

April 21, 2008

Prison Law Office General Delivery San Quentin, CA 94964

Dear Sir/Madam:

The purpose of this letter is to respond to Plaintiff's comments on the Receiver's Strategic Plan in regard to medical staffing.

Vigorous recruitment efforts are currently underway in the Receiver's Workforce Development Branch for both primary care providers and Licensed Vocational Nurses (LVNs).

A mass mailer was recently sent out to 33,000 internal medicine and family practice, Board certified physicians licensed in California. In addition to the mailer, we have advertisements running on numerous online advertisement mediums, as well as professional medical journals and military newspapers. Recruiters regularly attend medical conferences and visit residency programs across the state promoting a career in correctional medicine. This effort has so far garnered 54 new candidates with 37 Physicians, 13 Chief Physicians, and 4 Chief Medical Officer candidates added to the certification lists. In preparation for this major outreach effort, the hiring of primary care providers has been centralized, so that candidates may be interviewed once and considered for multiple locations. Year to date, we have hired over 80 physicians statewide.

Recruitment efforts for LVNs include print and online media and are currently underway for a mass mailer to be sent to LVNs in those "hard-to-recruit" areas which informs potential candidates of the new salary structure implemented in recent months. We also intend to increase the online and print media over the next several months, and continue focusing on nursing schools for potential applicants. During the month of March, recruiters conducted presentations at 16 different nursing schools located throughout the State. The year-to-date reduction of LVN vacancies statewide is actually 22 percent, with over 400 LVNs being hired since July 2007.

The above information is provided to give you an idea of some of the specific actions being undertaken by the Receivership in an effort to fill primary care and LVN vacancies statewide. We do not feel the need to revise the strategic plan to incorporate more detail on the specific tactics being undertaken by the Workforce Development Branch.

If you would like additional information on the initiatives listed above, please contact Katrina S. Hagen, Deputy Director, Plata Workforce Development Branch, at 327-1577.

Sincerely,

J. CLARK KELSO

Receiver