370, the grand jury shall issue no report other than a report of an inquiry made under this section.

Methodology

The court selected seven jurors to serve as the 2022 Corrections Grand Jury (CGJ). Over the period of several weeks, the CGJ made inquiries into the condition and management of the four correctional facilities located within Multnomah County. To inform this report, the jurors physically toured the Multnomah County Detention Center (MCDC), the Multnomah County Inverness Jail (MCIJ), the Donald E. Long Juvenile Justice Center (JJC), and the Columbia River Correctional Institution (CRCI).

In addition to taking testimony at each facility, witnesses also appeared before the CGJ, either in person or by teleconference. Witnesses included a variety of staff and stakeholders within the corrections system. The majority of collected testimony was weighted towards the experiences and viewpoints of staff and officials who represent management in the correctional facilities within Multnomah County. The CGJ requested, and was granted access to, additional witnesses. The CGJ also reviewed a number of public records for each facility.

PRISON RAPE ELIMINATION ACT (PREA)¹

The Prison Rape Elimination Act was established in 2003 to address the problem of sexual abuse and sexual harassment of persons in the custody of U.S. correctional agencies. Pursuant to PREA policy requirements, each agency reports their data annually. Every three years, all correctional facilities in Multnomah County receive a national PREA audit by an auditor certified by the U.S. Department of Justice.

¹ <https://www.prearesourcecenter.org/sites/default/files/library/preafinalstandardstype-prisonsandjails.pdf>

Summarized PREA information is provided to each person booked into custody and is available in multiple languages.

There is a dedicated PREA Coordinator for the Multnomah County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) to oversee reporting and compliance. The CGJ heard testimony that due to the additional duties of the current MCSO PREA Coordinator, additional resources may be required to ensure PREA standards continue to be met.

MULTNOMAH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE (MCSO)

MCSO operates one corrections program distributed over two facilities. Adults in Custody (AICs) are assigned housing in either MCDC or MCIJ and can be moved between either facility. There are 1,117 funded beds between MCDC and MCIJ, with additional unfunded capacity at MCIJ. The CGJ heard testimony that facilities function optimally when operating below full capacity.

Upon intake at MCDC, each AIC is evaluated by a process known as "classification", which determines their placement within Multnomah County Jails. Individuals with acute or readily apparent needs are assigned to mental health or medical units based on availability. The CGJ commends the efforts of MCSO staff to create an effective in-house classification system, its recognition of the need for an updated evidence-based system, as well as its timely adoption. The CGJ heard testimony that the need for mental health beds exceeds capacity.

Multnomah County Detention Center (MCDC)

MCDC is a maximum security jail, occupying a portion of the Multnomah County Justice Center building, located in downtown Portland at 1120 SW 3rd Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97204. This facility opened in 1983. MCDC is a direct supervision facility, with each housing area having a staffed deputy station. It serves as the initial booking facility for all arrestees within Multnomah County and houses AICs for the county, as well as state and federal AICs involved in court matters. Full capacity for MCDC is 448. The CGJ observed that the facility was adequately sanitary.

The CGJ heard testimony that the booking area at MCDC is one of the most dangerous places to work within correctional facilities in the county due to the highly unpredictable behavior of individuals coming through intake; historically, most assaults on staff occur in this area. An ongoing lack of facilities and services for mental health and drug treatment in the community, including the loss of the county's only dedicated sobering facility in January 2020, makes the MCDC booking desk a challenging environment. The CGJ heard testimony that system partners, which include arresting law enforcement agencies, have had challenges in reaching consensus regarding placement of those charged with crimes who have mental health conditions or Substance Use Disorder (SUD). Addressing these challenges might contribute to better outcomes for AICs and corrections staff.

Programming

The CGJ recognizes the importance of programming options for AICs and is pleased to see that some level of programming is available at each of the county and state correctional facilities observed. Programming is an important part of the corrections process as it evolves from a punitive

to a rehabilitative approach. Programs allow AICs to learn critical skills that will assist them during their custody and prepare them for work/life activities after release from custody.

At this time, MCDC does not offer group activities due to remaining COVID protocols, but does offer one-on-one programs such as: *Mindfulness*, *Origami*, *Cognitive Behavioral Therapy*, and *Transitional Planning*. MCDC offers self-study material with assistance from counselors on topics such as: anger management, alcohol and drugs, and parenting. MCDC offers qualified, sentenced AICs work opportunities in a janitorial assignment. Chaplain services are offered for a variety of spiritual and religious belief systems.

Facility Maintenance

The CGJ heard testimony that facility maintenance at MCDC is an ongoing challenge. A variety of factors contribute to this: increased wear and tear due to the facility historically operating at or near capacity; logistical difficulty in making repairs to occupied areas; the timely sourcing of specialized materials and fixtures; corrections escorts required for maintenance personnel; and damage sustained during recent civil unrest.

The CGJ heard testimony that the building was designed for a 20-year operating lifespan and is now 40 years old.

The CGJ was impressed that each AIC cell at MCDC has a window. The CGJ observed that staff areas lack natural light and windows.

Multnomah County Inverness Jail (MCIJ)

MCIJ is a medium security jail located at 11540 NE Inverness Drive, Portland, Oregon 97220. The facility opened in 1988, expanded in 1991, and again in 1998. MCIJ is a direct supervision facility with a mix of open-dormitory and single-cell housing. Fourteen of 18 dormitories are funded; current capacity is 669. Dormitories house between 10 and 78 AICs and each dormitory has a staffed deputy station. The CGJ observed that the facility was adequately sanitary and neither staff nor AICs had any prevailing concerns about safety.

Programming

There are a number of programs and services available to AICs at MCIJ, including work assignments, *Treatment Readiness* housing, and *Pathways to Employment Preparedness (PEP)*.

The CGJ observed and heard testimony that there are fewer programming resources for female AICs. The CGJ observed that MCIJ's programming calendar heavily favors male AICs and does not appear to have equitable opportunities. Additionally, the majority of work assignments only appear to be available to male AICs with no equivalent work opportunities for female AICs. The 2021 Corrections Grand Jury report also noted a lack of program equity. The CGJ hopes that MCIJ continues to work toward more equitable programming for the female AIC population.

In addition to the programming offered at MCDC, MCIJ also provides cognitive behavioral therapy, dialectical behavioral therapy, educational programming for high school completion or General Equivalency Diploma (GED), and Aramark's *In 2 Work* program.

MCIJ offers work opportunities to qualified, sentenced AICs, which include laundry service and ground keeping assignments. The CGJ heard testimony that cleaning supplies, such as protective gloves provided to AICs, were of a less durable quality and not suitable for cleaning up biohazards.

Facility Maintenance

The CGJ heard testimony that recent improvements to the facility include reducing ambient noise in dorms by installing acoustic tiles and enclosing shower areas, as well as improvements to water and electrical efficiency throughout.

Observations of MCSO Facilities as a Single Organization

PREA Results

MCSO passed the last PREA audit in 2017.² The regularly scheduled audit for 2020 did not occur due to COVID protocols. The CGJ heard testimony that a PREA audit will occur in 2023.

Safety and Grievance Procedure

The CGJ heard testimony that AICs feel physically safe while in custody. While touring MCDC and MCIJ, MCSO staff testified as to how the grievance process works, and how AICs file a grievance. The grievance process is detailed in the Inmate Manual.³ AICs are informed in the manual that grievance forms are located in their housing units and the law library. The grievance form instructs AICs to “Look in the Manual for Adults in Custody for more detailed information about grievances.”⁴

The CGJ heard AIC testimony that they lack trust in the grievance process, feared possible retaliation, and were not given the opportunity to file a grievance. MCSO has hired a non-sworn inspector, which may lead to more trust in the grievance process by AICs going forward.

AIC testimony aligns with results of a survey included in a Multnomah County Auditor’s report⁵ released in April 2022:

- About half of adults in custody said they do not know who to talk to if they feel unsafe. [Survey question: “Do you know of any people who work in the jail you can talk to if you do not feel safe?” (Yes = 49%; No = 51%)]
- More than half of adults in custody said they do not know where to report wrong-doing by deputies. [Survey question: “Are there any people who work in the jail you can talk to if you see corrections deputies doing something wrong?” (Yes = 42%; No = 58%)]

Although information about the grievance process and grievance forms are available to AICs, the lack of knowledge about and trust in the grievance process by AICs is something that should be addressed. The CGJ is further concerned that language and literacy limitations may be a barrier to

² http://www.mcso.us/site/content/PREA/2016_prea_audit_report.pdf

³ Inmate Manual pages 18-21--*Revised June 2021*

⁴ Grievance Form (*Revised May 2022*)

⁵ <https://www.multco.us/multnomah-county-jail-conditions-circumstances-were-worse-adults-custody-who-are-black-and-or-have>

understanding and navigating the grievance process. The CGJ recommends that MCSO work to clarify the process for filing a grievance.

Staffing

The CGJ heard unanimous testimony from county and state officials, corrections staff, attorneys, and AICs indicating a critically understaffed corrections deputy workforce is a primary concern. Staffing shortages impact all levels of pre-trial and post-trial detention for AICs and day-to-day operations at MCSO facilities.

Staffing shortages at MCSO further place a burden on the legal system. Transport delays of AICs to court mean an already overloaded court docket faces delays to trials and hearings on a regular basis. The CGJ heard testimony that MCSO staffing shortages have had a direct, negative impact on defense attorneys' ability to provide legal services to their clients. In-person attorney visitation has been limited due to staffing shortages at MCIJ. While AICs still have access to attorneys by phone in their units, in-person visits are critical for trial preparation and criminal discovery.

MCSO currently has 36 vacancies out of 375 total budgeted deputy positions. Over the last three years, these vacancies continued to increase due to retirements, new recruits leaving during their probationary period, and general attrition. By December 2024, 69 (18%) of MCSO deputies will be eligible for retirement. With the current staffing shortfalls and pending retirement eligibility for a significant portion of the deputy workforce, it is imperative that MCSO aggressively accelerate their recruiting and retention efforts. These staffing concerns have been a trend in the annual Corrections Grand Jury report since at least 2017.

The CGJ heard testimony that a fresh approach to recruitment and the hiring process could be beneficial. The CGJ is hopeful that the newly ratified Multnomah County Corrections Deputies Association union contract, which includes provisions for part-time and post-retirement staffing, might help address staffing shortages. The CGJ heard testimony that the sheriff-elect recognizes that recruitment and retention are the number one priority.

Medical Services

Multnomah County Corrections Health oversees medical services within MCSO facilities. Nurses, physicians, nurse practitioners, certified aides, community health specialists, dentists, dental assistants, psychiatrists, and mental health specialists provide these services.

Services and medications are provided at no cost to AICs. Upon release, AICs are provided a 30-day supply of any necessary medication. Both jails are equipped with a dental office and dental x-ray machines to provide full-service and preventative care to AICs.

MCDC and MCIJ are equipped to provide a primary level of care for AICs. AICs in need of higher-level or emergency care are transported to local hospitals. AICs are always accompanied by at least one MCSO deputy while outside the jail.

Food

MCSO meals are prepared by Aramark, the contracted food service provider. The CGJ heard testimony that the service is able to accommodate special diets and all meals are low-sodium. The average cost per meal is \$2.80 and AICs are provided with meals that reach an average daily caloric

intake of 2,650 for both male and female AICs. The CGJ heard testimony that food lacks flavor, variety, and freshness. The CGJ sampled vegetarian and meat-based meals while visiting MCIJ; both meals were adequate and met nutritional needs.

Laundry

MCIJ serves as the laundry facility for MCSO jails. AICs are issued two blankets, one set of sheets, and two changes of clothes. Scheduled laundry service for sheets and clothes is once per week and blankets are laundered every six weeks. The CGJ heard AIC testimony that scheduled laundry service is without regard to recreation activity and it would be preferable to have an additional set of clothes per week. The CGJ also heard MCSO testimony that AICs are provided a change of clothes or bedding upon request.

DONALD E. LONG JUVENILE JUSTICE CENTER (JJC)

JJC, operated by the Multnomah County Juvenile Division, is located at 1401 NE 68th Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97213. This is a direct supervision facility with one staff member per every eight youth.

This facility serves the tri-county area with 29 beds for Multnomah County youth, 14 beds for Washington County youth, and 13 beds for Clackamas County youth. The monthly average for beds occupied from October 2021 to September 2022 was 28.6 beds, and average length of stay was 27 days. The CGJ observed that the facility was adequately sanitary and neither staff nor AICs had any prevailing concerns about safety.

Programming

Programming at JJC follows a traditional high school curriculum to keep youth on track educationally and is provided year-round. Providing an educational curriculum also yields additional benefits to the facility, making certain funding avenues available. Education is provided in-unit by four licensed teachers. Individual needs are assessed and Individual Education Plans (IEPs) are created, if necessary. Additional programming includes: *Cognitive Behavioral Skills*, *Dove Lewis Therapy Dog* visits, *PSU Capstone*, spiritual services, culturally specific services, music, art, and regular library services.

Food

Meals are prepared by staff within the facility. Three meals and two snacks are provided each day; breakfast, lunch, and one snack are subsidized through the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) School Lunch program. Youth are “offered versus served” meals, meaning they are able to select from a limited daily menu. The CGJ sampled vegetarian and meat-based meals while visiting JJC; both meals exceeded expectations and met nutritional needs.

Staffing

The CGJ heard testimony that JJC is fully staffed with a manageable rate of turnover. Even fully staffed, JJC does experience mandatory overtime approximately once every three months.

PREA Results

JJC passed the last PREA audit in 2022.⁶

Facility Maintenance

A major remodel is underway for one dorm and another dorm remodel is planned and funded. Improvements will include: elimination of blind spots, increased safety, additional shower capacity, and a trauma-informed living environment. The outdoor recreational facility was recently upgraded with lower maintenance landscaping and increased security; a resurfacing project is currently underway.

Medical

Multnomah County Corrections Health oversees medical services. There is a registered nurse on-site daily. A medical doctor and psychiatric nurse practitioner are on-site one day a week. Four qualified mental health professionals are on staff, and mental health coverage is provided seven days a week. A full complement of vaccinations are available along with routine medical treatments. An in-house dental office is currently under construction.

The CGJ heard testimony that JJC struggles to fully staff the 7:30AM-11:00PM on-site registered nurse requirement. This challenge stems from industry-wide recruiting challenges for nursing staff, impacted greatly during the COVID pandemic. The CGJ believes that this is an area worth tracking going forward.

COLUMBIA RIVER CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION (CRCI)

CRCI, operated by the Oregon Department of Corrections, is a minimum security state prison located at 9111 NE Sunderland Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97211. This facility is populated by male AICs that have five years or less to serve on their sentence. Currently there are 558 AICs housed at CRCI; full capacity is 595. CRCI serves as a release facility for those who will reside in Multnomah County, Clackamas County, or Washington County following release. The CGJ observed that the facility was adequately sanitary and neither staff nor AICs had any prevailing concerns about safety.

Programming

There are a number of services and programs available at CRCI including: work assignments (shop, laundry, cooking, janitorial, grounds keeping), spiritual services, education partnerships with Portland Community College and Lewis & Clark College, book clubs, addiction treatment programs, the *Do Good Club*, *Toastmasters*, and extensive recreational options.

The Alternate Incarceration Program (AIP) at CRCI is a contracted treatment program operated by Cascadia Health for eligible AICs who have been approved by the court to participate. Completion of the program can substantially reduce time served. AIP provides 14 hours of daily programming in dedicated housing. AIP is always at capacity (61) and demand exceeds capacity. The CGJ recommends that this program expand to meet the needs of AICs who have SUD.

New Foundations is a voluntary treatment program intended for AICs with co-occurring substance use and mental health disorders. Participation can contribute to a reduction in time served. This

⁶ <https://www.multco.us/dcj-juvenile/youth-detention>

program, operated by CRCI staff, is available for up to 50 AICs. The CGJ heard testimony that the program is working well and provides an alternative for AICs who do not qualify for AIP.

The CGJ heard AIC testimony that programming is generally adequate but stated the need for suicide prevention counseling.

Food

Kitchen operations are overseen by a staff Food Services Manager and meals are prepared almost entirely by AICs. Low-sodium menus rotate every five weeks and provide an average of 3,200 calories a day. The CGJ heard testimony that the service is able to accommodate special diets and, when possible, seasonal ingredients are sourced locally.

While working in the kitchen, AICs learn life skills and may earn various certifications. The CGJ heard testimony that kitchen assignments prepare AICs for job re-entry and improve morale.

The CGJ sampled vegetarian and meat-based meals while visiting CRCI; both meals met expectations and nutritional needs.

Staffing

For the first time in two years CRCI is fully staffed with approximately 85 corrections officers. Even fully staffed, there is insufficient staffing available for sick leave and vacation coverage, requiring mandatory overtime to provide adequate coverage. CRCI attributes their recent success in recruiting and retention to the establishment of a dedicated recruiting team and job fair and event attendance to attract candidates. The CGJ heard testimony that shift times were adjusted to better accommodate staff commutes.

PREA Results

CRCI passed the last PREA audit in 2019.⁷

Facility Maintenance

The CGJ observed that the facility was in good repair. AICs with appropriate skill sets and interest can assist with minor repairs.

The CGJ heard testimony that there are several major upgrades planned for the facility including: a new roof, installation of energy-efficient windows, central laundry facility upgrades, the addition of a roof for the outdoor weight-lifting area, and upgrades to the sewer system.

The CGJ commends the staff and AICs of CRCI for their response to a wind event, which resulted in a protracted power outage. The CGJ heard testimony that an after action meeting was scheduled to discuss the chain of events and areas of opportunity.

Medical

Oregon Department of Corrections Health Services provides medical, dental, pharmacy, and behavioral and mental health services. Nursing staff is present 18 hours per day and contracted doctors are available by appointment. Services and medications are provided at no cost to AICs, excluding corrective eyewear. AICs in need of higher-level or emergency care are transported to

⁷ <https://www.oregon.gov/doc/prison-rape-elimination-act/Documents/CRCI-audit-report-2019.pdf>

local hospitals. AICs are always accompanied by at least one corrections officer while outside the prison.

The CGJ heard testimony that CRCI plans to convert to an electronic medical record system.

ADDITIONAL AREAS OF FOCUS

Electronic Tablets

MCSO has designated a pilot program to provide electronic tablets to AICs. The goal of this program is to determine if electronic access to criminal discovery, educational materials, and limited entertainment options can be made available to AICs while maintaining security and confidentiality. The CGJ heard testimony that MCIJ is a candidate to pilot this program.

The CGJ welcomes the tablet pilot program at MCIJ and is optimistic that lessons learned during the pandemic with regard to video court appearances and telepresence will inform the quick adoption and expansion of this program. The CGJ is hopeful that electronic tablets will serve to ease the logistical burden presented by physically moving AICs around to interface with those outside their current institution. The CGJ heard testimony that boredom during incarceration is a serious obstacle for AICs; the CGJ is optimistic that access to tablets for procedural, educational, and recreational purposes will help alleviate this.

Prevalence of Controlled Substances

Many AICs struggle with alcohol and drug-related issues. Intoxication, possession, withdrawal, and attempts to acquire controlled substances all bring their own challenges. Many measures have been taken to protect staff and AICs.

During the booking process, a person's medical history and any recent substance use is discussed with a nurse. Privileged information is not shared between medical and correctional staff, in accordance with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA).

Bathrooms in the booking area at MCDC are now equipped with a light that activates when an AIC enters. The light has a motion sensor and will deactivate if a person becomes motionless while inside, which alerts deputies to the possibility of a drug overdose. The CGJ heard testimony that there have been no overdose fatalities in the booking area since the system's implementation.

Body scanners are in use at MCDC and MCIJ to help minimize the likelihood that drugs are introduced into the jails. While corrections facilities are continually shifting tactics to address the avenues of entry for drugs, new methods continue to arise, such as the recent trend of coating paper with liquid drugs, which is then mailed to AICs. The CGJ heard testimony that many AICs are willing to risk detection now that the law has been changed to decriminalize possession of a controlled substance for personal use.

The CGJ heard testimony that fentanyl has become prevalent in Multnomah County jails while neither CRCI nor JJC reported fentanyl use as a current concern in their facilities. Naloxone, a medication used to stop opioid-related deaths due to overdosing, is available in all four correctional facilities. The CGJ recognizes that the recent spike in fentanyl overdoses puts more burden on strained medical budgets.

COVID-19

The CGJ acknowledges that the COVID-19 pandemic created unimaginable challenges within Multnomah County correctional facilities and applauds their tremendous commitment to the health and safety of AICs and staff. It is a laudable achievement to have zero AIC deaths in MCSO custody as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and the collective effort should be commended.

The CGJ was pleased to learn that vaccines for COVID-19 and other common diseases are readily available at all facilities in Multnomah County and that staff are working to address vaccine hesitancy within the incarcerated population.

Equity and Inclusion

Multnomah County established a new executive level Equity and Inclusion Director position in 2020. Two additional team member positions were requested; as of 2022, one position has been filled. Five areas of focus for the team include: cultural equity, staff retention, promotions, access to promotions, and recruiting practices. A value statement presentation is given to all new staff and an additional one-hour training is provided for promoted sergeants and lieutenants. The CGJ was pleased to hear that continued effort toward diversity, equity, and inclusion is a priority with regard to MCSO staff and AICs.

Female housing is available in three of the four correctional facilities in Multnomah County. The population of female AICs is much smaller than the population of male AICs. While numbers are constantly changing, females compose approximately 20% of the people in custody. There are fewer classification placement options for female AICs.

There are three female-only housing units at MCDC. A single unit houses female AICs who are on suicide watch, or have acute disciplinary or mental health needs. While the CGJ understands the physical limitations of MCDC, the CGJ is concerned that the disparate needs of these particular groups are not well served by their cohabitation within a single unit.

The CGJ heard testimony that programming options for female AICs are limited. Finding ways to increase access to programs for female AICs would be of great benefit. MCIJ offers a drug and alcohol *Treatment Readiness* housing unit to help address SUD in the male population. The CGJ heard testimony at MCIJ that a *Treatment Readiness* housing unit was not available to females. The CGJ recommends that an equivalent *Treatment Readiness* unit be created for female AICs.

English is the primary language used in the correctional facilities in Multnomah County. In each facility, there are staff members who speak other languages, but not all languages are represented. Telephone interpretation services are available as needed. JJC offers signage in multiple languages. The CGJ observed only one instance of bilingual signage during the MCDC facility tour; it read, "No habla" or "Do not talk". MCIJ had signage primarily in English with some Spanish. The CGJ recommends providing more written materials and signs in multiple languages.

The CGJ recognizes that the jail population has a much higher percentage of Black and Native Americans than Multnomah County as a whole. Most of this is outside of the control of correctional facilities since determinations regarding arrest and incarceration are made outside of the corrections system.

The Multnomah County Auditor's report, published in April 2022, noted that discipline and use of force were compliant with the standard but that misconduct citations and use of force incidents occurred at higher rates in the Black AIC population.⁸ The Sheriff's office agreed that the findings warranted review and consideration and has provided further response to specific recommendations contained within the report.⁹

Current Legal System Challenges

One of the repercussions of the COVID-19 pandemic was a slow-down of court processes. Many criminal cases remain unresolved. The current majority of AICs in jail in Multnomah County are unsentenced and awaiting trial. According to the Average Daily Population report by the Multnomah County Sheriff's Office, in October 2022, 463 (53%) AICs were in custody awaiting trial out of 866 AICs. This has been the average percentage since at least May 2021.¹⁰

The average range of the length of stay between May 2021 and October 2022 was 17.46 to 29.58 days. Approximately 250 people have remained in pre-trial custody for more than 150 days. Approximately 20 people have been in pre-trial custody for two years or more¹¹. During this time, caseloads have significantly increased for attorneys and many attorneys have left criminal law practice in Multnomah County.

Beginning in February 2022, due to fewer public defenders with larger caseloads, many defendants have not been receiving attorneys at arraignment. The court has been releasing defendants who have not been assigned a public defender at arraignment. These cases are on hold, awaiting the appointment of a public defender, and are contributing to the backlog of unresolved criminal matters in Multnomah County. As of November 21, 2022, 285 criminal cases have been dismissed in Multnomah County by the court due to the delay in the appointment of public defenders for criminal representation.¹² Statewide, approximately 1,300 additional public defenders are needed to meet the current demand for public defender services¹³. The CGJ heard testimony that these dismissed cases could be reissued in the future if the case is within the statute of limitations, restarting the process and using law enforcement, corrections, attorney, and court resources again.

Communication and Cooperation among Stakeholders

Public safety policy decisions have a large impact on various jurisdictions, departments, organizations, and the community at large. Therefore, good communication and cooperation among stakeholders is of utmost importance.

⁸ <https://www.multco.us/multnomah-county-jail-conditions-circumstances-were-worse-adults-custody-who-are-black-and-or-have>

⁹ <https://www.multco.us/sheriffs-response-jail-conditions-audit-report>

¹⁰ Multnomah County Sheriff's Office, Monthly Jail Report, October 2022, <http://mcsso.us/site/pdf/stats/Jail%20Report%20October%202022.pdf>

¹¹ See footnote 10

¹² District Attorney Mike Schmidt, Press Release, November 21, 2022, <https://www.mcda.us/index.php/news/da-mike-schmidt-calls-lack-of-public-defenders-an-urgent-threat-to-public-safety>

¹³ Dirk VanderHart & Conrad Wilson, OPB, The head of Oregon's public defense system is fired, after months of tumult, August 18, 2022, <https://www.opb.org/article/2022/08/18/oregon-public-defense-system-head-removed-after-tumultuous-months/>

The CGJ recognizes the strong working relationship that MCSO has with the Multnomah County Board of Commissioners, other county stakeholders, regional municipalities, and public system partners.

The CGJ also recognizes that MCSO's participation in groups such as the Local Public Safety Coordinating Council (LPSCC) reflects their ongoing commitment to communication and cooperation with stakeholders throughout Multnomah County. This commitment by MCSO and other stakeholders will be even more important as post-pandemic public safety policies and their impact on MCSO correctional facilities continue to evolve.

The CGJ hopes that improving communication and cooperation between county and municipal bodies will serve to provide better outcomes.

GENERAL FEEDBACK

The CGJ applauds the robust schedule of interviews curated by the Multnomah County District Attorney's office, and their aid in making additional testimony available when requested. The CGJ would also like to recognize the amount of time and effort MCSO and stakeholders dedicated to this process.

Overall, the CGJ was impressed with the level of professionalism shown by the witnesses who testified. They displayed pride in their job, had a great deal of respect for their coworkers, were in support of their respective organizations' missions, and showed care and compassion for those in their custody.

WITNESSES

Multnomah County Sheriff's Office

Sheriff Michael Reese
Sheriff Elect Nicole Morrissey O'Donnell
Chief Deputy Chad Gaidos, Corrections Services
Chief Deputy Steve Alexander, Facility Services
Interim Chief of Business Services, Jon Harms-Mahlandt
Chief of Business Services, Erin Hubert
Captain Denise Diamond, MCSO Corrections Compliance Manager
Captain Jeffery Wheeler, Facility Services Section
Captain Stephen Reardon, Court Services Section
Captain Brian Parks, MCDC Facility Commander
Captain Kurtiss Morrison, MCIJ Facility Commander
Lieutenant Brett Russell, MCDC
Sergeant Mihai Bascuti, MCDC Operations
Sergeant Barrett Taylor, MCDC
Sergeant Matthew Ingram, Union President
Sergeant Nicholas Carter, MCIJ Operations
Sergeant Daniel Brown, Work Crew
Corrections Deputy Eric Knapp
Corrections Deputy LaRae Ross
Jennifer Grogan, Human Resources Manager
Rebecca Sanchez, Equity and Inclusion Director
Scott Schlimpert, Fiscal Manager
Jeffrey Heinrich, Internal Affairs Manager
Steven Ciccotelli, Programs Supervisor

Adults in Custody

Jeffrey Pittman Jr. (MCDC)
Ethan Richter (MCIJ)
Jessica Rogers-Hall (MCIJ)
Jonny James (CRCI)

Aramark Food Service

Edward Climer, Aramark Kitchen Supervisor

Columbia River Correctional Institution

James Hanley, Acting Superintendent
Jason Jorgensen, Institution Security Manager
Francisco Hernandez IV, Food Services Manager
Tyler Gates, Behavioral Health Services Manager/QMHP
Casey Galloway, Physical Plant Manager
Correctional Sergeant Eric Davee
Correctional Corporal Samuel McInturff

Donald E. Long Juvenile Justice Center

Tracey Freeman, Interim Juvenile Services Division Director
Ken Jerin, Detention and Residential Services Senior Manager
Kimberly Pidcoke, Food Services Manager
Fikre Bierda, Cook
Jamie Hernandez, Food Service Worker

Medical Staff

Michael Seale, MD, Multnomah County Health Department
Zachary Myque Obiero, RN, Corrections Health Director, Multnomah County Health
Department
Leslie Fischer, Lead RN
Mariana Orellana, RN
Deidre Bond, RN
Ashley Adams, RN

Multnomah County District Attorney's Office

District Attorney Mike Schmidt
Travis Sewell, Deputy District Attorney
Jeffrey M. Lowe, Deputy District Attorney

Multnomah County Circuit Court

The Honorable Cheryl A. Albrecht, Chief Criminal Judge Multnomah County

Board of Commissioners

Deborah Kafoury, County Chair
Adam Renon, Senior Policy Advisor
Lori Stegmann, Commissioner District 4

Defense Attorney

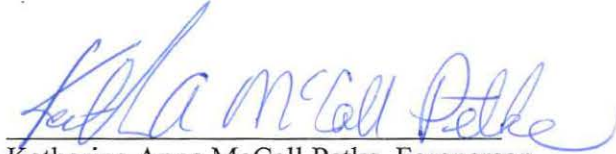
Russell S. Barnett III, Attorney at Law

ABBREVIATIONS AND DEFINITIONS

AIC -	Adult in Custody
AIP -	Alternate Incarceration Program
CGJ -	Corrections Grand Jury
CRCI -	Columbia River Correctional Institution
JJC -	Donald E. Long Juvenile Justice Center
MCDC -	Multnomah County Detention Center
MCIJ -	Multnomah County Inverness Jail
MCSO -	Multnomah County Sheriff's Office
ORS -	Oregon Revised Statutes
PEP -	Pathways to Employment Preparedness
PREA -	Prison Rape Elimination Act
SUD -	Substance Use Disorder

JUROR SIGNATURES

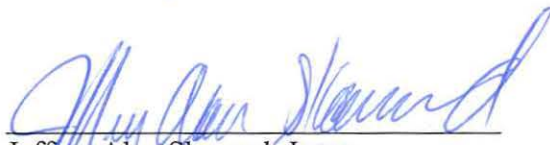
2022 Corrections Grand Jurors

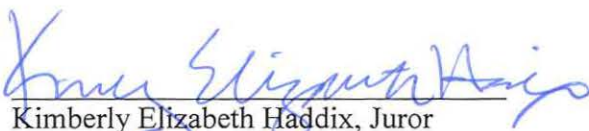

Katherine Anne McCall Petke, Foreperson


Lucas Robert Lacasella, Alternate Foreperson


Jessica Margaret Partain, Clerk


Logan Linville Welliver, Juror


Jeffrey Alan Skaurud, Juror


Kimberly Elizabeth Haddix, Juror


Alicia Ramsey, Juror