



CALIFORNIA PRISON HEALTH CARE SERVICES

Media Advisory for Planning Purposes Only

Federal Receiver to Make Major Announcement

For Wednesday, Aug. 13, 2008 10AM

Contact: Luis Patino (916) 956-5879

Teleconference Phone Lines will *not* be available for this event.

(Sacramento, CA) Federal Receiver J. Clark Kelso will make a major announcement at a press conference **at 501 J. Street** in Sacramento, CA at **10AM** on **August 13, 2008**. There will not be a teleconference phone line available for this event.

J. Clark Kelso was appointed the Federal Receiver over medical care in California's prisons in January of this year in a long standing Federal Court class action. In 2006, the Honorable Thelton E. Henderson ruled that the extraordinary remedy of a Receivership was necessary to bring medical care in California's prisons up to constitutional standards. At that time, there was approximately one preventable death in California's prisons every week. Earlier this year Judge Henderson approved Mr. Kelso's Turn Around Plan of Action. Section 6.2 of that Plan calls for the construction of new medical and mental health facilities for up to 10,000 prisoner/patients, and clinical space upgrades for 33 existing prisons. Four Federal Court judges recently signed a joint order calling for the Receiver to take the lead concerning medical, mental health, dental, and Americans with Disability Act prison construction. Mr. Kelso has repeatedly emphasized that adequate patient units for chronically ill, disabled, and aged prisoners goes to the very heart of the Receivership's remedial program.

Early in the legislative session, Mr. Kelso supported a bill by Senator Mike Machado to bring the State of California under constitutional compliance by securing bond funding for this construction. The bill received wide-spread support in the Senate but fell just 4 votes shy of the needed two-thirds majority. A subsequent re-vote also failed. SB 1665 would have allowed for the bonds to be paid in partial payments over a number of years. Since then, the State has failed to provide any alternative source for the funding of the construction needed to meet Turn Around Plan of Action objectives.

Who: Federal Receiver J. Clark Kelso

What: Receiver to Make Major Announcement

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Where: 501 J. Street, Sacramento, CA, Suite 100