J. Clark Kelso Receiver

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

April 24, 2008

Dear Ms. Sarah Damerow:

Thank you for your comment of April 8, 2008, on the Receiver's draft strategic plan.

The policy and legal issue you raise regarding the Three-Strikes Laws are beyond the scope of the Receiver's authority. As you clearly understand, the Receiver must deal with the inmate population given to it, and that population is determined by literally thousands of laws and policy judgments made by others. In the case of Three-Strikes, I believe you would find that the actual percentage of inmates being held by virtue of third strike cases is very small. However, your fundamental point that California's overall approach to sentencing and corrections has created a very large, overcrowded prison system is correct, and that forms the context for the Receiver's draft strategic plan.

Sincerely.

J. Clark Kelso Receiver