Orange County Corrections Department

Orange County Jail Oversight Commission

January 31, 2025

Louis A. Quiñones, Jr. Chief of Corrections





- History of the 2001 Jail Oversight Commission (JOC)
- 2001 JOC Commission's Charge
- 2001 JOC Committees
- 2001 JOC Recommendations
- Accomplishments Since the 2001 JOC
- 2025 Orange County Jail's Status
- 2025 Orange County Jail Oversight Commission





- In 2001, total jail bookings were 55,502 with an Average Daily Population 4,239 inmates (24% above design capacity)
- Orange County's incarceration rate was 56% higher than the rest of Florida, 109% higher than the national average.
- Mental Health & Substance Abusers
- Orange County Chairman Richard Crotty established the Jail Oversight Commission (JOC)



2001 JOC Commission's Charge

- Review and evaluate the effectiveness of the Orange County Corrections Department in achieving its mission.
- Review the criminal justice system and the community factors which impact the population and operations of the jail.
- Develop recommendations for reform and improvements to the jail and criminal justice system.





The JOC established four committees

- Corrections Staffing and Performance Committee
- Criminal Justice Case Processing Committee
- Medical, Mental Health, and Substance Abuse Committee
- Technology Committee





- Final report completed April 22, 2002
- Jail Oversight Commission presented 202 recommendations
- Designed to establish long-term regional solutions for the jail and citizens of Orange County
- Improve overall jail operations, policies, procedures, morale, and leadership





STATUS CODES: "C"=Complete; "C/OG"=Complete/On-Going; "FDR"=FurtherDiscussionRequired; "PC/OS"=PartiallyComplete/OnSchedule; "PC/DL"=PartiallyComplete/Delayed; "XLD"=Canceled; "NA"=Not Active										
Issue	Number	Summary of Recommendation	Lead Agency	Agency Contact	Status	Projected Start Date	Action Plan	Completion Date	Projected Funding Needs	Status 2025
Continued Oversight	CH00-01	Assign responsibility of continued oversight and monitoring of implementation of recommendations to the Public Safety Coordinating Council.	CJPSCC	Gallagher / Morrison	C/OG	05/2002	Mr. Morrison serves as the JOC liaison on the Criminal Justice Public Safety Coordinating Council. 1/2025 - No liaison on the CJPSCC	Completed. On-Going	Ν	NA
Continued Oversight	CH00-02	Reconvene the Jail Oversight Commission annually.	Public Policy	Burkett	C/OG	06/2003	12/2002-JOC tentatively scheduled to reconvene in June 2003. 1/2025 - Unable to locate a Status Report after 6/2003.	Annually – On-Going. Completed	Ν	FDR
Continued Oversight	CH00-03	Establish a Citizen's Advisory Council.	Public Policy		FDR					NA
Public Awareness	CH00-04	Establish a Corrections Citizen Academy.	Corrections	BJORING / Joe Seeber	C/OG	1/8/2003	Researched existing programs. Developed proposal. Presented to management on 7-15- 02. Ad will be placed in Orlando Sentinel and will be on Web-site. Two academies will be held annually, effective January 2003. 1/2025 - No Corrections Citizen Academy, but corrections participates in the Mayor's Citizens Academy.	Completed. On-Going	Yes	FDR
Public Information	CH00-05	Expand the Corrections web site to include a count of the average daily, or monthly, inmate population.	Corrections	BJORING / Jablonski	C/OG	06/2002	Inmate count procedures fully implemented. Web posting will begin once Corrections Senior Leadership approves posting sheet format. Web site expanded on 11/08/02.	Completed. On-Going	No	C/OG
Inmate Population	CH00-06	Study the demographics of the inmate population and compare to Orange County's general population.	Public Policy	Burkett	PC		Scope of work submitted to UCF 06/2002 - Study scheduled to begin 08/2002. Final report expected to be available 09/2003.	Sep-03		NA



Accomplishments Since the 2001 JOC

- Belvin Perry Jr. Central Receiving Center (CRC) 2003
- Booking and Release Center (BRC) 2006
- Crisis Intervention Training (CIT)
- National and State Accreditations and Audits
 - American Corrections Associations (ACA)
 - National Commission on Correctional Health Care (NCCHC)
 - Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA)
 - Florida Corrections Accreditation Commission (FCAC)



Accomplishments Since the 2001 JOC

Enhanced technology

- Integrated Criminal Justice Information System (ICJIS) 2005
- Inmate Management System (IMS)
- Medical Management System



- In 2024, total jail bookings were 35,315, an increase of 17% since 2021, with an Average Daily Population of 2,378 inmates, an increase of 31%. Average daily cost per inmate is \$144.51.
- New bond schedule
- Homeless bookings
- Shortage of beds in state mental health hospitals
- Average length of stay for mental health inmates increased from 51 days (2021) to 59 days (2024)



- With the rise in the jail population, CHS has seen an increase in inmates requiring healthcare services
 - There has been an increase in the number of inmates being arrested with preexisting, complicated chronic illnesses that require long-term care
 - Increase of in-custody deaths due to natural causes
 - Increase in the mental health inmate population that requires specialized services
 - After COVID, health costs have rapidly accelerated



- Since the end of the pandemic, Corrections has experienced a significant increase in turnover within the certified positions and difficulty in recruiting qualified candidates who can complete the hiring process.
 - As of January 2025, Correctional Officer vacancies = 240
 - 27 Officers currently in Deferred Retirement Option Program (DROP)
 - Utilize mandatory overtime to fill required posts



- Created a Reentry and Transitional Services Unit
- Host bi-annual Community Resource Fair
- Assigned staff trained in Critical Response and Management (CRM) Training to mental health units.
- Opened on-site Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) Clinic
- Clinical Opiate Withdrawal Scale (COWS) Units established
- Enrolling eligible inmates in zero premium Affordable Care Act plans



- Advocating to change state law to allow Medicaid to pay for hospitalization for inmates
- Working with hospitals to ensure competitive reimbursement rates
- Revised hiring standards
- Streamlined hiring process
- Implemented staff wellness program "We CARE"
- Cross-functional teams
- Created part-time correctional officer positions



2025 OC Jail Oversight Commission

With the significant inmate population increase at the Orange County Jail over the past years, and the costs associated with incarceration and healthcare, Mayor Jerry L. Demings is convening the Orange County Jail Oversight Commission to look at best practices across the criminal justice system and make recommendations.





Three Committees and Support Leads

- Criminal Justice Case Processing Committee
 - Manager Juanita Beason, Corrections Department
- Medical, Mental Health, and Substance Abuse Committee
 Olga Khramova, Corrections Health Services
- Recruitment & Retention Committee
 - Captain Clint Rashall, Corrections Department





Questions?



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