

November 2006

E-NEWS SUBSCRIBER ALERT – This month, several new names have been added to the subscriber list for APCTO e-news. These additions were based on some previous contact or interest in private corrections. We hope you will find the information contained herein to be useful but if, for any reason, you do not wish to receive APCTO's monthly e-news simply send an email requesting removal from the list to doucette@apcto.org.

Utah privatization review committee completes tours of public-private partnerships -- The team of four senior Utah Department of Corrections Officials who are conducting a review of public-private correctional partnerships, has completed its tour of three APCTO member operated prisons. The group visited the Rolling Plains facility in Texas, operated by **Emerald Correctional Management** in September. During October, they visited **Management and Training Corporation's** Lake Erie facility in Ohio and **Cornell Companies'** women's facility in Live Oak California.

The team will submit its findings to Utah DOC Secretary Scott Carver, who may make a recommendation regarding privatization to the Utah legislature in January.

Report on infectious diseases in corrections issued – The Brown Medical School and the Medical Education Collaborative Inc have issued their newsletter containing information regarding infectious diseases in a correctional setting. For more information, go to: http://www.idcronline.org/archives/sept06/september_2006_color.pdf.

Ohio Supreme Court limits private corrections auditing – The Ohio Supreme Court has ruled that Oriana House, non-profit operator of the Summit County Jail, is not a public entity and therefore its books are not open to public review. The court majority found that Oriana House operates its facilities with non "day-to-day" government control.

Cornell Companies Enters Into Merger Agreement With Veritas Capital -- APCTO member **Cornell Companies, Inc.** (NYSE:CRN) announced the execution of a definitive merger agreement with Veritas Capital, under which Veritas will acquire Cornell in a transaction valued at approximately \$518.6 million, including the assumption or repayment of approximately \$273.6 million in debt. Under the terms of the agreement, Cornell stockholders will receive \$18.25 in cash for each share of common stock they hold. Cornell says it will remain focused on delivering quality services to its customers and capitalizing on the growth opportunities it sees in the industry.

The GEO Group U.K. Subsidiary to Acquire Recruitment Solutions International – APCTO member, **The GEO Group, Inc.** announced that its United Kingdom subsidiary, GEO U.K. Ltd. ("GEO UK") has signed a definitive agreement to acquire U.K.-based

Recruitment Solutions International ("RSI"). RSI is a privately-held provider of transportation services to The Home Office Nationality and Immigration Directorate.

Idaho DOC task force to consider overcrowding – Vaughn Killeen, the new director of the Idaho DOC, has appointed a task force to look for solutions to overcrowding in the states prisons. Initial reports suggest that the task force will look to reducing recidivism and providing sentencing alternatives to judges. APCTO has corresponded with the director to indicate the Associations support for the work of the task force and has offered to provide information and assistance to assist them in their work.

California declares prison emergency ... Inmates go to out-of-state private prisons – California is transferring thousands of inmates to four out-of-state state prisons. The move will cost the state \$51 million a year. Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger has announced an emergency to expedite no-bid contracts with two private companies.

An estimated \$28.7 million a year will be paid to the APCTO member **The GEO Group Inc.** of Florida to accommodate around 1,260 inmates at its New Castle Correctional Facility in Indiana.

Tennessee-based Correctional Corporation of America will take 1,000 inmates at prisons in Arizona, Oklahoma and Tennessee.

Each inmate will be detained at a cost of \$63 a day, a cost much lower than the current cost of California prisons or jails.

Guide to state juvenile justice profiles available – The National Center for Juvenile Justice has released a new publication profiling state juvenile justice systems. Each profile describes the current structure and characteristics of a State's juvenile delinquency services, juvenile delinquency laws, and online resources. "National Overviews" place each State's profile in the context of summaries of information across States. The information for each State is obtained by the staff of the National Center for Juvenile Justice through analyses of State laws, reviews of documents and Web sites, and interviews with State and local juvenile justice practitioners. For more information go to <http://www.ncjj.org> .

Cornell Companies Inc cancels contract with Oklahoma ... Inmates to leave Great Plains facility – APCTO member **Cornell Companies** has notified the State of Oklahoma that it will not extend its contract to house 800 inmates at the company's facility in Hinton, Oklahoma. Oklahoma and Cornell failed to reach agreement on the per diem for an extension of the contract. According to the State, current DOC facilities can accommodate about 500 of the displaced inmates, but that number will essentially fill all of Oklahoma's existing prison beds. Cornell has not indicated how it will use the Hinton facility in the future.

Florida selects new healthcare provider for prison system -- America Service Group Inc. has announced that the Florida Department of Corrections has chosen the company's Prison Health Services group to provide medical care to some of the state's prison population.

The company, based near Nashville, said the sides are still negotiating the contract but that it expected to sign a five-year agreement worth an estimated \$84 million a year.

On again ... off again privatization of the Beaver County, PA jail is ... off again – The Beaver County Jail will continue to be run by public employees, after a court ruling yesterday that derailed the county's privatization move.

Beaver County President Judge Robert E. Kunselman upheld a June arbitration award that gave the county's jail guards a new three-year contract. The county had set Monday as the date for a Massachusetts firm, CiviGenics Inc., to take over jail operations, a move that would have left the unionized guards out of work.

OJJDP Announces Special Project Bulletins --The [Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention](#) (OJJDP) announces the availability of three Special Project Bulletins developed by the [National Center for Juvenile Justice](#) (NCJJ) with support from OJJDP. The [Special Project Bulletin series](#) is produced by NCJJ's Technical Assistance to the Juvenile Court Project.

The three new bulletins are:

- "[Guide to the State Juvenile Justice Profiles](#)" guides users through the layout and content of the [State Juvenile Justice Profiles](#) Web site.
- "[The Importance of Timely Case Processing in Non-Detained Juvenile Delinquency Cases](#)" lists seven steps for achieving timely court processing, a key principle of the "[Juvenile Delinquency Guidelines](#)," and describes promising practices and programs that help courts speed up case processing of non-detained delinquency cases.
- "[How Does the Juvenile Justice System Measure Up? Applying Performance Measures in Five Jurisdictions](#)" presents a case for measuring and reporting juvenile justice system performance outcomes and describes six essential features of a strategy for measuring juvenile justice performance.

BOP cancels plans to add “single-faith residential re-entry” programs to existing multi-faith programs in prisons – On October 26, the Federal Bureau of Prisons cancelled a solicitation for proposals for single-faith re-entry programs. The Freedom From Religion Foundation, a non-profit, which filed a lawsuit challenging the solicitation said that the Bureau had backed down from its “most egregious constitutional violation”. In making the announcement, the Bureau said, “Due to potential significant changes in

the requirements of the Bureau, and the programs, it is determined to be in the best interest of the government to cancel” the solicitation for the plan.

California Unions to file lawsuit over plans to move California inmates out of state --

Representatives of the California Correctional Peace Officers Association and the Service Employees International Union Local 1000 said they planned to file suit Sacramento Superior Court. They said they would seek to stop the transfers on grounds that Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger overstepped his legal authority in seeking the moves based on prison overcrowding. The unions will argue that although California has privately operated Community Correction Facilities within the state, these were authorized by the legislature and the plan to relocate inmates outside of the state was not. The Governors office has expressed confidence that the declaration of an emergency within the states prison system provides the governor the authority to act.

Oklahoma Office of Juvenile Affairs plans shift in treatment philosophy –

Executive Director Gene Christian, appointed September 1st, wants his office to focus on prevention. Programs such as substance abuse education, parenting classes, intervention programs for at-risk youth and their families will be emphasized in order to slow the progression of juveniles to a live of adult crime and incarceration in prison.

APCTO SPEAKS – Your association monitors the print and electronic media, seeking opportunities to inject APCTO key messages into the public debate on private prisons. Each month, this section of the newsletter will report on the articles identified and APCTO’s response.

October 13 – The Capital (Annapolis, MD) – In an editorial, The Capital expressed concerns over the “failing state juvenile justice program”. The paper indicated that juvenile justice had been a problem for years and that even though Governor Ehrlich promised to improve the system, much still needed to be done. APCTO responded by pointing out the importance of dealing with juvenile crime and the root causes of that behavior. The Association urged the proper application of treatment, education and rehabilitative services in juvenile justice programs and pointed out that public-private partnerships had an excellent record in this area.

October 14 – Tulsa World – In a lengthy article, the issue of the cost of counties providing bed space to the State Department of Corrections was outlined. The Tulsa sheriff said he would be satisfied to get what the “private prisons got”. APCTO responded with a brief tutorial on how to accurately calculate the true cost of provide housing, services and programs to an offender. The Association went on to suggest that creating the proper formula would allow for the proper calculation and then the taxpayers could determine whether county jails or public-private correctional partnerships provided the best value based on a true “apple to apple” comparison.

October 14 – Billings Gazette – Montana Director of Corrections Mike Ferriter wrote a guest opinion indicating that “offender rehabilitation pays off for Montana”. In the op/ed, Ferriter discussed the need to deal with crime in ways which do not always include prison. APCTO responded by praising the director for his emphasis on rehabilitation and on achieving a 39% recidivism rate. The Association restated its support for alternatives to incarceration; education, treatment and rehabilitative services for inmates; and comprehensive transitional programs for offenders returning to the community. A copy of ACPTO’s letter was provided to the director and to the Governor of Montana.

October 23 – Chattanooga Times Free Press – In another situation of overcrowding in a local county jail, problems at the Rhea County TN facility were discussed in this article. The reporter noted the appointment of a local committee to look for solutions. APCTO provided information regarding the major benefits of public-private correctional partnership; i.e., reduced costs, high quality and increased accountability. In addition, we discussed alternatives to incarceration, rehabilitation and community-based transitions.

October 24 – The Norman Transcript (OK) – The Transcript ran a detailed article concerning overcrowding in the Cleveland County Detention Center. APCTO responded by providing information about the benefits of public-private correctional partnerships in solving overcrowding.

October 24 – Enid News (OK) – In an editorial, the Enid News said Oklahoma must “spend more money on prisons”. APCTO provided information regarding the advantages of public-private correctional partnerships. In addition, the Association advocated consideration of alternatives to incarceration; treatment, education and rehabilitation services for offenders while they are incarcerated; and substantive, community-based transition programs to assist offenders returning to society.

October 30 – Portsmouth Herald (ME) – Corrections Commissioner Bill Wrenn is quoted in this article as wanting to reform the system and place greater emphasis on treatment. The article also mentioned a capital request for funds to expand an existing facility by 500-beds. APCTO responded with support for alternatives to incarceration; treatment, education and rehabilitation services for offenders while they are incarcerated; and substantive, community-based transition programs to assist offenders returning to society. In addition, the Association pointed out the major advantages available through the use of public-private correctional partnerships to provide increased bed-space.