



OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Milwaukee County

CHRIS ABELE • COUNTY EXECUTIVE

December 17, 2012

Chairwoman Dimitrijevic:

As you and I discussed, the Sheriff filed a lawsuit on December 12, 2012 in response to the Board's policy on the HOC transition. Given this clear signal that neither he nor his staff will cooperate, I am writing to reiterate the need for flexibility on the implementation date.

In order to recruit and plan for a transition, we need:

- Certainty regarding the date of transition that is now put into question by a lawsuit;
- Total cooperation from the Sheriff; and
- Access to the facility, staff, operations and documents.

These are critical concerns for me and the many law enforcement and corrections experts I have met with over the past month. It is my understanding that the Sheriff is unwilling to grant us such access and cooperation. In addition to the signals provided in the lawsuit, the Office of the Sheriff has communicated that they will not allow an appointed Superintendent access to the CCFS prior to April 1.

While it is my intent to work toward the transition given the policy passed by the Board, it is in the best interest of the inmates and the community to delay implementation until the Courts have given the County certainty regarding how to proceed. As a result, **I request that the Board clarify that implementation will not happen until at least 4 months after legal clarity is secured.** I have spoken with numerous law enforcement experts, including the District Attorney, who share my concern and support my call for a change in implementation date.

Thank you, in advance, for your consideration of this important issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Abele".

Chris Abele

Cc: Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors
HOC Transition Implementation Committee
Sherriff David A. Clarke, Jr.