



---

# MEMORANDUM

---

Date: July 6, 2015

To: The Honorable Chair and Members  
Pima County Board of Supervisors

From: C.H. Huckelberry  
County Administrator

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "CHH", is written over the printed name "C.H. Huckelberry".

Re: **Reducing Adult Detention Center Costs**

As you may know, many initiatives are underway to reduce costs and improve outcomes in the criminal justice system. One component that recently received attention is a MacArthur Grant for reducing jail population and significantly reducing recidivism.

Another area of focus is ensuring the County jail system is not being used as an alternative to prison. Doing so further subsidizes the State's budget and transfers unnecessary costs to the County rather than having those costs incurred where they belong.

I requested a summary of our Pima County Adult Detention Center population and the number of inmates there as a result of an imposed sentence by a court. The attached report from Assistant Corrections Director India Davis is very instructive.

On June 22, 2015, the total jail population was 1,814; of these, 246 were serving a jail sentence imposed by a Court. Based on the sentences, these 246 inmates will serve 35,513 incarceration days at an approximate cost of \$3 million to the County. Of this \$3 million, only \$170,000 will be reimbursed from 28 inmates sentenced by City Courts on misdemeanor charges. The remaining inmates were sentenced by Superior or Justice Courts. Based on post-sentencing, we cannot determine how many inmates should or could have been sent to the Arizona Department of Corrections. It is our belief, however, it is a very high percentage.

We will work with the Presiding Judges of the Superior and Justice Courts to review this information in more detail with the goal of reducing the amount of County subsidy of the State when inmates are sentenced to terms in jail rather than State prison.

CHH/anc

Attachment

c: The Honorable Kyle Bryson, Presiding Judge, Superior Court  
The Honorable Keith Bee, Presiding Justice of the Peace, Consolidated Justice Courts  
Ellen Wheeler, Assistant County Administrator  
Christopher Nanos, Chief Deputy, Pima County Sheriff's Department  
Byron Gwaltney, Commander, Pima County Sheriff's Department  
India Davis, Assistant Corrections Director, Pima County Sheriff's Department

July 1, 2015

Pima County Administrator  
Mr. C. H. Huckelberry  
130 W. Congress St.  
Tucson AZ 85701

Re: Prisoners Confined at the Pima County Adult Detention Complex Serving a Sentence

Dear Mr. Huckelberry,

I have prepared the following summary of information in response to your inquiry dated June 9, 2015 regarding the number of inmates confined in the Pima County Adult Detention Complex (PCADC) serving a court imposed sentence.

The data is a snapshot of the PCADC population as it appeared on June 22, 2015. The total population on June 22, 2015 was 1,814. Of the 1,814, two hundred and forty-six (246) inmates were in PCADC on that day serving a jail sentence imposed by a local jurisdiction court. Over the duration of their incarceration period, these 246 inmates will result in 35,513 incarceration days with an approximate cost of \$3.072 million. Two-hundred eighteen (218) inmates of the 246 inmates are sentenced by either Pima County Superior or Justice Court and no reimbursement will be received. Twenty-eight (28) inmates of the 246 inmates are held for City courts and the County will be reimbursed through IGA's with the individual municipalities at a rate of \$279.51 for the first day and \$85.15 for each subsequent day. These 28 inmates sentenced by city courts on misdemeanor charges are the only reimbursable portion of this population and will result in future revenue of approximately \$170,643.00.

Below is a more detailed breakdown of the 246 inmates based on non-reimbursed PCADC sentencing and reimbursed sentencing by court from June 22, 2015, with additional detail as to charges, average length of stay, total inmate days and costs.

Non-reimbursed PCADC Sentencing:

- Superior Court accounts for 91 % of all PCADC sentencing.
  - 196 inmates are sentenced by Superior Court.
    - 1 for a misdemeanor (15 days) and 195 for felony convictions (32,243 days)
    - Total cost to Pima County is approx. \$2.785 million
      - Approx. 120 of these inmates (61%) were sentenced to a jail term for violating Probation.
      - The average length of stay (ALOS) for this Probation Violation population is 170 days.
      - 31 of the 196 inmates are sentenced to a term of 365 days in jail.
      - Approximate cost based on ALOS for this population is a \$1.737 million.
- Pima County Justice Court
  - 22 sentenced misdemeanor inmates to PCADC
    - 18 of the 22 (82%) are sentenced for a DUI offense

- Cost to Pima County is \$116,248.00. (1,315 incarceration days)

Reimbursed PCADC Sentencing:

- City Court Misdemeanor sentences
  - 28 inmates are held on City Court misdemeanors.
    - The County will receive reimbursement for all 28 inmates.
    - Total revenue for 1,940 incarceration days is \$170,634.00
      - 25 of the 28 (89%) inmates are sentenced by Tucson City Court.
      - 14 of the 25 (56%) inmates are sentenced for probation violations.
      - 8 of the 25 (32%) inmates are sentenced for a DUI offense.

The Sheriff's Department is unable to determine which of the 246 inmates were eligible to serve their sentences in prison, as we do not have access to plea agreements and other mitigating and aggravating criteria utilized in sentencing decisions. However, by nature of the crime classification, it appears that the 195 inmates sentenced to the PCADC on felonies, might have been eligible for prison terms.

In the past, we have seen a few inmates sentenced to over 700 days in jail; these were convictions based on plea agreements. Currently none of the Superior Court sentences exceed 365 days. In 2014, the average length of stay for the PCADC felony sentenced population was approximately 120 days. With 31 of the 195 inmates sentenced to 365 days, the average length of stay for the sentenced population at the PCADC has increased to 170 days, a 50 ALOS increase.

Please let me know if you would like a more detailed breakdown of this data.

Sincerely,

India Davis  
Assistant Corrections Director  
Pima County Adult Detention Complex



---

# MEMORANDUM

---

Date: June 9, 2015

To: Byron Gwaltney, Commander  
Pima County Sheriff's Department

From: C.H. Huckelberry  
County Administrator

India Davis, Corrections Captain  
Pima County Sheriff's Department

Re: **Prisoners Confined to the Pima County Adult Detention Center Serving a Sentence Imposed by Any Court**

I would appreciate information regarding the number of inmates presently held at the Pima County Adult Detention Center (PCADC) who are serving a sentence imposed by any court, the length of their sentence, and whether the County is receiving any reimbursement through prisoner housing intergovernmental agreements.

While there may be valid reasons for individuals who commit crimes within the community to be sentenced to jail rather than the Arizona Department of Corrections (ADC), doing so is another indirect cost transfer from the County to the State and should be avoided. Hence, it is appropriate to minimize the number of individuals sentenced to PCADC in lieu of the ADC.

Please provide the information requested at your earliest convenience.

CHH/anc

c: The Honorable Sally Simmons, Presiding Judge, Superior Court  
Ellen Wheeler, Assistant County Administrator