

Transcript

October 9, 2025, 7:10PM

□ **Choe, George** started transcription

H **Hawaii Correction System Oversight Commission** 0:03

Hi.

Judge Barney Duvall, OK.

I can't hear you. Thank you.

BM **Browning, Robert M** 0:10

Aye, aye.

H **Hawaii Correction System Oversight Commission** 0:12

All opposed say same in the abstentions motion passed.

We're moving on to agenda item number 4.

Good morning, Tommy.

Are you here?

I see you.

JT **Johnson, Tommy** 0:21

Yep, I'm here.

H **Hawaii Correction System Oversight Commission** 0:23

Thank you, Tommy.

Go ahead and.

Let you do your report.

JT **Johnson, Tommy** 0:28

OK.

So there's really no update to O triple C except I did tell you guys we're going to move the CTC to where the Lamako work furlough site is correct.

And we're going to rename that from a work furlough center to a re-entry renegation center.

Something along those lines.

So I asked the engineers to to value to kind of.

Look at those projected cost of the building. The O triple C without the CTC and see if they can lower the price.

Down. So that's what they're doing.

We're looking at a three story structure that is the most feasible given the amount of staff and number of detainees that will be there.

What that will do is lessen our footprint on the ground, but at the same time, we'll provide enough.

Space for parking for both the animal quarantine facility for the visitors for visitors to the facility and for the staff of both facilities. We're looking at making the the public parking joint for.

Quarantine Center and for the new O Triple C.

But we'll have restricted parking for our staff and we'll have set aside parking for the judiciary when we have hearings there because we're putting a courtroom in the in the facility itself to cut down on transportation back and forth.

We're looking at a separate entrance for the for the judiciary to come and go.

We are going to install what's called a community.

Room where?

Members of neighborhood board can schedule the room to use, be outside to secure facilities so that it'll be a multi-purpose room where they can hold meetings.

People can call the facility to schedule it, things like that.

With respect to the medical record system, we went into contract with Fusion. We're working on the details now with it.

We have a goal of rolling out sometime between June and September of next year.

They're now working on the contract language.

With fusion comes the different types of tablets.

Now we use GTL tablets for telephone and video visits and games.

So we're looking at a new fusion tablet that will allow them to electronically file grievances.

Request for case management support can do programming on the tablets or themselves.

The goal is for us is to have one for one on a convicted felon for the tablets.

So that a person's assigned a tablet when they come in.

And then they use that tablet.

All the way through, and ideally what we wanna try to do is have the person have access to an account on that tablet for up to a year after they get out so they can access workline history reports, certificates for some of the courses they went through some.

H

Hawaii Correction System Oversight Commission 3:02

Well.

JT

Johnson, Tommy 3:16

Of the all the programming they went through, that kind of stuff.

So we think that'll help with transition as well, because sometimes people lose documents and by us giving.

That to them, for free, they'll have access to it for up to a year.

So I'll let you know we're developing the we're talking to Fusion now about the the the multipurpose platform and what we want them to do like commissary orders will be done on the tablets too.

So we're trying to bring DCR into the 21st century.

With respect to the offender track system, the contract was awarded to Syscon and now we're doing the.

We're doing the the contract language. We're looking at the rollout.

Sometime next year for that as well, I'll let you know.

We just awarded the contracts. We just now start on language. It was a protest to that contract.

The protester withdrew the, withdrew the protest that allowed us to go ahead and award the contract to Syscon.

And so now we're going to proceed with respect to Wellness events.

As you know, I gave Christian a list of Wellness events that we have conducted and job fairs.

For for a resource fairs for offenders.

The next one that we plan will be done at.

It's job fair to be held at UHS campus on Maui and the Community Relations building from 5:30 PM to 7:30 PM.

So we're going to have our personal office there.

We're going to have leadership from the facility there to talk to potential applicants on if they're interested in some of the many vacancies we have.

As you know, we have hundreds of vacancies and corrections officers. We have case managers, everything from groundskeepers, all the way up to.

Hiatus. So we did start our as you know, our champion, the change campaign last year has been very successful.

We brought down the overall vacancy rate from 36% to 24%, excuse me, 34% to 24%, but we still got a ways to go to fill the positions.

H

Hawaii Correction System Oversight Commission 5:17

Some data on the what was the date on the Maui thing?

JT

Johnson, Tommy 5:17

That.

The Maui thing is going to be well, that's a good one.

I didn't write it down.

OK.

H

Hawaii Correction System Oversight Commission 5:27

OK.

JT

Johnson, Tommy 5:29

I'll let me hold on.

Let me just pull up my e-mail, but.

They actually have.

A. A good plan to do it at night because then some people worked on the day.

And so here we go.

So they're gonna do it from 5:30 to 7:30 in the evening. It is going to be.

On.

70 PM.

Do you know it's not on a announcement?

I'll I'll e-mail it to you.

I'll e-mail it to you.

Got to the to the Commission.

H

Hawaii Correction System Oversight Commission 6:09

Thank you, Tommy. Thank you.

JT Johnson, Tommy 6:11

I apologize.

I'm just looking at it.

I just noticed that it's not on there.

OK.

I'll get that to you today. My apologies.

H Hawaii Correction System Oversight Commission 6:20

Thank you.

JT Johnson, Tommy 6:24

That's all I have.

H Hawaii Correction System Oversight Commission 6:26

I have a question.

Aye, open up a testimony.

Oh yes.

Thank you, Tommy.

Appreciate all that went pretty fast.

That's a lot of good stuff, though.

That's it.

That's a lot of hard working.

I can hear it with all the different contracts that you were talking about and whatnot, but at this point I wanna open it up for any public comment at this time to the Commissioners, you previous your comment to two to three minutes and we'll respond to your COM.

JT Johnson, Tommy 6:42

Yeah.

H Hawaii Correction System Oversight Commission 6:51

Or take a have an ear for it and specific to what director Johnson presented.

Looking for hands or digital signal?

Seeing none, go ahead, Martha.

OK, Tommy, my question has to do with I'm very happy to hear about this enhanced use of tablets throughout the facility. But I'm curious as how we're going to maintain confidential contact for the offenders and lawyers on blitzman's the Commission. Will they be using the tablets or would they be using those boots that have already been established in some of the jails?

JT Johnson, Tommy 7:32

We haven't determined it yet, but I we could.

I need to be honest with you.

We didn't think about until you just said it about the the contact with the attorneys can be done through the tablets and then they could do it in their cell or they can go into the boost to do it, contact with the Ombudsman and the Commission they could.

Do the same.

Go into the boost, but I have to make sure that we we have that platform I just met with the Ombudsman about some other issues and According to him.

They only have this one mailbox.

General mailbox and it's not part of their system to protect their records and confidentiality, so I'll have to talk to him some more to see how then if we were able to get that platform on the tablets, how would that work with the inmates communicating with them and?

With the Commission too. So I'll talk to them.

I'll talk to Romy first.

We're rolling it out with healthcare first, so I'll talk to them.

Good point, good point.

H Hawaii Correction System Oversight Commission 8:28

And I am sure that you're aware that that you know our concern would be to make sure that those communications are kept confidential.

Thank you.

JT Johnson, Tommy 8:37

OK, I do have the date.

The date is November 5th for the seminar, 5:30 to 7:30 PM.

In the Community relations building at UH at uh Maui.

H **Hawaii Correction System Oversight Commission** 8:51

Thank you, Tommy. Judge Baring any questions.

JT **Johnson, Tommy** 8:52

Got it.

BM **Browning, Robert M** 8:54

Yes. With respect to the courtroom, that's going to be at the facility.

That's correct.

And it will be a courtroom for hearings, right?

JT **Johnson, Tommy** 9:03

Yes, yes.

BM **Browning, Robert M** 9:04

Have have discussions taking place between you and the judiciary about that.

JT **Johnson, Tommy** 9:09

Yes, I met initially with Rod Miley and retired Chief Justice Ricken Wald.

And so my understanding is we've been meeting with Daylin Rose because so she is now the lead for that project.

BM **Browning, Robert M** 9:18

Dalen. Yeah, yeah.

Good.

JT **Johnson, Tommy** 9:21

And so we've already got the basics down as to what was needed with respect to the judges, chambers space.

But it's it's going to be a bricks and mortar type of courtroom, not mahogany wood.

All this other stuff, but but a functioning courtroom.

BM **Browning, Robert M** 9:32

Oh yeah, that's fine.

JT Johnson, Tommy 9:34

And according to judiciary, it'll be one courtroom that can handle both district and Circuit Court functions.

BM Browning, Robert M 9:39

Oh good.

That's great. Thank you.

JT Johnson, Tommy 9:42

You're welcome.

H Hawaii Correction System Oversight Commission 9:45

Does he borrow? Thank you.

OK.

No further questions.

Thank you, Tommy, at this time.

Oversight coordinator Miss Johnson been called away to the mainland at this time, so.

Her Hawaii Correctional System Oversight Commission's monthly report is online.

I'm not gonna go over it verbatim, but just a few highlights for those of you who want to review the entire report.

As we all know, Miss Johnson is very detailed and very committed in each of her reports that she puts out on a monthly basis. So I encourage you to go to our website and take a review of it.

Things I will highlight though is.

Two death in Custodies for September.

On September 2nd, at approximately 8:24 PM, Mountain Standard Time, 49 year old male in custody was found injured on a cell floor at the Northeast New Mexico Correctional Facility, Clayton, NM.

Approximately 829 medical staff entered the pod with a Gurney and removed the individual medical staff performed chest compressions into emergency medical, arrived and assume life saving measures.

The male was transported by ambulance to Union County General Hospital, where he was pronounced deceased.

At 9:13 PM, the medical examiner will determine the official cause of death following an autopsy.

The second incident, on September 25th, 2025 at approximately 5:00 PM, security staff were alerted that a 62 year old male in custody needed assistance and Halawa Correctional Facility security staff called for medical backup, who arrived approximately 510 before EMS arrived and ***.

Life saving measures.

The descendant was transported to Polymomy Medical Center emergency room, where he was pronounced deceased at approximately 6:18 PM and the medical examiner will determine the official cause of death following an autopsy.

So those are two death in custodies for the month of September.

The staff continues to do its tours of the this this past September. They did the Waikiki Health Center and the Holly keeper nonprofit that house housing for young adults.

Here in Hawaii and anything else occurred to the report can be read.

Again on the website, the two.

Tours that we've been talking that will be that we, the Commission, had in the last two months will be discussed by with Martha this time. So moving on to agenda item. Do you have any questions?

Commissioners, any questions or comments? Yes.

Yeah.

Hearing none.

Item number six on the IS the overview and discussion of the Women's Community Correctional Center Tour and report that we did last week.

OK.

We conducted the tour at the Women's Community Correctional Center on September 11th, 2025.

First of all, this is the first tour that we did as a Commission since August 2024.

I want everybody to be very well aware that the staff visits the facilities.

Very, very often we only go once a year to each facility, so this is reflecting our impression from that time. The three new buildings in August of 24 were under construction, but they're all open now. Building A is secure housing.

It's now called the Pakui building. Building B is intake and building C is where administration is located.

We visited Ola Monica cottage.

We never have enough time to visit all the living units while we're there, so we we select them.

We have not visited Ola Manana before.

It is where the jail population and mental health programming is located for women's Community Correctional Center.

So mental health staff did accompany us on this on on this tour, and one of the things that in Old Monaco is that the offenders brought up is that they share the Kala Cottage case manager because of lack of staff. And they said that there just is not. Enough adequate time for her to handle.

The issues that they have.

Do not fault the case manager for this.

They believe.

She tries very hard, but she is overwhelmed with questions and requests whenever she comes there.

So I know.

I know that the department is constantly recruiting for positions.

This is one example where the positions really affect the the offenders, the and dorm a which is on cubicles divided by low walls. The jail population who are designated there were medium to high acuity.

So primary Level 3, some level twos occupy this storm. Reading material is available by the common complaint as it doesn't rotate enough. They don't have enough new stuff coming in.

Another common complaint is store hour is only every two weeks.

There is more than 12 hours between dinner and breakfast the next morning.

There are no snacks or anything else provided, so the women are asking that they be able to get.

Store order more frequently, or at least snacks be provided for that very long period of time.

Time.

We also in the bathroom area a couple of the facilities were not working like when see one of the things they noticed, two of the sinks had poor water pressure. Of the four showers.

Hot water is not always available.

So what they figured out, they kept 1 tower flowing all the time.

Then we'd have hot water in the other showers.

Quite a waste of water, but who wants to take a cold shower?

And one of the toilets with malfunctioning.

This is indicative of the age of the facility and open in approximately 1952 and it really is another one of those facilities that the cost of repairs would be almost equivalent to the cost of replacing it. Dorm C is made-up of cells and it houses.

The people with high mental health acuity and single cells and is a disciplinary unit for the cottage.

Dorm C did not have much out of cell time, averaging just one hour a day of concern for the Commission was the individual for mental health.

It's more access to out of cells.

Given their status, but Cui Cottage is the new living unit that opened up and it has three dorms, AB and C dorm A&B are similar.

There are two stories made-up of a very large cubicle to floor to ceiling walls along the walls. On each side there are two double bunks, so eight people is a capacity within that area.

The Commission is responsible for establishing capacity and we are working on that right now.

But we're under the impression that this facility was built in accordance with ACA standards, so I am predicting that most likely the operation capacity is going to be the design capacity.

So one of the most common complaint we got is they have very large windows at the end of each of these cubicles allowed in a lot of fresh light, but they don't open above the windows, are two louvers long louvers? They are open, but they do not provide.

The adequate.

Airflow that you need so the the cubicles get very hot.

The day room does not.

The day room is 2 stories and the day room has fans inside of it.

You can't put fans inside of the cubicle.

The ceilings are too low.

It would be dangerous.

And so there is a lot of concern about how hot those get.

In Dorm B is made-up of cells.

Sorry, Don.

B cells or is dormant B yeah.

Dorm dorm B is this?

Oh, I'm sorry.

I'm still in Alamana makui.

I've moved to. I'm sorry I got confused where I was. People in custody reported that many programs need to be for parole eligibility are restricted to those who are medium and close custody.

An example was used was a residential drug abuse program.

Rdap is only accepting minimum custody individuals. Those coming back from parole as parole violators.

Maybe designated as medium custody.

And they are not able to access the RDAP program which is required by the paroleing authority for re release.

So we need to resolve that.

Dorm B is the same layout as dorm a, but is designated as a as the Honor dorm, so the women have more programs available to them in that dorm, and it is.

Somewhere interested though. Going to Kuala Cottage, which now has a small workout room.

New gym and that was developed by the Women's Prison project.

It was a great gift to the facility, however it is very challenging for the facilities to take women from one living unit and move them to another living module and so we don't see that as being really feasible.

They'd be able to access the call account, dorm one person.

And Kasi brought up something which is of great concern to us, and that is lack of a notary at the facility. It used to be in my time that every facility had secretaries and sometimes clerical staff that got trained by the state to be notaries. They could only. Be notary in state functions which included the correctional facilities, especially the women, have a lot of child issues.

Child custody and things like that.

And they need to sign documents require notaries.

It used to be that there was a notary that volunteered to come in, but she is no longer available, so months can go by without getting something notarized.

We recommend that the facilities start again being allowed to have staff be notaries. They get trained at no cost to the facility, they cannot use this notary service outside hangout shingle outside of the State Building. And I read the policy and the policy just said that they're no.

Longer required to have notaries applying.

Policy did require it, but it doesn't prevent notaries from being on staff.

Dorm C is made-up of two stories of cells.

There are 12 cells on each floor and those are identified as maximum custody, protective custody or housing disciplinary segregation. As a result, this cottage Bakui is made-up of seven spellings, not to be cued, confused with Ola Mana, which is made-up of the jail population.

And the space is used judiciously.

There were only 14 people occupying the 24 cells while we were there.

They are given one hour per day out of cell, during which time they have access to phones tablets.

Or tablets for contacting their families or participating in a program available on the tablet.

The tablets do not get returned to the city to the living units or to their cells.

Mona Willie Cottage is a program.

Cottage it has the education program there. We were really impressed with the range of programs provided by education and many of them are college level that come from women Community College.

So we, we do commend them for the great job they have in ordering.

And offering the variety of courses that are there.

The library had a very large selection of books that the librarian was not there, so we could not ask about access to the law library in the medical unit. Tommy brought up the fact that they are replacing the information system for the for the department, and they did.

Mention under the current system, the medical records system is running very slow, which takes a lot of time when they're trying to move forward with a, it impedes their work. They also do have a number of vacancies and missing one RN, which is supervisor three, RN 3's.

Two LPN's and two human service professionals, they are allowed to hire outside staff to come in contract staff, but they have informed that the agency nurses will not be assigned after September 30th due to lack of funds.

We also heard this at M triple C When we were there, so this is something we should have asked Tommy.

Oh, Tommy is still present.

He might be able to answer that. Whether they will not be allowed to hire agency

nurses after September 30th.

It's already past that.

The Infirmary.

The Infirmary is in good condition in the general room, which is where people may be coming from the hospital or someplace else.

There was only one that allowed for poor inmates.

There was only one inmate assigned to that. We had two inmates on Suicide Watch.

And one on safety watch and Safety watch for the state.

Step down from Suicide watch.

But we did notice the ACL who is assigned to sit opposite the suicide watch cells.

She was across the hall in a room with what looked like an inmate work line.

That desk should never be vacated. If someone needed to talk to the inmate work line, it should have been someone else.

So Tommy, as soon as I finish this report, I'll ask you to respond to the thing about the agency nurses.

The kitchen was busy repairing.

Preparing for dinner. But it was clean and good order, especially considering that it's 60 years old. On our first visit it was in terrible order and it has improved immensely.

There was only one piece of equipment that was not operating correctly. A steam poker, and it was made in repair and so.

One of the things we did notice the last time we were there, there were a number of inmates on Suicide Watch and the reason they were there so long is there was not a psychiatrist or psychologist available to release them.

There is now someone available to. They're not spending an extended time there.

And now, can we recognize Tommy and ask him?

Tommy, can you go ahead and see nurses?

Hi, Tommy.

JT **Johnson, Tommy** 23:37
OK, what was the?

H **Hawaii Correction System Oversight Commission** 23:37
Thank you.

JT Johnson, Tommy 23:39

What was the question? I'm sorry.

H Hawaii Correction System Oversight Commission 23:41

We were told both at M Triple C and AW triple C that beginning September 30th. That was last week that they would not be able to bring an agency nurses as there was a lack of funds.

JT Johnson, Tommy 23:55

But that's partially true. So let me explain all the federal dollars the ARPA funds ran out on 31 December of last year.

We were able to encumber what was left over and we had to expend it by 31 March of this year, which we did.

So the money that's available is much, much less. Without the ARPA funds.

But we will go into contract for what's called locum nurses beginning 1 October they're writing.

They're doing the RFP now, since there'll be less money.

They will not be able to fill or they will not be able to get as many of the local nurses as they did when we had the federal ARPA funds to supplement our regular budget items. We do have an A, an, A form a in which I just.

Provided to Christian this morning and she acknowledged receipt asking for the Commission's support.

Because we're requesting 35 positions.

Including nurses and psychiatrists and aprn.

Based on the our staffing needs and the recommendations of the two mental health experts that were just here in June.

H Hawaii Correction System Oversight Commission 25:04

I I do have a question for you and this would be a fiscal question.

Is it more?

Is it better for the facility to be using agency nurses which you know you can get as opposed to having positions that you're having a lot of difficulty filling?

JT Johnson, Tommy 25:18

I it is better for them to have nurses APR NS to be honest with you because APR NS have prescriptive authority.

H **Hawaii Correction System Oversight Commission** 25:24
Yeah.

JT **Johnson, Tommy** 25:27
So we're requesting a total of. Let me look at my 35 positions.
I believe it is 10 APR NS-8.
Eight nurse threes. We're asking for.
To be, you know, throughout the state to go throughout the state.
So we think if we get the positions, the problem we have on Maui is that the cost of living is so high, even though the nurse could make a decent salary, it is not enough for them to buy a place there.
So that's why we have the nursing vacancy.
So we fly nurses over there. I think we fly APR in over there twice a week.
But I'll check with you on Monday to make sure and I'll get you the I'll e-mail you the schedule of this current staffing in Maui and then what the schedule is, how we supplement that.
With sending people over during the week, I'll get that from Romy Glidewell, our health care administrator, and I'll send that to you.
I'll send it to Christian and she can share it or send it to Mark and she can share it. He can share it.

H **Hawaii Correction System Oversight Commission** 26:26
And we know that the department has been making a very aggressive effort to fill positions at the facilities. So I cannot fault you the fact that you have vacancies here and I appreciate your trying to find work around that. Thank you.

JT **Johnson, Tommy** 26:41
Alright, you're welcome.

H **Hawaii Correction System Oversight Commission** 26:47
Any questions, Commissioner, on the report that we just heard?
OK. If now we'll move on to item number seven, which is our report from the visit to

the Oahu Community Correctional Center.

Martha, I hope I don't get confused this time.

I'm so easy to confuse now.

OK. On Wednesday, September 17th, we visited OCE. You might be aware that when we had our last scheduled visit, there were not enough Commissioners to attend.

That tour. So we decided to delay it.

O triple C is a very important facility for us.

So the tour included Chair Patterson, myself and Commissioner Browning.

1st, we met with Warden Shell and his staff for an extended period of time, which we appreciated very much and.

The largest concern were consistent complaints that we get concerning out of cell time that inmates are locked up 2322 hours a day in their cells and they do not get out.

The warden explained that O triple C is required to close a minimum of 21 posts in any given watch before overtime can be authorized. The requirement to close 21 post has resulted in consistent 23 hour to 22 hour a day in a cell and.

Including eating in their cells.

So you have five people in the corner cells which are about 120 square feet, as I recall, and they're all trying to eat also in that very small space.

The short and long term impacts of trauma experienced by people.

Phone keistie are also concerned, given the conditions of confinement.

Caused by long term lockdowns, we also are concerned about the long term, the possibility of potential liability generated from closing that many posts that there could be a suit against as a result and you have to measure the the cost of a suit versus filling those positions the.

Department is deeply concerned regarding the lack of out of cell time for those in custody and the use the relationship between restrictive over time.

And population management is a serious management failure of the department level. Many of the solutions and recommendations that the Commission has put forward previously cannot be implemented at the facility level, but must be implemented at the department level.

Facility highlights. OK, the women were relocated to Bakui and other cottages at the women's facility.

So they no longer have that space.

Initially it was the intent of the department to use some of the places vacated.

As, let's see, overcrowding reduce the opportunity for women in custody. They were going to use it as a suicide watch, step down module and critical care for the mentally ill that does not appear to have taken place.

They're all also going to use one of them as the Infirmary.

They're using them for other reasons at this time, so we are concerned about not having like more Infirmary space that is needed, desperately needed that facility.

The medical staff or the medical unit was orderly and well staffed.

Again, it was contract nurses that were helping to keep it well staffed, but there were many staff vacancies and services again were augmented.

The physical space lacks privacy for medical practitioners. This has been a long term problem out there that when they're interviewing doing the initial interview or any other interview with those in custody, they don't have privacy in doing so.

Also, the Infirmary is very inadequate, so we were looking forward to using one of the modules the women vacated as the Infirmary, the holding unit, which is the oldest building on the site.

It was built in 1936, and it's while it's functional, it is very archaic, is open cells, and there are a total of 36 cells, 12 cells on each floor, with three with four cells and a day room in front of it.

But again, it's only bars, so I mean.

Down can travel. Other things can travel.

Things can be passed from cell to cell.

Sell as a result.

So there were 39 people located in those 36 cells, and the unit was very cold with some of the people in Costa just wrapping themselves in a blanket.

The outside recreation which we included in pictures in our report, so you folks can see it.

They are open cages for that. People go in individually. These cages are about the double size of Estelle, but they do not have any shaded access in there in the sun.

A lot of the day we it was reported.

By staff at about half the population holding unit, take advantage of the outdoor recreation custody. Whether they choose to go outdoors or not, but we think lack of shade made one. Maybe one of the things that contributes to this low rate of use.

We then moved on to module 17.

It has a capacity of 48.

There were 49 people who were there, but it was very clear while we were there there

was a lot of shouting coming from the cells asking for attention.

I know the Commissioner, brownie.

And our oversight administrator were talking to the people in the cells.

I had very little contact with them because I was talking to staff, but they can report

Judge Brownie may be able to report more on what he heard.

There they were yelling complaints about not having daily access to showers out of cell time, phone calls, programs and outdoor rec.

Annex 2, which used to be called the Thunderdome, is not so much a Thunderdome anymore.

It is a concrete three story building that has open dormitories that are in there, but I must say the last two times I've been there and it's been much there were 134 men located there and which has a design capacity of 114.

We had no real complaints expressed to us or the staff while we were there.

Visitation continues to be non contact visits to position of the of the.

Commission is to have contact visits.

I'll follow up on previous recommendations.

We're happy to say after August 24 visit, we were told at that time by the warden that the warden did not have access to our confidential policies that was brought to the director's attention and resolved immediately, and they do have access to moral policies now.

We have noticed in our all three of our visits. Again, these are the Commission visits, not the staff visits and augment thief that natural lighting is restricted.

In the cells that they have put out boards, sometimes wood sometimes made out of other material to block the natural light coming in because of communication that was going from module to module across yards and stuff. It is required by ACA standards that they have natural lighting and.

We want to have that resolved.

We've mentioned the Plast in the past that you could use oblique glass.

That light can come through, but you cannot see through.

We recommend the restoration of a contact visited people in custody at O Triple C have too much idle time and limited access to programming, including cultural education and re-entry. The one thing we did not ask when we were in the.

When we're in the education area, that really was, we didn't go there.

That's right.

We didn't go there, that one.

We.

The furlough program is the most utilized of the furlough programs in the state, but it still could be used at a greater.

Capacity than it's right.

Then we recommend to install cages and we also the complaints that have been received Commission include roaches and cells that must be composed.

That is a health issue we must take care of. Getting rid of the roaches and then difficulty in accessing bail. Call. So again, inmates have to have the ability to contact a bail bondsman so they can arrange that they can get released from custody.

And we will need to ensure that regular access to books and reading materials is available.

Legal calls.

Mail recreation for those in the holding unit, they are restricted a lot with that.

And last thing is we do.

Can we report yourself?

Evaluate the impacts requiring post closures to limit overtime costs.

The trade off we do not think is really worth it.

In the long run, I did ask if you could add anything about the closing of the cells. The impact, as a former correctional officer.

It is normal for the department to put restrictions on the on the facilities in their overtime practices.

Yeah, we do know already that there is a large shortage of correction officers statewide.

However, when we do the shortages or we do the, the instructions come from the department on to the facility on how to hire over time we need to be more conscious or the department needs to be more conscious on on on how.

They that instruction is being presented.

And how does it affect the ability of the facility to maintain a safe environment?

Yeah, sometimes if you folks understand the the staffing of the correctional officers, they have what they call red positions and black positions and the red positions are those individuals that or or positions that are necessary for the facility to maintain order.

Yeah, the black facilities, the black positions are what we call the worker bees.

They're the ones that allow movement to occur.

Yeah, and the the red poses cannot be closed, but the black poses can't.

And so as you continue to cut black pulses or not higher for them because we don't have because of vacancies and staff not coming in, the more black poses that we close, the less movement is available to occur on that facility, yeah.

So when we have a huge amount like 22 positions, it's 22 black posters in a during the business hours of facility.

That's almost no movement.

That's occurring outside of them going to court. Yeah. On a daily basis.

And so we need to look at how can we create models of on this day, we're gonna do 12 posters. On this day, we do 15 posters.

We need to look at and manage each correctional housing to determine that they weren't out yesterday.

How do we get them out today?

Yeah, we need to be more conscious on how we that number, that 22 number shouldn't be fixed, it should be fluctuated.

Yeah. In order to manage movement within the facility, manage programming.

And especially managed time out of the cell.

Yeah. If you go a whole week and and not having much time out of the cell, maybe you have two to three hours a day out of the cell. You know it goes crazy on the mine individually being locked up and then you cause more problem for that.

One guy in there that's responsible for 40 to 50 inmates in his housing unit who are very frustrated at that time.

So everybody's frustrated.

So how do we create models?

You know, back in the old days we called it rolling lockdowns.

Yeah, even rolling lockdowns.

Get into some union issues in terms of moving individuals, but we need to be creative. We need to work with the Union and how we can allow for more time out of sale and not be fixated on a single number of posts. Every is required to to close.

But to fluctuate it on a weekly basis to allow for freedom of movement and out of sell time.

Yeah, and Commissioner Browning was with us on that tour.

If he wants to add anything.

Please do.

Well, I think you guys covered most of it I spoke to.

As Commissioner, 20 mentioned, I spoke to at least three different inmates in that particular area and the.

Issues that were we discussed were all were from inmate to inmate, were the same, and that was time out of cell.

The lack of time out of cell.

And with respect to that issue.

The discussion always went into.

To how how much it adversely affected each individual and how they were being.

They were losing hope and they were losing their minds, basically.

The psychological harm.

And I said I would also include emotional harm of not being able to get out and get recreation or to get some sort of variety during the course of the day.

And just extreme stress that put on them.

And that was uniformly what each one of those inmates that I talked to spoke about.

H

Hawaii Correction System Oversight Commission 39:38

Hello this awesome. Did you want to ask if she has any comments?

Who?

Oh, he's here? Yeah, she's here.

Thank you, Commissioner Browning.

Thank you, Commissioner Brown.

I see representative bellari on the line.

Did you want to make a comment on the tour since you were with us on the tour?

Hey cat Brady.

Go ahead, Kat.

I opened up for some testimony at this time and I'll I'll close this section of the agenda.

KB

Kat Brady 40:20

Thank you so much.

Just going back to W triple CI am really happy that Tommy is coming to the legislature next year to increase the number of nurses.

One of the things I've been hearing is that the women have been told sick call has been cancelled.

And they're saying So what happens when we're sick?

What do we do?

They said, well, you can call sick.

Call, but there's basically nobody there, so.

I think it's really important that we increase the nurses and Community alliance on prisons will be supporting that. Thank you so much.

H

Hawaii Correction System Oversight Commission 41:04

Thank you.

KB

Kat Brady 41:06

Thank you, Tommy.

H

Hawaii Correction System Oversight Commission 41:06

Representative.

Good morning, representative bellati.

DB

Della Au Belatti 41:12

Good morning, chair. Good morning, commissioners.

Thank you for this opportunity.

I I it was very eye opening.

I am taking my time actually to visit numerous facilities in different avenues either by myself or with you folks.

So thank you for that opportunity.

These are my comments.

At this moment I'm just really learning and seeing the state of facilities right now as well as the state of programs.

There's a lot of work we need to do.

I'll just say that for now.

H

Hawaii Correction System Oversight Commission 41:43

Thank you.

Thank you for being here as well.

DB Della Au Belatti 41:44

Thank you.

H Hawaii Correction System Oversight Commission 41:45

Thank you.

So Commissioners, a final statement on our you know, it's been almost since we've. Received and were able to fill our oversight coordinator in 2022.

It's been almost three years now that we've been visiting these facilities and this is a general statement just to let you folks know, and I want to make sure that we're not just coming here and and saying and reporting things out and not following up.

In terms of IS, is anything being done with with the reports that we are being written, I think we have three years of reports at least on each of the facilities that we visited in this past three years. We have been as a the staff has been corre.

All our recommendations on a spreadsheet.

Yeah. And I will say that.

Director Johnson and his predecessor has have responded to a lot of our recommendations.

And make changes and there's a lot that have not been done.

Yeah. So we're looking at those recommendations that we have placed in a in a in a spreadsheet, and we're gonna be coming up by the end of the year with the end of the year and looking at the three-year tours and what has been done and what.

Has not been done.

And when you look at what has not been done, it's not no real one individual, but it's really about budget issues.

Staffing issues etc etc etc. And I think those are the things that we wanna pull out of our recommendations.

That we can go into the legislature and say, hey, these are reasons why things are not getting done and how do we be.

How do everyone work together to be able to give the DCR what they need to resolve the problems that they're having and that we're finding? Yeah, this is not about.

Blame this is about this is what's happening.

How do we work together to fix the issues that are occurring within our facilities at this time? And there are many, many issues and we recognize that.

So when you listen to what Martha has said in both, oh, triple C&W, triple C.

Many of this stuff is being repeated.

Yep. And so I think we're at a point now where we have enough information to come down and say, hey, This is why this is not being done.

This is not further recommendations and how do we move forward?

In validating and vetting our recommendations to the DCR can move forward in resolving some of these issues.

Commission is any final saying?

Well, I believe that we can really support Director Johnson and others in the facility when they go to the legislature with their request.

So please take advantage of that support.

So a lot of these tours, Commissioners, it's really how, how do we best be a voice for change in the legislature based on the the many recommendations and information that we've had in the past three years.

That we have shared and that we've found in our visiting and I appreciate each and everyone of you that come through these tours.

It's can be lengthy, it can be long.

It can be tiring, but it's what we do with Mahalo for all of that.

As we move as we looked at item number 8 and it's going to be real quick 'cause, this is something that the oversight coordinator would report out on.

And Bob Marce is not with us.

Bob Marce is not.

I would call him on Bob Marce. A compassionate release has been something that we've been trying to.

Work on for quite some time now.

An organization called Families Against Mandatory Minimums FAM have been in Hawaii the last week or two, and the oversight coordinator and staff have been meeting with them.

They've been meeting with community partners and DCR to look at compassionate release.

I have nothing else to report other than that that occurred and hopefully in the next meeting we can bring this agenda item back up again when the oversight coordinator has returned.

Yeah, I agree with Delaney.

This discussion until Christen returns.

But I do appreciate that representative Bell Latte and her committee. That was an informational meeting on Monday, and there Molly, one of the representatives from Pham, presented the data and the testimony. It was excellent. And Bob MERS again has been a leader in this state in getting compassion release. I think he's been working on this issue for at least 20 years. And he has been successful in getting a number of people out, but there are many more that could be released. What was kind of shocking at that hearing and represent Belize may be able to expand on this was what the cost was of keeping these people incarcerated, that it was mentioned that one inmate used \$900,000 of the prescription drug money appropriated by the legislature. 90% of it in one year. Representative Bellotti, do you want to add anything more about the hearing? You're on mute. Thank you.

DB Della Au Belatti 46:44

Sure. I would just say it is available on the House YouTube page. So anyone is welcome to see it. I just want to extend my appreciation to fam to the Commission and also to DCR and HPA. For what sounds like were productive meetings and conversations. I'm hopeful that we can continue these conversations and move forward in the 2026 legislative session. So more to do always more to do. Thank you, commissioners.

H Hawaii Correction System Oversight Commission 47:13

Thank you, representative bolotti. I'm gonna move to item number 9 on our agenda. It's a public comment. This is public comment on issues that are not on the agenda that we may not have talked about today, but consideration for Commission's agenda at the next meeting. I'll be looking for any hands or digital signs of any comments or testimonies at this time. Kat.

KB **Kat Brady** 47:40

I'm curious.

Aloha commissioners. I'm curious about the criteria for Interstate compacts because I've heard that there's one particular inmate who is on an Interstate compact and he doesn't understand why.

And I have been unable to explain.

Why? So he's the only Hawaii inmate.

At a facility and in the continent so.

I think it would be good if the Commission actually explained at the next meeting or at a subsequent meeting about Interstate compacts.

It was my understanding that if it's generally if it's.

A government worker who is incarcerated.

They don't want that person in the facility.

The government runs so.

My understanding is they send them to other facilities.

But I'm not really quite sure how that all happens, so I think it would be good to have a discussion on that. Thank you.

H **Hawaii Correction System Oversight Commission** 48:55

Yeah, Interstate compact is used for a lot of purposes, not just those who may have worked in the system.

That's a good.

That's a good recommendation, Kat.

We'll follow up on that. Thank you.

KB **Kat Brady** 49:08

Thank you.

H **Hawaii Correction System Oversight Commission** 49:13

Anybody know?

Been a quiet day.

Thank you everyone.

We miss.

Christian, we miss Christian, but just a few announcements. Our next meeting will be

Thursday, November 13th at 9:00 AM and we will be on the Big Island.

And we'll be visiting Kulani Correctional Facility at that time. As soon as this meeting is over, we will be heading out to Halawa Valley and visiting Halava Correctional Facility today.

Not to mention it's.

I think that's all I have for this time Commissioners. Any further announcements that you may have?

Seeing none.

I adjourned this meeting at this time.

Thank you everyone for being here.

Appreciate all of you. Thank you.



Browning, Robert M 50:08

Thank you everybody.

□ **Choe, George** stopped transcription