

JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR



**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**HAWAII CORRECTIONAL SYSTEM OVERSIGHT COMMISSION**  
235 S. Beretania Street, 16<sup>TH</sup> Floor  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813  
(808) 587-4160

MARK PATTERSON  
CHAIR

CHRISTIN M. JOHNSON  
OVERSIGHT COORDINATOR

COMMISSIONERS  
HON. MICHAEL A. TOWN  
(ret.)  
HON. RONALD IBARRA  
(ret.)  
TED SAKAI  
MARTHA TORNEY

May 1, 2023

Robert K. Merce, Chair  
Correctional Reform Working Group  
851 Fort Street Mall #400  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: Getting It Right: Recommendations and Action Plan for a Better Jail

Dear Mr. Merce,

The Hawaii Correctional System Oversight Commission (HCSOC, the Commission) was created to oversee the State's correctional system with a focus on facilitating a correctional system transition to a rehabilitative and therapeutic model, managing correctional facility population limits, and monitoring reentry efforts.

During the December 2021 Commission meeting, you presented, *Getting It Right: Better Ideas for a New Jail*, and during the October 2022 Commission meeting, the Correctional Reform Working Group presented, *Getting It Right: Recommendations and Action Plan for a Better Jail*. Both reports align with the Commission's mandate and goal of supporting safe conditions for employees, inmates, and detainees, and providing positive reform towards a rehabilitative and therapeutic correctional system.

The design and physical structure of correctional facilities are imperative to forming and building on culture that uplifts and supports therapeutic and rehabilitative practices. Therefore, the Commission thanks you and the Correctional Reform Working Group for publishing both groundbreaking reports and for sharing them with the Commission and public. The Commission whole heartedly supports your mission and vision, as set out in the two *Getting It Right* papers, to plan and design a transformative jail based on best practices.

We thank you for your work and will support you to the best of our abilities moving forward.

With aloha,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Patterson".

Mark Patterson