**ALLEGHENY COUNTY**

**JAIL OVERSIGHT BOARD MEETING**

Thursday

February 1, 2024

Gold Room

4th Floor

Allegheny County Courthouse

436 Grant Street

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15219

1    **MEMBERS OF THE BOARD IN ATTENDANCE:**

2    County Executive Sara Innamorato

3    President Judge Susan Evashavik DiLucente

4    Judge Kelly Bigley

5    Sheriff Kevin Kraus

6    Controller Corey O'Connor

7    Councilmember Bethany Hallam, for County

8    Council President Pat Catena

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12    **JAIL ADMINISTRATION IN ATTENDANCE:**

13    Interim Warden Shane T. Dady

14    Chief Deputy Warden Jason Beasom

15    DHSA Karen Kollar

16    Deputy Warden Blythe Toma

17    Deputy Warden Connie Clark

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21    **COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS PRESENTERS**

22    Gregory Price - Passages to Recovery

23    Adam Zak - The Renewal Center

24    Alaina Dettore - The Renewal Center

25

1      **PUBLIC SPEAKERS:**

2      Lu Randall

3      Marion Damick

4      Stephen Fisher

5      James Waters

6      Darrell Palmer, Jr.

7      Brian Englert

8      Diana Hull

9      Sr. Barbara Finch

10     John Kenstowicz

11     C.J. Swanson

12     Sharon Bonavoglia

13     Kyna James

14     Tanisha Long

15     Roy Blankenship, Jr.

16     Alan Guenther

17     Carlos Thomas

18     Anna Yatsko

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1          P R O C E E D I N G S

2              (4:08 o'clock p.m.)

3              JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Good

4    afternoon, everybody.

5              AUDIENCE MEMBERS:  Good afternoon.

6              JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Yes.  I

7    apologize.  We're a little late today.  Very

8    sorry.  We'll try not to let that happen again.

9              So we will now do roll call

10   attendance.

11             Judge Bigley?

12             JUDGE BIGLEY:  I'm here.

13             JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Sheriff

14   Kraus?

15             SHERIFF KRAUS:  Here.

16             JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:

17   Controller Corey O'Connor?

18             MR. O'CONNOR:  Here.

19             JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  County

20   Executive Innamorato?

21             MS. INNAMORATO:  Here.

22             JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  I'm

23   Judge Evashavik here, and Councilwoman Hallam?

24             MS. HALLAM:  Here.

25             JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Thank

1    you.

2              So we'll get right to business and

3    hear from the Community Corrections Reports.

4    Passages to Recovery.

5    **Community corrections reports**

6              MR. PRICE:  Good afternoon, Board.

7              JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  And

8    again, when you come to the microphone, if you

9    could please state your full name and spell your

10   last name.

11             MR. PRICE:  Gregory Price,

12   G-R-E-G-O-R-Y; Price P-R-I-C-E.  I'm the Director

13   of Treatment Operations at Passages to Recovery.

14             The current number that we have are

15   36 active clients.  So out of those being

16   employed, for the report date, we have 46 active

17   clients, with 6 of those being employed, with 9

18   of them being exited.

19             We had 1 positive COVID case for

20   staff.  And we did submit a letter to the Board

21   regarding an incident that happened on Sunday,

22   January 28th.  We do want to express our

23   sincerest apologies to the staff and residents

24   that were there.  And I have my Chief Program

25   Officer, Ms. Candace, here as well, and we'll

1 open it up to questions.

2             JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Anybody

3 have questions?

4             MS. HALLAM:  Hi.  Thanks for being

5 here.

6             MR. PRICE:  Of course.

7             MS. HALLAM:  Speaking of the 9

8 exits, can you just give us a summary of why

9 people were exited from the program?

10             MR. PRICE:  I don't have the

11 specific number.  I think one was successful, and

12 we had a few that were AMA and a few paroles.

13 I'll get those numbers for you, though.

14             MS. HALLAM:  Okay.  And when

15 they're AMA, do they go back to jail?

16             MR. PRICE:  No.  We try to set them

17 up with another provider.

18             MS. HALLAM:  Okay.  And can you

19 tell me about the other providers?  Because I

20 also noticed in that letter that you sent us that

21 you talked about how the resident that was

22 involved in the altercation was sent to another

23 provider.  I'm just wondering where those places

24 are that you send people to.

25             MR. PRICE:  So it depends on where

1    they live at and things like that.  So you're

2    going to have to see where they need to be at and

3    especially bed availability as well.

4                MS. HALLAM:  Okay.  And think I

5    know I had asked at a last meeting about the DOJ

6    settlement regarding the Medications for Opioid

7    Use Disorder and if your facility sees itself as

8    being under the purview as an alternative housing

9    facility of that settlement?

10                MR. PRICE:  You didn't ask me that.

11    I'm sorry.

12                MS. HALLAM:  Oh, was it just

13    Renewal that I asked?

14                JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  You

15    asked Renewal.

16                MS. HALLAM:  Oh, well, I meant to

17    ask you.  So I'm sorry for thinking I did, and

18    I'll ask you this time.

19                MR. PRICE:  Okay.

20                MS. HALLAM:  If you could

21    familiarize yourself for the next meeting, maybe

22    with the DOJ settlement about providing

23    medication for opioid use disorder to folks who

24    are incarcerated, if you have a plan to make sure

25    that that's implemented in your facility as well.

1          MR. PRICE:  Yes, ma'am.

2          MS. HALLAM:  Okay.  Thank you so

3   much.

4          MR. PRICE:  That's it?

5          JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Anybody

6   else?

7          (No response.)

8          JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Thank

9   you.

10         MR. PRICE:  Thank you.

11         JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Renewal

12  Center.

13         MR. ZAK:  Good afternoon.  Adam

14  Zak, A-D-A-M  Z-A-K, reporting for Renewal,

15  Incorporated.

16         In our Work-Release Program, we

17  currently have 51 men, 8 women for a total of 59

18  clients.

19         In our Inpatient Drug and Alcohol

20  Program, we have 8 men and 3 women for a total of

21  11 in our inpatient.

22         Our employment rate is currently 62

23  percent, with an average pay rate of about $16 an

24  hour.

25         In the past monthly period, we've

1    had 14 successful completions, 13 transfers back

2    to the ACJ, and 8 escapes.

3              There were no COVID cases, no

4    overdoses, and no deaths.

5              Before I turn the podium over to

6    our Clinical Director, do you have any questions

7    to me in regards to the Work-Release Program?

8              MS. HALLAM:  Yeah.  I just want to

9    ask for a little more information about the 13

10    who were sent back to ACJ.  Can you tell us why

11    they were sent back to the jail?

12              MR. ZAK:  Various reasons.  We

13    don't do that on a whim.  Usually if they bring

14    in any drugs or alcohol into our facilities.

15    Sometimes we'll get a call from the jail that

16    they have active warrants, and they have to get

17    returned.  And other individuals they've

18    actually -- they write letters, and the same day

19    they come over, they don't expect they're coming

20    to an alternative housing program; they feel

21    better being back at the jail.  So many various

22    reasons.

23              MS. HALLAM:  So you're saying there

24    are people who actually request to leave Renewal

25    to go back to jail?

1                    MR. ZAK:  There are.  Usually when

2      they -- the first day they're brought over.  We

3      talk to them.  We say, you know, think it over.

4      You know, sleep on it.  But for whatever reason,

5      they want to be back at the jail.

6                    MS. HALLAM:  Okay.  And then my

7      next question is I know I had asked at the last

8      meeting about all the ambulances and fire trucks

9      that seem to always be in front of Renewal

10     Center.  Do you have any more information about

11     those?  It was specifically prior to the last

12     month's meeting, seemed to be on Tuesdays.  I

13     don't know about other days.

14                    MR. ZAK:  I work primarily out of

15     the Boulevard of the Allies location.  I know the

16     Allegheny County Commons, they have ambulances go

17     to that building also.  So I think that they may

18     be going over there.

19                    MS. HALLAM:  Yeah, but they're not.

20     Because I see them going to Renewal.

21                    MR. ZAK:  There's various reasons.

22     There's men and women with preexisting conditions

23     where they have to call the ambulance for, you

24     know, epileptic seizure or something in that

25     nature.

1                    MS. HALLAM:  Okay.  So for the next

2      meeting, could you just bring us information

3      about any time that emergency personnel were

4      called to Renewal Center?  And specifically on

5      Second Ave, but I'd also be interested about

6      Boulevard of the Allies as well, any time that

7      there was 9-1-1 response for some reason and what

8      it was for.

9                    MR. ZAK:  Yeah.

10                    MS. HALLAM:  Thank you very much.

11                    MR. O'CONNOR:  Judge, I have a

12      quick question.

13                    JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Go

14      ahead.

15                    MR. O'CONNOR:  Somebody had

16      reported to us that there was a heating issue one

17      night.  Was it fixed?  The heat go out -- the

18      power go out?

19                    MR. ZAK:  Not that I'm aware of.

20                    MR. O'CONNOR:  Okay.  We got -- we

21      were told on the 21st.

22                    MR. ZAK:  Do you know what facility

23      that's in?

24                    MR. O'CONNOR:  Let me check.  I'll

25      send you an e-mail just to get an update on it.

1    But yeah, somebody said it was out, and I just

2    didn't know if it was a facility issue or just a

3    random occurrence that something happened.  So,

4    thanks.

5              JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Anybody

6    else?

7              (No response.)

8              JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Okay.

9    Thank you.

10             MS. DETTORE:  Hi, my name is Alaina

11    Dettore.  Last name is D-E-T-T-O-R-E.  I'm the

12    Director of Clinical Services for Renewal.

13             Just to further comment on Adam's

14    numbers, 9 of those county discharges were from

15    our Inpatient Program; 7 were successful, 2 were

16    unsuccessful; 1 was sent back for threats, and 1

17    was sent back for theft.

18             And we continue to have Divine

19    Ministries coming every Thursday with our

20    females, an incentive program that we -- sorry,

21    it's a little distracting.  The incentive program

22    that we have for our reentrants is successful.  I

23    think we're seeing a better attitude, a better --

24    more motivated to engage in activities.  And with

25    the nice weather, we've been able to go out on

1    recreational walks.

2              And I did just want to update that

3    we did have our first reentrant on methadone

4    admit today.

5              Does anybody have any questions?

6              Yes.

7              MS. HALLAM:  Yeah.  Just a couple.

8              So specifically the question I

9    asked earlier that was for you that I asked of

10   Passages.

11             MS. DETTORE:  Yes.

12             MS. HALLAM:  About the DOJ

13   settlement, if you guys have evaluated that and

14   decided if that's something that applies to you?

15             MS. DETTORE:  So we have evaluated

16   it, and we are continuing to look into what it

17   would take to become a licensed provider at this

18   point.

19             MS. HALLAM:  Okay.  So do you

20   believe, or is it the position of Renewal that

21   the settlement applies to you, that it must be in

22   effect at the same timeline as the jail's

23   timeline?

24             DEPUTY WARDEN CLARK:  Ms. Hallam,

25   that actually does -- that was just, you know, a

1    settlement between the jail and the DOJ.

2                    MS. HALLAM:  Uh-huh.

3                    DEPUTY WARDEN CLARK:  However, the

4    alternative housing providers, because they house

5    our incarcerated individuals, they're going to be

6    following our lead on that.

7                    So anyone that's on Suboxone or

8    Methadone can be placed into alternative housing.

9    They currently do that.  They also -- the

10   alternative housing sites currently allow

11   induction for Suboxone, and they've just started

12   Methadone at Renewal, so once that process gets

13   finalized and settled, then the next phase of

14   that will be for them to look at induction for

15   Methadone as well.

16                   So those alternative housing

17   facilities will be doing exactly as the jail is.

18                   MS. HALLAM:  Okay.  Even if folks

19   don't go there directly from the ACJ, if they go

20   there from somewhere else?

21                   DEPUTY WARDEN CLARK:  That would be

22   a determination for those programs to make, but

23   if they're -- I mean, I can't speak for them on

24   that --

25                   MS. HALLAM:  Yeah, that's why I was

1    asking them about it.

2             DEPUTY WARDEN CLARK:  Yeah.  I was

3    just referring to the individuals that are coming

4    from the jail.

5             MS. HALLAM:  I appreciate that

6    information.  That is very helpful.

7             JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  So but

8    you're saying that the individuals who come from

9    the jail, they are required to follow that

10   mandate?  I'm not sure what your answer was.

11            DEPUTY WARDEN CLARK:  They're not

12   part of that DOJ settlement.  They are not

13   required to follow it.  However, because we are

14   and because clients coming from the jail will be

15   falling under that, we have asked the alternative

16   housing providers to support those individuals in

17   their transfer to those facilities.

18            JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Because

19   when somebody is transferred from the jail to

20   Renewal or Passages, they're still considered

21   under your custody.

22            DEPUTY WARDEN CLARK:  Yes,

23   Your Honor.

24            JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  So

25   therefore, it would seem to me that they would be

1  required to do that since they're falling under

2  your umbrella.

3          DEPUTY WARDEN CLARK:  Yes.  That's

4  what we're asking.  However, we're currently --

5  that would be a contract amendment with those

6  providers, and any future contracts would include

7  that language specifically.  The current contract

8  does not, but they are still -- they are still

9  taking those clients and working with those

10  clients and allowing them to be on those MOUD

11  medications.

12          JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  I mean,

13  it would seem to me that the DOJ wouldn't allow

14  you to send those people to Renewal or Passages

15  if those entities were not going to give the

16  medication.  Is that -- do you -- is that true or

17  false?

18          DEPUTY WARDEN CLARK:  I don't know.

19  I know that the agreement was -- the settlement

20  was between the DOJ and the jail.  But because

21  these alternative housing providers house our

22  clients, we want them to follow the same rules

23  and regulations that the jail is.

24          JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Okay.

25          DEPUTY WARDEN CLARK:  So it will be

1    uniform.

2                JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  But

3    they're not doing it yet or they're doing it a

4    little bit yet.

5                DEPUTY WARDEN CLARK:  Yes, they

6    are.  They are doing it.

7                JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Okay.

8    Okay.

9                MS. DETTORE:  We're continuing

10    anybody on Methadone, Suboxone, you know,

11    anything like that.  We're not stopping that.  I

12    think the question is are we going to initiate

13    it, correct?

14                MS. HALLAM:  Uh-huh.  Yes.

15                MS. DETTORE:  So that is something

16    that we are -- I don't know exactly if we are

17    required, but I know that we're very interested

18    and find it important.

19                MS. HALLAM:  Well, if I can help

20    you in any way make any connections to help do

21    that, I will always be a resource for that.

22                I have another question because I

23    refer people to Pathways a lot, which I don't

24    completely understand the relationship of Renewal

25    and Pathways.  Can you tell me a little bit about

1   that?

2               MS. DETTORE:  It's not -- it's not

3   my program.  Yeah, I wouldn't want to give any,

4   you know, answer that wasn't appropriate.  But I

5   can get you an answer for the next time.

6               MS. HALLAM:  Yeah, I would like

7   that a lot because I get great, like, raving

8   reviews from folks that I send there, and they're

9   always very, very helpful in connecting people to

10   the services that they need.  And I just never

11   really understand -- understand the relationship.

12               MS. DETTORE:  We can -- we can get

13   you information on that and send it or have it

14   available for the next time.

15               MS. HALLAM:  All right.  Thank you

16   so much.

17               MS. DETTORE:  Yep.

18               JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Anybody

19   else?

20               (No response.)

21               JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Okay.

22   Thank you.

23               MS. DETTORE:  Thank you.

24               JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:

25   Electronic Monitoring.  Is anybody here to give a

1    report on Electronic Monitoring?  That's Mr.

2    Esswein, right?

3                    MS. HALLAM:  Uh-huh.

4                    JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Okay.

5    All right.  Well, then, we will move along to

6    Public Comment.

7                    Remember everybody, you have three

8    minutes.  I'm going to set my timer on my phone.

9    Let's all be respectful of one another.

10                    First is Lu Randall.

11   **PUBLIC COMMENT**

12                    MS. RANDALL:  Hello.  I feel pretty

13   optimistic that the sun has been out.  Hi.

14                    New faces.  So I might not need to

15   go into as much detail as I will but based on the

16   past four years of previous administration, I'm

17   going to.  My name is Lu Randall.  L-U, last name

18   R-A-N-D-A-L-L.

19                    I'm President of the Autism

20   Connection of Pennsylvania and affiliated with

21   Achieva, and our mission is to be a lifeline for

22   people with autism and their families.

23                    I sit on the PA Commission of Crime

24   and Delinquencies Victims Services Advisory

25   Council, the Adult Protective Services Board in

1  Harrisburg, and we're a community partner to

2  Pitt's Autism Center of Excellence.  They have an

3  NIH Grant right now for $11.5 million studying

4  suicidality in autistic adults, which is higher

5  than the rest of the population.  That's people

6  that are not in jail.

7  Also a founding member of Allegheny

8  County's Autism in the Courts Work Group

9  protecting people -- might be somewhat familiar

10  with here, with judges, DA's, PD reps, pretrial

11  services, attorneys, and advocates since 2022.

12  And over the past 30 years, I've handled dozens

13  of cases of people with autism who fall into the

14  system for really completely disability reasons.

15  I have a crush on somebody.  I text them 400

16  times, and I think that's flattery, but the

17  justice system doesn't see it that way.  And once

18  I learn if I'm autistic, I can pretty much

19  correct that.  But when I'm in a jail, I just

20  fall apart.  And people can fall farther into the

21  jail.  I think I've worked with some people here

22  before around those kind of questions.

23  I spent a lot of time in the jail.

24  I've watched the Jail Oversight Board for 18

25  months.  I was afraid to come here because I was

1 afraid I might lose access to coming in to do

2 training, to be frank.  That's a problem.

3 Hopefully not anymore, though.  I trust you guys.

4 We need to do a better job.

5                One in 36 people have autism.  I'm

6 here to really talk about that we need to do a

7 screening at Intake so that people like judges

8 have information when people come before you,

9 that you want to know something else might be

10 going on, that people have a communication

11 disorder, a social disability that can't speak

12 for themselves.  We can get -- I think we can

13 lead nationwide if we go to the software

14 provider, install -- there's free widgets you can

15 get to put in an autism screening that

16 self-scores.  If we get that into our software

17 provider, which I have actually talked to these

18 people, we can have it impact the whole county.

19 We can be the first one to do that and maybe step

20 forward and be more in a leadership position than

21 kind of playing catch-up with the terrible things

22 that have happened in the past.

23                Autism is a medical condition.

24 It's not a choice.  I have to say that a lot.

25 It's differences in brain structure and brain

1   growth and brain nerve development, and then it

2   can't come and clear itself out all the time.

3   People are very intelligent when they're

4   autistic, but they can't always process quickly.

5   It's like having that dial on your computer

6   that's kind of rebooting every time something

7   happens.  They don't respond well in jail.  They

8   can't do fast commands.  They will end up in

9   hands-on kind of situations sometimes.  They

10   might not be able to look at you because that

11   activates their fear center, so that's why they

12   can't look you in the eye.  They'll look guilty,

13   maybe coming in.  People judge people by the

14   cover, but we need to kind of get around that.

15   If you know somebody is autistic, or might be,

16   then we have a better chance of them having --

17   not having their life fall apart.

18           I've done this for 30 years, and

19   I'm a taxpayer, and I hate to see people end up

20   incarcerated.  The people that I'm trying to help

21   are being harmed by systems everywhere.  It's not

22   just us, but we can take leadership on this and

23   get ahead of it.

24           So I'm just here -- if I don't hit

25   my three minutes to ask for a meeting with

1    anybody, group, I don't care, jail, you know,

2    whoever wants to do that.  I think I've met some

3    of you guys over there.

4            People in the jail have said, like,

5    I know what you're saying and how to treat people

6    now, but I don't know who they are.  How am I

7    supposed to know?  And I have not been able to

8    answer that.  And we've had four or five years of

9    meetings before this.  Run-around.  I think we

10    are offered -- if we could get volunteer medical

11    students to come in 24/7 while people are waiting

12    for fingerprints, maybe they'd be allowed to get

13    screened for a medical disability.  That's just

14    not -- that's not adequate.

15            JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  My

16    timer didn't go off, but --

17            MS. RANDALL:  Oh, yes.

18            JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  But.

19            MS. RANDALL:  That's because this

20    is a really important -- so that was meant to be?

21            JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Yeah.

22            MS. RANDALL:  And I'd like to meet

23    with anybody.  I brought cards.  I'm going to

24    pass them out to people.  We just need to do

25    well.  Kids with autism grow up.  And if I tell

1    one more time in a -- I'm no fun at dinner

2    parties, if I say I work for adults who are

3    incarcerated with autism, people sit back and say

4    I never thought that that could happen.  And we

5    don't know how many people there are.  I can't do

6    diversion if I can't count people.

7                    JUDGE BIGLEY:  Are you involved

8    with the Supreme Court Initiative for Autism in

9    the Courts?

10                   MS. RANDALL:  With Justice

11   Dougherty?

12                   JUDGE BIGLEY:  Yes.

13                   MS. RANDALL:  Yeah, I've trained

14   with him.  Yes.  I do training statewide.  I talk

15   about this all the time.  It's.

16                   JUDGE BIGLEY:  Well, I appreciate

17   your work.

18                   MS. RANDALL:  I appreciate you

19   being here and that you're open to this.

20                   JUDGE BIGLEY:  Thank you very much.

21                   MS. RANDALL:  Thanks.

22                   JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Thank

23   you.

24                   Marion Damick.

25                   MS. DAMICK:  Okay.  Hello.

1    D-A-M-I-C-K.  Marion.

2                   All right.  One of the things --

3    I'm actually going to tell you about something

4    good that's going on, which leads me to what I

5    would like to advise.  To have the first -- or

6    someone report before we all start with the what

7    is wrong, what needs to be repaired or redone,

8    with what has been accomplished.  I think if that

9    were spread out or not -- depending on how the

10   Board and the question -- it would help a great

11   deal because otherwise, you're looking through

12   this, and you really don't see everything that

13   hopefully has been done.

14                  There was one thing though very

15   good from the -- from the new -- whoops, where is

16   it, here.  Medication treatment.  That was in the

17   newspaper, and it's something that should be, you

18   know, made known around.  Being in the newspaper

19   probably did -- was way back -- well, in '24,

20   January.  And because of the -- what the current

21   warden, acting warden has done, and that's good.

22   Medic- -- it's an expansion of medicated assisted

23   treatment program.  Now, that should be something

24   you want the people to know about, particularly,

25   I would say, the individuals who are here who

1    have a vital interest in what's going on in the

2    jail, as well as people in the community.  But

3    where are all the people who really are

4    concerned -- I'm not, you know, who are able to

5    get here?  I'm sure there are people who aren't

6    able to get here, unlike me, who would appreciate

7    it too.  But if you could do that every time,

8    just put it on the top what we've done well.

9    That's -- that would be perfect.

10             Also, there's one other good thing.

11    You don't have a female juvenile.  Therefore, you

12    don't need another dog or cat.  So you don't have

13    a juvenile.  That's good for here.  I don't know

14    if you had something to do with it, but it was

15    good.

16             Also, speaking of juvenile, I'm

17    back to Shuman.  Shuman is one of -- who

18    should -- you're responsible for Shuman.  Try to

19    do something that will bring Shuman back so you

20    don't have the 19 youth that you do have now in

21    jail where they should be in Shuman getting that

22    type of treatment probably better -- obviously

23    better than what they did get because that's why

24    it was closed, but you're responsible for it.  So

25    please take an interest in what's going on with

1   the youth.

2               JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  That's

3   three minutes.

4               MS. DAMICK:  Because I'm sure you

5   saw this, but if you didn't, I can pass it

6   around.  It tells what you did good.  And I think

7   I'll be doing it.  The one who mentions something

8   was done.  But I think continue doing something

9   like that, and it would be very helpful.  And

10   maybe you have a few -- just a few people here

11   complaining.  So wouldn't that be better?  Let's

12   try it.  New Year, try doing new work.  Thank

13   you.

14               JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Thank

15   you.

16               Stephen Fisher.

17               MR. FISHER:  I yield my time.

18   Thank you.

19               JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Okay.

20   James Waters.

21               MR. WATERS:  Hi.  My name is James

22   Waters, W-A-T-E-R-S.  I'm here to talk about my

23   son, Alex McGowan, who is currently in the

24   Allegheny County Jail.  He was arrested five

25   months ago after his mother got a PFA on his

1    stepdad, and he had gone back to live with them,

2    breaking up with his girlfriend.  So he was there

3    for two months.  His mother had a PFA on his

4    stepdad.  He got home.  His stepdad cuts him with

5    a razor knife less than like an inch from his

6    left eye.  He actually required stitches, but

7    Alex retaliated and struck him one time, and Alex

8    ends up getting arrested.  He goes to jail.  They

9    put a detainer on him because he's on probation.

10   So he goes to court.  They lower it to a summary,

11   and the court wants him to go to outside drug and

12   alcohol assessment and anger management, but he

13   can't do this because he's still on the detainer.

14                   I think -- Ms. Hallam -- I think you

15   actually talked to my son on 4.

16                   MS. HALLAM:  Uh-huh.

17                   MR. WATERS:  Yeah.  Well, he's

18   currently on a hunger strike.  He's on the

19   medical floor, and if you're on medical, you

20   can't get visits.  You can't get mail.  You can't

21   make phone calls.  He can't -- they have tablets.

22   He can't use a tablet.  And since he's on a

23   hunger strike, they won't let him shower.  I

24   mean, how draconian is that?  I mean, I just

25   don't understand it.

1          But I'm worried for my son's life,

2    basically.  I just have so much anxiety.  I got a

3    call on Monday from the head of Probation and

4    Parole.  Her name is Michelle Contas, basically

5    telling me that she's going to keep my son in

6    jail as long as she could because of the games

7    he's playing.  I guess the game she means is like

8    refusing food and water.

9          I mean, it affected me so bad, I

10   mean, I've had a knot in my stomach ever since.

11   And the anxiety is too much, I mean.

12          So I can't even contact my son.  I

13   mean, he signed a waiver so I could find out his

14   medical condition, but I have to believe what the

15   jail tells me.  I mean, I'm afraid I'm not going

16   to see him alive again, basically.  I mean, this

17   woman has like a vendetta against my son,

18   evidently.  I mean, completely unhinged, she

19   called me.  I mean, I just don't understand what

20   my son ever did to her.

21          JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Sir --

22          MR. WATERS:  He actually had a

23    bed at White Deer Run at the end of last month,

24     and naturally, he couldn't do it there either

25       because he still had the detainer.  The

1    judge denied him to go there.  His probation

2    officer wouldn't really help.

3                   JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Sir,

4    sir, sir, up here.

5                   MR. WATERS:  Oh, I'm sorry.

6                   JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Your

7    time is up, and I apologize.

8                   MR. WATERS:  All right.

9                   JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  But

10   hang on a minute.

11                  JUDGE BIGLEY:  It's impossible to

12   deal with individual cases.  I think that's

13   the --

14                  JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  This

15   has nothing to do with the Jail Oversight Board,

16   this detainer, and the judge not letting him out,

17   okay?  We can't address that, but what we might

18   be able to answer is if your son is on the

19   medical unit, is that accurate that he can't have

20   any contact with his dad and he doesn't have

21   electronic devices?  Can somebody answer that?

22                  JUDGE BIGLEY:  Can I just say one

23   other thing, I can say I -- Ms. Contas is not the

24   head of Probation and Parole.  She's the State

25   Probation -- she's the State Parole Liaison.

1            JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Yes.

2            JUDGE BIGLEY:  So she's not an

3  Allegheny County Probation Officer.  She's the

4  State Parole Liaison.

5            JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Yeah.

6  But we can't address it regardless.

7            JUDGE BIGLEY:  Yeah.  I just wanted

8  to say that.  I only know her name.

9            JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Okay.

10 Can you all answer that?

11           JUDGE BIGLEY:  She's State Parole

12 Liaison.

13           MR. WATERS:  Yeah, but...

14           JUDGE BIGLEY:  I just wanted to say

15 that.

16           MR. WATERS:  Okay.

17           JUDGE BIGLEY:  But I don't know

18 this gentleman or his son, but can someone say

19 what the restriction is on the medical floor?

20           CHIEF DEPUTY BEASOM:  Your Honor,

21 we'll have to look to see where his current

22 location is and any active --

23           JUDGE BIGLEY:  But are there

24 generally restrictions on the medical floor at

25 all?

1                    CHIEF DEPUTY BEASOM:  It would

2       depend -- it would depend on the individual and

3       the level of care that the provider has assigned

4       to that individual.

5                    JUDGE BIGLEY:  Can someone look

6       into it right away and let the probation -- or I

7       mean the Jail Oversight Board liaison know right

8       away?

9                    CHIEF DEPUTY BEASOM:  Yes, ma'am.

10                   JUDGE BIGLEY:  And Bethany, did he

11      say that you had some communication?

12                   MS. HALLAM:  Yeah.  I went and saw

13      him in the jail and that's what I was going to

14      tell yinz.  I will go see him again.  I saw the

15      cut on his eye.  I talked to him.  He -- yeah, he

16      was very thin.

17                   JUDGE BIGLEY:  Was that a number of

18      days ago, or when was it?

19                   MS. HALLAM:  Oh, it was weeks ago.

20                   JUDGE BIGLEY:  Okay.

21                   MS. HALLAM:  Yeah, weeks ago.  And

22      at that point, he was not doing well.  But I can

23      promise you that I personally will go and put

24      eyes on him, and I will tell him that I saw you

25      here, and if you can somehow get me your contact

1    information before the end of the meeting, I can

2    report back to you anything that he says to me.

3    And I'm so, so, so, so, sorry.

4                    JUDGE BIGLEY:  Sir, one other

5    thing -- and the other thing is if he's, in fact,

6    on a hunger strike, could somebody maybe make a

7    Behavioral Unit referral?

8                    JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  A what

9    referral?

10                    JUDGE BIGLEY:  A Behavioral Unit

11    referral?

12                    JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Oh.

13                    MS. HALLAM:  What exactly is that

14    that you're asking for?

15                    JUDGE BIGLEY:  Maybe have a mental

16    health unit referral for him as well if he's not

17    eating or if he's depriving himself of nutrients.

18    And maybe he needs some mental health help as

19    well.

20                    MS. HALLAM:  Yeah.  I'm going to go

21    check on him too, just to make sure because I'm

22    worried.

23                    JUDGE BIGLEY:  And that's -- do

24    that right away.

25                    MS. HALLAM:  Yeah.  But I also

1  don't think your question was answered, Judge

2  Bigley.  Is there general restrictions on medical

3  pods?

4            JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  He said

5  it varied, is that correct?  So it -- the medical

6  pod, it varies patient by patient, or defendant

7  by defendant as to whether there's restrictions?

8            CHIEF DEPUTY BEASOM:  It would

9  depend on the condition and the level of

10 restriction that would be assigned by a provider.

11 If somebody is not mentally able to be moved to a

12 visit, then we would not allow those.

13            JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Well,

14 why wouldn't they be allowed to have an iPad or a

15 shower?

16            CHIEF DEPUTY BEASOM:  Well, again,

17 it would depend on the individual.  They may be a

18 danger to themselves if we give them an iPad.

19            MS. HALLAM:  What about the shower?

20            CHIEF DEPUTY BEASOM:  Everybody is

21 offered a shower.

22            JUDGE BIGLEY:  Hence the rea- --

23 hence my suggestion that you get a --

24            JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Report

25 to investigate this particular case, please, and

1    report to the Jail Liaison -- the Oversight Board

2    liaison, and she will report back to us.

3              JUDGE BIGLEY:  If there's a concern

4    that somebody shouldn't have an iPad, then they

5    should probably have an assessment.

6              CHIEF DEPUTY BEASOM:  Understood.

7              JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Okay.

8              JUDGE BIGLEY:  And if he's not

9    eating, then maybe some concern that he needs

10    hospitalization or something.  I don't know.

11    Something, obviously.  Someone will look into it,

12    but what's your last name, sir?

13              MR. WATERS:  My last name is

14    Waters.

15              JUDGE BIGLEY:  What's your son's

16    last name?

17              MR. WATERS:  McGowan.

18              JUDGE BIGLEY:  McGowan?

19              MR. WATERS:  Yeah.

20              JUDGE BIGLEY:  M-C-G-O-W-A-N?

21              MR. WATERS:  Yes, ma'am.

22              JUDGE BIGLEY:  All right.  Thank

23    you.

24              MS. HALLAM:  One thing I will add

25    is in my experience, hunger strikes are not

1    usually like mental health.  It's more of a

2    political statement of trying to get it -- you

3    know, help.

4                   JUDGE BIGLEY:  No, I think

5    sometimes it is, but I think combined with some

6    of the things he's saying is making me concerned

7    that -- you know.

8                   MS. HALLAM:  Yeah.

9                   JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Okay.

10   We're going to look into it.  Thank you, sir.

11                  MS. HALLAM:  And then can I just

12   say one last thing.  Just for the record, there

13   is no blanket restrictions on people who are on

14   medical pods.  No blanket restrictions.  It is

15   all individualized.

16                  CHIEF DEPUTY BEASOM:  Do you mean

17   blanket as in all-encompassing?

18                  JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Yes.

19                  CHIEF DEPUTY BEASOM:  Or something

20   to cover yourself with?  No, I'm asking.

21   Seriously.

22                  JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  As in

23   all-encompassing, apply to everybody.

24                  CHIEF DEPUTY BEASOM:  No.

25                  JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Okay.

1                    CHIEF DEPUTY BEASOM:  The medical

2    housing units, there may be dietary restrictions.

3    There could be movement restrictions, out-of-cell

4    activity, depending on -- depending on the

5    individual.

6                    MS. HALLAM:  But there are no

7    restrictions placed on everyone?

8                    CHIEF DEPUTY BEASOM:  No.  Not that

9    I'm aware of.

10                    JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Okay.

11   Thank you.  Thank you so much.

12                    MR. WATERS:  I thank you all so

13   much.

14                    JUDGE BIGLEY:  Thank you.

15                    JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  John

16   Sonenday?

17                    JUDGE BIGLEY:  He's passing.

18                    JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Oh, oh.

19   Sorry.

20                    JUDGE BIGLEY:  That's okay.

21                    JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Darrell

22   Palmer.

23                    MR. PALMER:  Hello.

24                    JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Hi.

25                    MS. HALLAM:  Hi.

1          MR. PALMER:  Darrell Palmer,

2    P-A-L-M-E-R.

3          I'm just here today for answers,

4    answers about the order of operations on special

5    need diets and religious diets in the ACJ,

6    answers about the surgery that was scheduled and

7    not done in almost a three-year span for me.  I

8    need to know if I can follow up and reschedule

9    this surgery that was planned, and if not, why

10   not?

11         I also need to know why no one has

12   reached out to me on my private e-mail in a

13   30-day span?

14         JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Last

15   month, I had asked the jail to look into your

16   case, so if you're comfortable with getting an

17   answer in front of everybody --

18         MR. PALMER:  Yes, I am.

19         JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  I'll

20   ask them.  Okay.  Did anybody look into this, and

21   if so, what's the answer?  This gentleman said

22   last month that I believe he had had surgery

23   scheduled several times.  It was canceled, and

24   that none of your dietary restrictions were

25   acknowledged in jail.

1                    MR. PALMER:  And when they were,

2       they weren't followed.

3                    JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Okay.

4       Does anybody have an answer?

5                    DEPUTY WARDEN TOMA:  Renee Madden,

6       who was here last month, was like -- we don't

7       have an answer to that.

8                    JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Why

9       not?

10                   DEPUTY WARDEN TOMA:  I think we

11      just dropped the ball on this one, Your Honor,

12      where we assigned it to somebody, and the

13      provider dropped the ball.

14                   MR. PALMER:  Can you say that

15      again?

16                   DEPUTY WARDEN TOMA:  I will take

17      full responsibility that we didn't follow through

18      on this request, so we will own this one and

19      we'll do a follow-up on it.

20                   MR. PALMER:  Okay.

21                   JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Okay.

22      So who did you assign it to?

23                   DEPUTY WARDEN TOMA:  I -- honestly,

24      I would have to go back and review who we talked

25      to after this meeting.  I just don't have an

1    answer for you.

2              JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Okay.

3    Well, could you send an e-mail with the answer

4    rather than waiting until next month?  If you

5    could look into this and send an e-mail to the

6    entire Board, A, what are the circumstances

7    regarding this surgery, and why this was never

8    schedule --

9              And I know you -- I don't have my

10   notes from last month.

11             MR. PALMER:  I provided my e-mail

12   too.

13             JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Okay.

14   Good.  And B, what -- how does the jail

15   accommodate individual's specific dietary

16   restrictions?  And would you mind telling us what

17   yours were, sir?

18             MR. PALMER:  It was a non-solid

19   high-fiber diet.

20             JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:

21   Non-solid, high-fiber diet.  And you were not

22   given that diet?

23             MR. PALMER:  And when I -- it took

24   44 days to finally get it approved, and then when

25   I got it approved, 78 percent of the time it was

1   not followed.

2              JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Okay.

3   All right.  So -- go ahead.

4              MS. HALLAM:  If you don't mind, if

5   I could ask a follow-up to that.  When you say

6   that it wasn't followed, were you given some

7   other kind of restrictive diet in that place, or

8   were you given the meal that everybody else

9   received for your meals?

10             MR. PALMER:  It would be worse than

11  the other meals other people received like -- I

12  would say non-solid, high-fiber, and I would open

13  it up, and it would be just like potatoes.

14             MS. HALLAM:  Thank you.

15             JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  So it

16  was different, but it wasn't --

17             MR. PALMER:  Right.

18             JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  -- what

19  you were supposed to get?

20             MR. PALMER:  Potatoes.

21             JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  All

22  right.  Thank you, sir.  We're going to -- we

23  tried to get an answer, but this time, we're

24  going to get one.  Okay?

25             MR. PALMER:  Okay.

1          JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  All

2    right.  Thank you.

3          MR. PALMER:  And again, I provided

4    my e-mail.

5          JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  I have

6    it.  Thank you.

7          Brian Englert.

8          MR. ENGLERT:  My name is Brian

9    Englert.  I just first want to ask Warden Dady or

10   any of the other deputy wardens, am I allowed to

11   be here today, or do you want to have the

12   Sheriffs remove me?

13         JUDGE BIGLEY:  Sir.  Sir.

14         MR. ENGLERT:  Because Thursday, we

15   had --

16         JUDGE BIGLEY:  Sir, if we -- if

17   this a Public Comment, you can direct --

18         MR. ENGLERT:  Yeah, it's a public

19   comment.  No.

20         JUDGE BIGLEY:  Can you direct it to

21   the Board, please?

22         MR. ENGLERT:  Sure.

23         JUDGE BIGLEY:  Thank you.

24         MR. ENGLERT:  So I actually want to

25   direct this towards the new County Executive.

1    I'm President of the Union at the jail, and we

2    had Step 3 Grievance meetings Tuesday, and the

3    County Manager and the County Assistant Solicitor

4    decided that since I'm suspended from work, that

5    I'm also, I guess, suspended as Union President,

6    and I am not allowed to participate in

7    representing my people.

8                    JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Okay.

9    Sir, this does not pertain to the Jail Oversight

10    Board.

11                    MR. ENGLERT:  Well, actually,

12    here's one way it actually does pertain because I

13    have reached out to Ms. Immamorato's Chief of

14    Staff.  I have no answer.  But I'll divert from

15    that.

16                    Besides the fact that this is clear

17    union busting, which I -- under Fitzgerald and

18    all of them, I -- I mean, these guys said hold my

19    beer.  We'll show you union busting.

20                    But if you won't let me talk about

21    that, that's fine.

22                    JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  It's

23    not that.  It's that we don't have jurisdiction

24    over that issue.

25                    MR. ENGLERT:  But the County

1    Executive is right there.

2                    JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  We're

3    the wrong Board to bring this issue to.  And I'm

4    sure that the County Executive could talk about

5    100 different topics.

6                    MR. ENGLERT:  Sure.

7                    JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  But

8    we're not going to let 100 different people come

9    in and bring up 100 different topics that have

10   nothing to do with this Board.

11                   MR. ENGLERT:  Then I'll reclaim my

12   time and I'll talk about two things then --

13                   JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Okay.

14   Go ahead.

15                   MR. ENGLERT:  -- that are Jail

16   Board related.

17                   First of all, I've been at that

18   jail for 13 years.  You mean to tell me that the

19   second in command of the second-largest county

20   jail in Pennsylvania doesn't know the

21   restrictions on the Mental Health Units?  You

22   mean to tell me they have no freaking clue?  When

23   you're the second in command of the second

24   largest county jail in America, and it's

25   acceptable for them to not have an answer?  I

1    could tell you I made one phone call.  That

2    inmate is located on 5-C, the Mental Health Unit.

3    So you might want to ask Chief Beasom what the

4    restrictions are for tablet use is on 5-C, the

5    Mental Health Unit.  I handled that in one phone

6    call.  They have no respect for anybody up here

7    on this Board.  They show up every month with no

8    answers.  I was a witness to that man's trying to

9    get his tray every month.  I called sergeants.  I

10   called captains.  They'd send up a tray full of

11   applesauce for this guy.  His hernia looked like

12   a baby arm sticking out of his stomach.  Like a

13   baby arm.  And I'm sure he would show you right

14   now.  Like a baby arm sticking out of his

15   stomach.

16              I would spend my lunch hour trying

17   to get his food situation rectified.  They could

18   have brought his scrambled eggs.  They could have

19   brought his shredded chicken.  They could have

20   brought him rice.  A whole entire tray of

21   applesauce was given to this man.  I spent my

22   time advocating for this man, which is part of my

23   job as a correction officer to ensure we met his

24   needs, and they were never met.  So I will vouch

25   for everything he said.

1           JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Well,

2    who did you go to?  Why --

3           MR. ENGLERT:  So we have a chain of

4    command.  The first thing I did was called the

5    kitchen.  Well, he's getting exactly what he's

6    getting on his tray.  Well, they have a

7    dietician.  You mean to tell me a dietician

8    signed off on that man to get a whole container

9    of applesauce with no protein?  Get out of here.

10          Then I went to my sergeants.  Then

11   I went to my captain.  Captain Pennell came up

12   and spoke with him, looked at his hernia sticking

13   out of his stomach like a baby's arm, and nothing

14   still happened.

15          So I just want to remind you that

16   these people that you have running your jail have

17   at least 6, 7, 8 years of experience in that

18   jail, and they should -- you mean to tell me that

19   nobody gets a daily report of how many inmates

20   are on a hunger strike?  How many could there be?

21          Warden Dady, how many people are on

22   a hunger strike at the jail?  Answer that

23   question for them?  How many people are on a

24   hunger strike that you can't answer that

25   question?  It's because nobody up there holds

1    them accountable.

2              And I can tell you right now, in

3    that jail, you have a morale issue with the

4    officers.  You have a morale issue.

5              JUDGE BIGLEY:  Isn't his time up?

6              MR. ENGLERT:  And when you don't

7    allow the union to represent them, that's union

8    busting.  And it never happened under Fitzgerald.

9    I'm surprised it happened under you, Ms.

10    Innamorato.

11              JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Okay,

12    thank you, sir.

13              Jim Reed.  Jim Reed.

14              MR. REED:  I just signed in.

15              MS. HALLAM:  That's for public

16    comment.  But if you don't want it, you can just

17    not.

18              MR. REED:  I'm sorry.

19              JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  That's

20    okay.

21              MS. HALLAM:  Don't apologize.

22              JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Diana

23    Hull.

24              MS. HALLAM:  Thank you for being

25    here, Mr. Reed.

1          MR. REED:  My pleasure.

2          MS. HULL:  Good afternoon.  My name

3     is Diana Hull, H-U-L-L.

4          I'm from the Pennsylvania

5     Interfaith Impact Network, and I would like to

6     welcome the new members of the Board.  And I'm

7     gratified to see the backgrounds, even though

8     some of them are not quite here yet, and I'm

9     gratified to see the variety of the backgrounds

10    of the members as well as feeling the sense of

11    purpose to improve the conditions for the

12    residents at ACJ.  So I thank you.

13         Our commitment at PIIN is to work

14    with stakeholders and our allied organizations to

15    provide quality medical and mental health care

16    and to increase the number of programs designed

17    to help all residents of the ACJ to be able to

18    reintegrate back into their families as well as

19    their communities.

20         It is our collective duty to all

21    those who are under our care at the ACJ.  The

22    County Council and the JOB are collective

23    representatives in this work, and while the JOB

24    is not directly responsible for who ends up in

25    jail, we do have two judges here.  So I would

1    like to point out an idea that I heard just last

2    Sunday.  By sending fewer people to prison and

3    for shorter times, it would really help to reduce

4    recidivism, and it was stated by the head

5    director of the Federal Prisons on 60 Minutes.

6    So if you haven't seen it, it's interesting.

7              Many of the people in this prison

8    waiting for a hearing should not be there.  They

9    should be with their families or continuing to

10   work until their hearing is given a date.  We

11   need programs like Colorful Backgrounds,

12   Allegheny County Health and Human Services,

13   Reimagine Reentry, and funds to help train and

14   prepare returning citizens.

15             It would be terrific if people

16   waiting for a hearing at the ACJ or the Renewal

17   Center to have appropriate information and to be

18   able to vote.  We need more computer

19   translators -- actually, people translators

20   because dictionaries simply don't cut it.

21             PIIN also is committed to

22   supporting the medical and correctional staff by

23   encouraging the County to provide adequate

24   training, mental health care, and improving the

25   working conditions so that we can provide quality

1  personnel to take care of all the residents at

2  ACJ.

3              Thank you.

4              JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Thank

5  you.

6              MS. HALLAM:  Thank you.

7              JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Barbara

8  Finch.

9              MS. FINCH:  Sister Barbara Finch,

10  F-I-N-C-H.  Good afternoon.  I spoke before you

11  last month.  I would like to start today where I

12  ended last month.  This is a new year, and we

13  must keep our New Year's Resolution to work

14  together to improve the conditions at ACJ.  It

15  will literally take a village for true justice to

16  exist.

17              Congratulations to all of you who

18  sit on this Board, and Sara, congratulations to

19  the people that you have nominated.  Each of your

20  professional gifts are important, but there is

21  someone glaringly missing.  No one has medical,

22  mental health expertise.

23              That's not three minutes already?

24              JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Go

25  ahead.

1           MS. FINCH:  It is well documented

2    that many of the deficiencies center around

3    medical and mental health issues.  As PIIN, we

4    recommend that there should be a medical and

5    mental health advisory committee established.

6    Together with you, the committee would explore

7    the following:  The possibility of the whole

8    medical department connected to one of the city's

9    health systems for oversight.  You recall that

10   Allegheny Health Network is only -- only oversees

11   the physicians and nurse practitioners.

12           The Medical Director should

13   actually be an MD empowered to make medical

14   decisions.  Fully staff mental health personnel,

15   improve pharmacy and med-pass methods, laboratory

16   services improved, availability of women's health

17   services, compassionate care of LGBTQIA+

18   individuals, improve care of those going through

19   withdrawal, improve methods of responding to sick

20   call needs, emergency response improved, end

21   violation of solitary confinement regulation,

22   improve nutrition, improve chronic and terminal

23   care, better preparation for release, increase

24   openness to volunteers providing services,

25   allowing area professionals in training to come

1     in and learn correctional health.

2                    And as I stated before, when

3     individuals are incarcerated and unable to pursue

4     their own care, we are morally and legally

5     responsible for them.

6                    Lastly, the County must work to

7     offer acceptable contracts that support the

8     well-being of our staff, to retain them, to help

9     them to grow.  And I'm just severely dismayed to

10    know that right now, that there is no new

11    contract for the employees in the Medical

12    Department.  And what is offered is not

13    supporting them and their needs.

14                    And lastly, I would just say, I'm

15    personally offering to help in any way I can so

16    that ultimate care can happen at ACJ.

17                    Thank you.

18                    JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Thank

19    you.

20                    MS. INNAMORATO:  Thank you,

21    Barbara.

22                    JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:

23    John Kenstowicz.

24

25

1               JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Oh,

2    sorry. I apologize.

3               MS. INNAMORATO:  No, thank you,

4    Sister Finch, for that.  That is a, you know, an

5    idea that we will be discussing as a Board of

6    creating that subcommittee, so we hope to have

7    updates for the next meeting once we're at full

8    complement and County Council approves our

9    nominees.

10              So thank you.

11              MR. KENSTOWICZ:  Hi, my name is

12   John Kenstowicz, K-E-N-S-T-O-W-I-C-Z.  I'm also

13   talking for PIIN.

14              I want to talk about exit

15   interviews.  I think we all know that we have a

16   staffing crisis at our jail.  Exit interviews

17   will help us know why so many people have left

18   their employment at ACJ.

19              Our Jail Board voted in December of

20   2020 to conduct exit interviews, and at this

21   point, I believe only five exit interviews have

22   been done in over three years.

23              The Board has never conducted an

24   exit interview with a correctional officer.  I

25   want to repeat that.  The Board has never

1    conducted an exit interview with a correctional

2    officer over a time span of three years.  Why is

3    that the case?

4                      Our Controller's Audit found that

5    we are in need of 100 more officers.  If we

6    wanted more out-of-cell time for our residents,

7    our healthcare staff to feel safe, and the JOB

8    being able to provide the many services that it

9    needs to provide, we need more officers.  We need

10   to know why so many officers have left.  From our

11   Job Satisfaction Survey, it was clear that the

12   amount of CO forced overtime was a critical

13   factor.

14                      I would like to ask the Board if

15   the Board receives monthly updates regarding this

16   critical statistic and if the Board has a

17   strategy to support the jail administration and

18   frontline staff to decrease this amount of forced

19   overtime?  How many officers are forced to work

20   60, 70 or 80 hours a week?

21                      Returning to the exit interview

22   issue.  With a new JOB and new leadership of the

23   jail, my hopes are high that we can significantly

24   improve the frequency the Board completes exit

25   interviews with correctional officers and

1   healthcare staff.  How can that be done?

2              I've done quite a lot of research

3   on this issue, and I think most HR people would

4   say that successfully conducting exit interviews

5   comes down to two factors, trust and a belief

6   that something will be done.  Typical negative

7   verbal responses I have heard are, I don't want

8   to burn my bridges, and what good is it going to

9   do?

10             From both of our Job Satisfaction

11  Surveys, we found numerous statements about the

12  threat of reprisal for speaking out or refusing

13  to do something which violates licensure.  This

14  atmosphere of threat of reprisal needs to change

15  to give the exiting staff an experience working

16  at the jail that is not based in fear and

17  distrust.

18             The Board is often going into the

19  jail attempting to build a relationship with

20  frontline staff, talking in private and valuing

21  what staff are saying will also build that trust.

22  Our JOB can extend their hand and at a JOB

23  meeting like this, invite exiting staff or staff

24  who have already left to participate in an exit

25  interview.

1          Can I just finish two more

2   sentences?

3          JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Go

4   ahead.

5          MR. KENSTOWICZ:  Our Warden joining

6   hands and making it known through a system-wide

7   e-mail that he welcomes the exiting staff to

8   participate in JOB exit interviews will help very

9   much.  Both invitations need to be -- to include

10  the person's identity will be protected.

11          Regarding the second question of

12  what will the interview accomplish, there is a

13  word of mouth in the jail culture that will come

14  to that conclusion.

15          Thank you.

16          JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Thank

17  you.

18          C.J. Swanson.

19          MS. SWANSON:  Hello.  My name is

20  C.J. Swanson, S-W-A-N-S-O-N, and I'm an intern

21  with PIIN.

22          We are here because the residents

23  of the Allegheny County Jail continue to die.

24  We, as the Pennsylvania Interfaith Impact Network

25  are called to fight against this injustice

1  because every human life is a holy gift.  We have

2  continued to speak out about the needs of the

3  staff because the staff are the people directly

4  caring for the residents, and to lower the death

5  rate, we must improve this care.

6              There has been a deep rift in the

7  trust between the staff and the jail

8  administration and Oversight Board.  Staff

9  members have been asked to perform tasks that

10  violate their licensure.  Staff have had to work

11  excruciating overtime.  What can the Board and

12  the jail administration do to properly support

13  the staff not only to improve the care being

14  provided to the residents, but also to create an

15  environment where newly hired staff will stay?

16              The lack of staff and high staff

17  turnover rates are serious contributing factors

18  to the high death rate at the ACJ and the

19  dangerous conditions that residents continue to

20  have to live with every day.

21              John spoke to the importance of

22  exit interviews -- which will help these issues

23  in multiple ways -- through consistently

24  providing them, not only will you, the Board,

25  gain better understanding of the happenings at

1    the jail, you will hear the firsthand experiences

2    of the people who were there on-site every day.

3    You will gain knowledge that can both be used to

4    make improvements for staff and residents but can

5    also be used to create better offers for incoming

6    staff.

7                    Are you willing to sacrifice your

8    time and listen to the leaving staff.  Your

9    actions will show that you are committed to

10   making this jail better and begin to build the

11   trust that has to be to create an environment

12   that will lower the staff turnover.

13                   Of course, nobody's retelling will

14   better show you what's happening at the jail than

15   going there yourself, and we implore you to go.

16   Go to the jail.  Speak to the residents.  Build

17   relationships with the staff, please.

18                   No matter what, being incarcerated

19   is a traumatic experience.  Incarceration strips

20   people of their humanity and their dignity.  But

21   that is not a reason to accept the injustice in

22   our system.  It is the reason to fight to make

23   conditions the best that they can be.

24                   Thank you very much.

25                   JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Thank

1    you.

2              Sharon Bonavoglia.

3              MS. BONAVOGLIA:  Very good.

4              JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  I

5    remembered you said silent G.

6              MS. BONAVOGLIA:  My name is Sharon

7    Bonavoglia, B-O-N-A-V-O silent G, L-I-A, and I

8    also am speaking on behalf of PIIN.

9              I'd like to start by thanking

10   Interim Warden Dady for being willing to meet

11   with PIIN, and we are looking forward to that

12   meeting next week.

13             The fewer people in jail, the fewer

14   people will die there.  My friend,

15   Shane Phillips, who gave me permission to use his

16   name, spent four months in the ACJ last year, and

17   then all the charges against him were dropped,

18   but only after he had shown up for these three

19   separate hearings, each of which had a different

20   DA and none of which the officers involved showed

21   up.

22             He owns a small landscaping

23   property management company and was unable to

24   work from May through August last year, the prime

25   working months for any landscaper.  His very

1    pregnant girlfriend did her best to do that work

2    and also delivered their daughter four weeks

3    early, perhaps in part because of the stress of

4    his incarceration and the physical labor she

5    performed day after day.

6               Shane was accountable for showing

7    up to all those hearings, but the officers were

8    not.  They were given three strikes before a

9    judge finally said, you're out.  Shane's initial

10    arrest, including a beating by the police

11    officers that left him with a permanent eye

12    injury.

13               There is body cam footage from that

14    arrest that I have not seen.  I did see a

15    photograph of his beating and bruised face after

16    the fact.  It occurs to me that the police didn't

17    show up because of that footage, and DA Zappala's

18    office kept reassigning the cases to different

19    DAs so that they could slow the wheels of justice

20    by saying they needed more time to ready the

21    cases, which is exactly what I witnessed at the

22    last two hearings.

23               This, then, could potentially make

24    it less likely that Mr. Phillips would be able to

25    sue the Pittsburgh Police.  Deciding to pursue

1   justice for the wrongdoing of the Pittsburgh

2   Police is its own gauntlet of emotional stress,

3   and that decision is up to Mr. Phillips.

4   DA Zappala's office had the ability

5   to pursue justice several years immediately

6   following his initial arrest.

7   At the beginning of Black History

8   Month, when we celebrate the accomplishments of

9   black leaders in our history, I will also state

10  that based on the pond scum of systemic racism

11  that we all inhabit, Shane Phillips, Jr. would

12  have not been arrested, nor assaulted, nor

13  charged if he had not been a black man -- if he

14  had been a white man instead.

15  I understand that these facts are

16  outside the purview of the JOB.  However, there

17  are two judges sitting here now who have the

18  influence in your own courtrooms, with your own

19  colleagues in this regard for anyone in front of

20  our court.  I am hopeful that your time on this

21  Board will encourage you to make a difference in

22  the amount of time so many languish in the ACJ

23  when they could be enlivening their own

24  communities.  What is under your purview is that

25  Shane gained 30 pounds in part due to his lack of

1   time out of his jail cell and his ongoing mental

2   health needs that were barely addressed while in

3   the jail.

4            I hear that significant changes are

5   underway in mental health treatment, and we at

6   PIIN and the entire APA Coalition are looking

7   forward to hearing more about those plans.

8            Now, please, turn off your timer,

9   and I invite all of those able to stand out of

10   respect for the reading of the names of those who

11   have died since April of 2020.  In this month,

12   when we also celebrate love around the world, let

13   us remember the loved ones who are missing these

14   dear souls.

15            Richard Lenhart, Robert Blake,

16   Cody Still, Daniel Pastorek, John Brady,

17   Martin Bucek, Robert Harper, Vinckley Harris,

18   Justin Brady, Paul Allen, Roger Millspaugh,

19   Paul Spisak, Gerald Thomas, Jerry Lee Ross, Jr.,

20   Victor Joseph Zilinek, Ronald Andrus,

21   Anthony Talotta, William Spencer,

22   James Washington, Damon Leroy Kayes, Tim Manino,

23   Douglas Bonomo, Zachary Sahm, Nicole Baruffi and

24   Richard Sciubba, II.

25            JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Kyna

1  James.  Kyna.

2            MR. JAMES:  Yes.  Hi everybody.  My

3  name is Kyna James.  Last name is J-A-M-E-S.

4            I missed last month's meeting, just

5  coming back to work after injury, but really, I'm

6  just here, you know, to welcome the new Board

7  members.  And we, as APA Coalition, which is made

8  up of about 30 organizations, we will, like,

9  actually like to meet with you, County Executive

10  Sara Innamorato.  President Judge, do not kill me

11  if I butcher your name.  I swear, I've been

12  practicing for so long.  It's like Evashavik?

13            JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  That's

14  right.

15            MR. JAMES:  Yes.  And Interim

16  Warden Dady as well.  Unfortunately, over the

17  last few years, we haven't had an opportunity to

18  meet with the Board because they refused.  We met

19  with Bethany often.  We've talked to Corey, you

20  know, but we do do a lot of work when it comes to

21  the jail.  You know, our coalition is made up of

22  organizations from all walks of life, the Jewish

23  community, the faith-based community, Black-led

24  organizations, LGBTQ, Lion X.  I could go on.

25            But in 2021, we passed the solitary

1    confinement ban, which was grossly violated by

2    the last administration.  We also have a hotline

3    at the jail that anybody who is incarcerated can

4    call us at for free, which is (412) 708-5200.  We

5    do get a lot of phone calls.  We have a lot of

6    complaints for the month of January you can say.

7                    And one thing I am is hopeful,

8    which I have not been with the Jail Oversight

9    Board in a long time.  And you know, we just want

10   to work together to fix things.  You know, we're

11   getting some inside information, and, you know, I

12   think that we can take the work we're doing and

13   combine it with the work you're doing and make

14   the jail a better place.

15                    Thank you.

16                    JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Thank

17   you.

18                    Brian Englert.

19                    AUDIENCE MEMBER:  He's already

20   gone.

21                    JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Oh,

22   sorry.  Tanisha Long.

23                    Mr. Englert, you signed up on both

24   sheets.

25                    MR. KENSTOWICZ:  I just signed him up

1    on the wrong one.

2                    MS. LONG:  Tanisha Long, L-O-N-G.

3    Before I start, I do want to do a quick aside and

4    say that when they say that they don't have

5    blanket restrictions based on your mental health

6    tier status or your status in the medical pod,

7    that's untrue.  And I actually look back on the

8    meeting minutes.  They said it in July, where

9    they broke down how those were -- how those

10   mental health tiers were handled in regards to

11   restrictions on visits, phone calls, and contact

12   with their family.  So from their own words,

13   that's not true, and you can look in the July

14   meeting minutes for that.

15                   Anyways, a few months ago, I had

16   asked Warden Dady why his officers cannot seem to

17   keep their hands off people, and this was a

18   problem we had with Warden Orlando Harper, where

19   the correctional officers have placed people in

20   states of, you know, mental health trauma,

21   physical trauma, and in this case, brain

22   swelling, fluid on the brain, cardiac arrest, and

23   sepsis.

24                   An assault on an incarcerated

25   individual by one of -- by several COs led to

1    this man's hospitalization.  We don't know what

2    came of that man after.  We do know he did not

3    pass away, but no one, and I mean no one, has the

4    right to treat anyone like that.

5              And things are not different under

6    Warden Dady than they were under Warden Harper

7    because the same things have happened.  He's been

8    in charge since October, and since October, on at

9    least three instances, we've had people reach

10   out, and we've investigated incidents where

11   people have been physically handled by COs in

12   such a way that it has compromised their physical

13   health and safety to a point that they had to be

14   hospitalized.  That's not okay.

15             And I understand that Warden Dady

16   is only an interim warden, and, you know, I

17   appreciate the fact that County Woman -- County

18   Executive Innamorato is taking her time with this

19   warden search, so it's intentional, but in your

20   time here, you owe it to the people in the jail

21   to make sure that they not only leave alive but

22   they leave in a better state than what they came

23   in.

24             We claim that these jails are meant

25   for rehabilitation, that people there are waiting

1    their time in front of a judge, but during that

2    time, why are they getting worse, and why have

3    you done nothing to check the actions of your

4    corrections officers?  They're bringing in drugs.

5    They're beating up incarcerated people.  None of

6    this is okay.  And that man very much could have

7    died, and it would have been another name that

8    Sharon would have been reading now, and we

9    wouldn't find out about it until far later.

10                    Transparency is an issue.  And one

11   of the things I'm asking is that Use of Force

12   incidents in the jail be investigated by a

13   third-party, because it's very clear that the

14   jail is incapable of providing the relief, the

15   transparency, and the insight that the public and

16   the people who are facing these issues need.

17                    And there's an issue with your

18   grievance process as well.  People file

19   grievances, and they file grievances, and the

20   grievances go unanswered, or they're dismissed,

21   and they're unable to get copies of those

22   grievances after they leave the jail.  So they

23   don't have a paper trail of what happened to

24   them, and the only way we can account of what

25   happened to them is if they come here and they

1    tell us and they beg you for answers.  This isn't

2    okay.

3                    And one of the changes I'm asking

4    for, we need third-party investigation into these

5    use of force incidents, and we need -- we need

6    the warden to act, not as an interim warden, but

7    like someone who is invested in the jail.

8                    Thank you.

9                    JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Thank

10   you.

11                   Roy Blankenship.

12                   MR. BLANKENSHIP:  Okay.  My name is

13   Roy Edward Blankenship, Jr.  I'm community

14   organizer with BPEP, the Black Political

15   Empowerment Project.  And I'm going to read a

16   statement that we -- that BPEP had prepared for

17   the Board.

18                   I'm spending all my time looking

19   for the document.  Okay.

20                   Okay.  It goes:  To the Honorable

21   Members of the Allegheny County Oversight Board.

22   We at BPEP, the Black Political Empowerment

23   Project, have read and reviewed and discussed the

24   RAND Corporation's executive summary on creating

25   a path to repair racial disparities in the

1  criminal justice system of Allegheny County.

2                  Now, for those of you that might

3  not be familiar, this was a study that was

4  created for more or less county-wide, but also,

5  upon reading it, there were overlaps where it

6  applied also to the actual Jail Oversight Board

7  and to policy creation.  We at BPEP would like to

8  concur with its findings of fact which the actual

9  letter are here and the surveys sent to you guys.

10                 Facts of Finding in stating that we

11 agree with the executive summary in its entirety.

12 We are asking that the Honorable Members of this

13 Board utilize this executive summary as a key guy

14 to implement changes to the policies and

15 operations of the Allegheny County Jail and to

16 the sections of this summary that pertain to the

17 current disparities and policies and operations,

18 past and present, which currently disparities are

19 still happening within the Allegheny County Jail.

20                 We at BPEP have spoken count- --

21 spent countless hours with residents and partners

22 discussing and advocating for change in the

23 policies, operating procedures, and lack of

24 respect for the quality of life given to those

25

1   who happen to find themselves incarcerated in the

2   Allegheny County Jail and state now that -- and

3   state that now is the time for action.  We have a

4   new Board, a lot of new faces that I do see here

5   representing and possibly to come and join the

6   Board.  You are all candidates that have worked

7   well for the public and continue to serve the

8   public's interests, and I feel that there

9   shouldn't be a reason why you can't move further

10   with representing the community.

11             The Allegheny County Jail and state

12   now is the time for action.  Upon examination of

13   the racial disparity --

14             JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Sir,

15   your three minutes is up.  I would ask

16   everybody -- I don't like interrupting people,

17   but we do have a rule for three minutes, and

18   almost everybody goes over it and ignores the

19   timer.  I hate to interrupt you.  I would ask

20   that you be respectful of your time allotment

21   going forward.  Do you want to conclude, sir?

22             MR. BLANKENSHIP:  Yes, I would like

23   to.

24             JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Okay.

25             MR. BLANKENSHIP:  Thank you very

1       much.  See, those are the little nuances that I'm

2       talking about.  Mom here is our resident expert

3       on the Jail Oversight Board.  She has more time

4       put in here than half of our life spans in here.

5               So what I'm trying to say is that

6       there are tools that have been created.  Many of

7       you, Bethany, Corey, Mr. Kraus, Sara, your work

8       prior to -- Your Honor, I haven't gotten the

9       chance to meet you, but Judge Bigley, one way or

10      another, you all served our county and worked

11      with our residents.  You understand what we have

12      here, and you understand our past, and you also

13      now have a chance to affect the future.  People

14      are sitting in here asking you to protect other's

15      constitutional rights, which was jobs that you

16      all been on top of already.

17              So thank you.

18

19              JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Thank

20      you.

21              Alan Guenther.

22              MR. GUENTHER:  Hi.  Nice to see you

23      again.  And just before I start, I just wanted to

24      ask where are the new public members?  They were

25      approved by the Council?

1           MS. HALLAM:  No.  We didn't approve

2    them yet.  So we affirmatively recommended all

3    three of them at the Appointment Review Committee

4    Meeting this week, but they need to be approved

5    by the full Council this coming Tuesday.  And it

6    will take effect immediately upon approval.  So

7    hopefully, as of Tuesday evening, we will have

8    them, and they will all be here for the next

9    month's meeting.

10           MR. GUENTHER:  That's great.  Thank

11   you.

12           MS. HALLAM:  Yeah.

13           MR. GUENTHER:  All right.  I'm Alan

14   Guenther.  It's G-U-E-N-T-H-E-R.  I'm with the

15   Pittsburgh Quakers, and the Pittsburgh Peace is

16   Possible Coalition.

17           One thing I'd like to say is it's

18   just so refreshing you're responding to the

19   audience.  People are asking questions about

20   their children who are on hunger strikes or their

21   relatives.  So it's great that you're

22   volunteering, for example, Bethany, to stand up

23   and go in and see this person specifically, but

24   there are a lot of questions raised, good

25   questions raised by members of the audience.

1          And as part of your new attitude

2  and responsiveness I have this question for you.

3  Whose job is it to respond to the public when the

4  public asks you a question?  Who follows up?  Who

5  says, hey, can we have more details on it and who

6  provides an answer?

7          Now, I don't know -- I don't know

8  the situation with the County Jail spokesperson.

9  Maybe that's somebody who can respond to the

10  public if it's someone you trust.  And the thing

11  is though, if you have people who raise

12  responsible questions, someone -- and it

13  shouldn't just be Board members, you know,

14  volunteering and going above and beyond what

15  they're expected to do.  Somebody should work

16  with you and reach out to them and provide an

17  answer and make them feel that you care about

18  what they're saying.  You started, but that's a

19  next logical step.

20          Thank you.

21          JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Thank

22  you.

23          Okay.  We've concluded the public

24  comments.

25          Has everybody reviewed the meeting

1    minutes for Thursday, December 7?

2                     MS. HALLAM:  Motion to approve the

3    meeting minutes.

4                     JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Is

5    there a second?

6                     MS. INNAMORATO:  I'll second.

7                     JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  All in

8    favor?

9                     (Chorus of ayes.)

10                    JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Any

11   opposed?

12                    (No response.)

13                    JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Motion

14   carries.

15                    The Warden's Report.

16   **WARDEN'S REPORT**

17                    INTERIM WARDEN DADY:  Good

18   afternoon, Board.  I'd like to start off by

19   reviewing the documents requested, the questions

20   that were raised at the last Oversight Board

21   meeting.

22                    The following documents were

23   e-mailed to the Board last Friday.  It's a

24   Medical Exemption Request Form, Medical Mental

25   Health Segregation Clearance Form, Emergency

1    Contact Form, settlement between the DOJ and

2    Allegheny County, and then it was highlighted for

3    the answer of the question that was raised.

4                    Healthcare employees hiring

5    incentive program was sent and the book rejection

6    communication was also sent.

7                    The Use of Force and the

8    Disciplinary Housing Policies have been

9    requested, but again, due to these documents

10   containing detailed information about the

11   protocols, it could create a safety and security

12   concern.  We are committed to reviewing all of

13   our policies to see which ones we can post

14   publicly.  We have reviewed our Advanced

15   Directives Policy and are currently working with

16   the Law Department to see if we can post that

17   without compromising the safety and security

18   again.

19                    All Jail Oversight Board members

20   are welcome to view the policy in full at the

21   jail or at another prearranged secure location.

22                    Likewise, the additional details

23   about lockdowns and segregation housing are

24   available at the jail.  But after conversation

25   with the Law Department, we're just unable to

1   provide the details, or more details in the

2   public forum.  This is due to both, again, the

3   safety and security concerns, as well as ensuring

4   that HIPAA laws are not being violated.

5                We remain compliant with Chapter

6   205 Referendum as indicated by the monthly report

7   that we posted on February 5th.

8                The NCCHC is returning to the

9   facility in a couple of weeks here, later in the

10  month, to review the final two in-custody deaths

11  that occurred in 2023.  They will conduct the

12  Annual Comprehensive Review.  The jail's internal

13  mortality reviews will be part of the NCCHC

14  Comprehensive Review.

15               The NCCHC is willing again to

16  address the Board in executive session regarding

17  the 2023 Comprehensive Review, including all

18  unredacted reports, when that process is

19  completed.

20               The NCCHC CEO has spoken highly of

21  the cooperation and effort from the jail

22  administration and healthcare staff in this

23  process.  We will continue to engage with NCCHC

24  in our pursuit of accreditation, and the

25  organization will continue to perform annual

1    mortality reviews.

2                    Due to PREA regulations, males and

3    females are housed and attend programming

4    separately from each other inside correction

5    facilities.  This includes juveniles and Deputy

6    Clark will further address that in the Deputy

7    Warden's report.

8                    We also engage with the courts to

9    see if they were able to add pre-booking -- the

10   pre-booking time to the court's version of the

11   OMSE database.  Court administration was able to

12   integrate data from the ASAP database system to

13   reflect the time individuals physically arrive to

14   the jail.  That process went into effect today.

15                   Regarding release time, we want to

16   ensure we are releasing individuals safely and

17   responsibly, and for that reason, it can take up

18   to 48 hours for an individual to be released once

19   the jail receives the paperwork from the courts.

20   This includes ensuring that an individual is

21   released with the proper supply of medication and

22   that each individual is checked in the National

23   Crime Information Center Database to ensure that

24   they have no detainers or outstanding charges in

25   other states, both of which takes some time to

1     complete.

2                We continue to work with the

3     Department of Human Services, Probation, Parole,

4     and the Courts to determine how processes can be

5     improved, or additional services can be offered

6     in the facility.  Specifically, we are looking at

7     ways to offer additional mental health supports

8     for both the incarcerated population and the

9     staff.

10               That concludes my report, and I'll

11    now turn it over to Chief Beasom for the Deputy

12    Warden's Report.

13    **DEPUTY WARDEN'S REPORT**

14              CHIEF DEPUTY BEASOM:  Thank you,

15    sir.  Good evening, Board.

16              The staffing update.  We've had

17    three promotions since the last Board meeting.

18    Paul Romanelli was promoted to the rank of

19    Captain.  Tamara Harris was promoted to the

20    position of Reentry Services Coordinator

21    Supervisor, and Brandon Watt will begin his new

22    position as the Discharge and Release Lead.

23              Our current cadet class consists of

24    18 correction officer candidates who are

25    scheduled to graduate on Friday, February 16th.

1    And our next academy class will begin on Monday,

2    March 25th.

3                     Inmates currently waiting transfer

4    to the PA Department of Corrections, we have 7

5    males, 1 female with 300 Bs; 3 males, zero

6    females with detainers; and 7 males, zero females

7    with open cases.  The longest wait time on a

8    300 B was received December 22nd, and the

9    shortest wait time is from January 17th.

10                    Number of federal inmates in the

11   ACJ is 23, 15 of which are United States Marshal

12   holds, and 8 are federal transfers for Allegheny

13   County Court.

14                    Use of Force numbers for January of

15   2024 was 41.

16                    Last month, we were asked a

17   question regarding a broken window on the south

18   side of the facility.  Facilities Maintenance

19   reported that the window was not broken but it

20   was allowing water intrusion.  The window was

21   removed to reseal it and the window was then

22   reinstalled.

23                    Finally, I would like to announce

24   that LPN Christine Seely and Senior ID Technician

25   Jessica Bradinger have been named the ACJ

1 Correctional Professionals for the month of

2 January.  Congratulations to both.

3 Deputy Clark will continue the

4 Deputy Warden Report.

5 DEPUTY WARDEN CLARK:  Good evening,

6 Board.

7 Chaplaincy and Prerelease.  The

8 Foundation of Hope is preparing for the upcoming

9 holidays of Ramadan, Lent, Easter and Passover.

10 On January 11th the Hope program

11 held graduation for 14 participants who

12 successfully completed Hope.  Everyone on the pod

13 was eligible to participate in the celebration.

14 We would like to congratulate those graduates on

15 their accomplishments.

16 Discharge and Release.  The

17 Discharge and Release Center assessed 362

18 individuals and distributed 63 boxes of Narcan,

19 134 Fentanyl and Xylazine test strips, 754

20 condoms and dental dams, and 454 bus tickets in

21 the month of January.  The DRC continues to make

22 referrals and connect individuals to services in

23 the community.

24 Contact Visits.  The jail is

25 continuing to host contact visits for juveniles,

1     incarcerated workers, veterans, and program

2     participants on designated Saturdays throughout

3     the month.  For the month of January, a total of

4     77 incarcerated individuals received contact

5     visits from a total of 147 family members.

6             Residential Placement Services.

7     Based on orders from the Courts, Residential

8     Placement Services facilitated the transfer of 63

9     individuals to alternative housing in January,

10     and 25 individuals to substance use treatment

11     through the Diversion Program.  The Diversion

12     Program received 40 new referrals and served a

13     total of 80 participants in January.

14             The Medical Assistance Program

15     assisted a total of 105 individuals with

16     completing Medical Assistance applications upon

17     release from the jail in January.

18             Reentry Services.  On January 11th,

19     the jail began offering a new program called

20     FREE.  FREE stands for Foundation of Realistic

21     Employment and Education.  It is a cognitive

22     behavioral therapy approach to employment

23     intervention.  It aims to help individuals to

24     assist -- assess their current skills in order to

25     explore educational and employment opportunities

1   and identify smart goals. The program covers

2   legal requirements for employment, workplace

3   values and communication skills. It concludes

4   with a job readiness assessment and mentoring

5   support.

6            The Reentry and Alternative Housing

7   teams have implemented the ORAS risk assessment

8   tool. ORAS stands for the Ohio Risk Assessment

9   System. This assessment tool helps to predict

10   recidivism at multiple points in the criminal

11   justice system. It also helps to identify

12   dynamic risk factors that can be used to

13   prioritize programmatic needs. All individuals

14   in reentry and the alternative housing facilities

15   will receive this assessment, and case planning

16   will be developed to support the individual needs

17   identified through this assessment.

18            Educational Services. In

19   preparation for the upcoming primary election on

20   April 23rd, the jail will begin distributing

21   voter registration and absentee ballot forms in

22   the beginning of March.

23            The jail has implemented a new

24   software program that will allow us to more

25   efficiently track books that are ordered and

1  received into the facility.  Family members can

2  submit book receipts electronically, which will

3  allow us to process books that do not come with a

4  packing list or receipt.  Notes can be entered

5  into the system when the individual's books are

6  delivered.  Family members receive an automated

7  message at every step of the process, from when

8  the jail receives the book to when it's

9  delivered.  If the book is denied for any reason,

10  the denial notification is sent to the family,

11  letting them know that the book was returned.

12  This software also includes a process that allows

13  for book appeals to be submitted and reviewed.

14        With the implementation of this new

15  software, we are excited to announce that we have

16  expanded book vendors.  The jail is now accepting

17  book vendors that ship through the United States

18  Postal Service, UPS -- UPS and FedEx.

19        The Education Department has

20  repurposed the classroom in the Education Center

21  that is now being used as classroom space for

22  juvenile females.  Male and female students are

23  now receiving instruction in separated

24  classrooms.  This is enabling female students to

25  have access to a classroom setting.

1          The jail has welcomed a new therapy

2    dog who began visiting with the juvenile students

3    in the Educational Center today.  Fergus is a

4    5-year-old black lab therapy dog who will join

5    therapy groups conducted by the Academic

6    Institute.  Fergus will be onsite in the

7    Educational Center every other Thursday.  Both

8    male and female juvenile students will have the

9    option to interact with Fergus.  The goal of the

10   program is to decrease anxiety levels in students

11   and oppositional behaviors that can interfere

12   with academic growth.

13          That concludes this month's report

14   for Programs.  Karen Kollar will provide the

15   healthcare services update.

16          DHSA KOLLAR:  Thank you, Connie.

17   Good evening, everyone.

18          I'll start with the January 2024

19   data for medical.  The medical assistant

20   treatment for substance abuse disorder: 28

21   individuals prescribed oral Naltrexone; 1

22   individual receiving Vivitrol injection prior to

23   community release; 207 individuals treated with

24   Suboxone; 22 individuals treated with Sublocade;

25   and 22 individuals transitioned from Suboxone to

1    Sublocade; 49 individuals continued Methadone

2    services.

3              Torrance State Hospital.  Five

4    patients transferred to Torrance; 5 patients

5    committed to Torrance; 4 patients had a rescinded

6    commitment due to clinical stabilization; 33

7    patients awaiting admissions with the longest

8    wait since August 9, 2023.

9              Tier 4 and 5 Mental Health Tier

10    System.  36 individuals were identified for

11    Tier 4.  Zero individuals were identified for

12    Tier 5.

13              Sick Call Request Data.  35 medical

14    with the longest wait time of 2 days; 7 mental

15    health with the longest wait time of 2 days; 281

16    psychiatric with the longest wait time of 28

17    days; 14 mental health specialists with the

18    longest wait time of 10 days.

19              The Healthcare Updates.

20    Buprenorphine administration is completed during

21    its own med pass because the medication is a

22    sublingual formulation that requires

23    approximately 10 minutes to dissolve.  This

24    provides nurses the opportunity to observe the

25    patient and make sure all the medication is

1 absorbed, ultimately benefiting the patient and

2 preventing diversion of the medication.  The

3 process of this med pass has several components.

4 Correctional staff members usually assist with

5 the logistics of the med pass.  The chairs in the

6 housing unit are arranged in 3 rows, generally 9

7 to 15 total seats.  The number of seats generally

8 depends -- depending on how many patients

9 prescribed this medication are on the housing

10 unit and how safely, securely, and orderly the

11 patients can be called out to a specific seat.

12 The med pass nurse prepares the medication and

13 administers the medication after proper patient

14 identification.  Consistent with most

15 correctional agencies, administration of this MAT

16 is conducted during a time in which the general

17 population is not out for recreation, meals,

18 programming, or any other type of activity.  As

19 we seek to offer as much recreational time as

20 possible, we have modified some operational

21 procedures like this med pass to accommodate and

22 observe these protocols.  Doing this minimizes

23 disruption to recreation time but also supports

24 the goal of minimizing diversion.

25     Operationally, once-a-day dosing

1   satisfies not only safety, security, and limited

2   patient distractions while receiving this

3   medication, the patient is daily dosed early from

4   12:00 to 4:00 a.m. to be ready for any necessary

5   movement from the housing unit early in the

6   morning for purposes like court.  It is of note

7   that throughout-the-day or multiple dosing is

8   appropriate for outpatient setting because the

9   patient is in charge of their own medication.  In

10  the correctional environment, to comply with all

11  expectations of safety, security, medication

12  absorption, limited distractions, necessary

13  patient movement to court, and like items, once

14  daily dosing has proven to be effective.  We

15  ensure the patients are dosed every 24 hours to

16  assist in patient stability and structure while

17  minimizing the chance for symptoms of withdrawal.

18              Single-day dosing of MAT is FDA

19  approved and ensures that the patient received

20  their dose at a consistent time.  The time also

21  ensures there are no conflicts for individuals

22  who have court appearances that day.

23              As SURN, substance use recovery

24  nursing team, continues to progress through their

25  hiring, training, orientation, and finally,

1    performance of their duties, this team has begun

2    and will continue to relieve the current med pass

3    nursing staff of this duty.  Implementing a full

4    functioning SURN team would allow for more

5    complex continued process improvement items such

6    as possibly moving this med pass to a different,

7    consistent daily time while still complying with

8    all expectations mentioned.

9              To share context to this process,

10   there are currently 132 patients on this

11   medication.  These patients are housed in 11

12   different housing units throughout the facility.

13   The structure of this type of med pass, along

14   with the combination of the medical staff, the

15   new SURN team, the correctional involvement, and

16   the leadership guidance of the Director of

17   Substance Use and the Deputy in Charge of this

18   area, has achieved many expectations.

19             I'm sure that as this team,

20   specifically the SURN team, develops and

21   collaborates, the increasing patient volume on

22   this medication will be an appropriate and

23   positive experience for all involved in the

24   effort.  We will continue to assess our MAT

25   process and make adjustments as the number of

1    individuals on MAT increases.

2              Also, to add in some information

3    regarding induction, as this was mentioned during

4    the last Jail Oversight Board Meeting, the

5    addiction specialist provider sees patients in

6    clinic to start induction based on MACRO, single

7    dose induction protocol, which is done by

8    detoxing the patient for at least 48 hours to

9    avoid precipitated withdrawal.  During these

10   48 hours, the patients are prescribed and

11   administered the appropriate comfort medications.

12   The context for this population is 89 patients

13   have been inducted -- has induction completed

14   since 12/10/2023.

15             Thank you.

16             JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:

17   Questions?

18             MR. O'CONNOR:  I have some.  So

19   just a couple questions.  I think this is more of

20   a healthcare question, but I got a safety report

21   that there were 2 nights each week where there

22   was no -- in the last month, there was no mental

23   health RN present in the whole building.  And

24   then I got another report that there were 22

25   nights in January where there was no mental

1      health staff in Intake.  And I know in October,

2      we were doing a roving patrol in Intake.  So is

3      this just a scheduling issue or staff shortage?

4      I mean, we know the staff is short.  So let's

5      take that out, but is it we need to do a better

6      job of scheduling so that there is somebody

7      there?

8                  DHSA KOLLAR:  Right.  There is a

9      mental health population, of staff in-house but

10     not always 24/7 around the clock.  However, we do

11     have physical health nurses that perform those

12     duties when they aren't there.  So it's not like

13     there's no one to take care of any mental health

14     --

15                 MR. O'CONNOR:  But specifically

16     mental health, no, it's -- so the physical --

17                 DHSA KOLLAR:  Coverage --

18                 MR. O'CONNOR:  -- coverage is going

19     over the mental health, so there's still the gap

20     in mental health?

21                 DHSA KOLLAR:  Yes.

22                 MR. O'CONNOR:  Okay.

23                 DHSA KOLLAR:  In physical medicine,

24     just so everybody is aware of the nursing staff,

25     whether it's RN, LPN, MA, CNAs, physical medicine

1    covers for every specialty regardless of report

2    off, scheduling, and they are very capable to do

3    so.

4            MR. O'CONNOR:  Okay.  And then I

5    know somebody mentioned the Incentive Program on

6    hiring.  I know it was changed.  Are we just

7    piggy-backing off the one that the County's had

8    for the last few years, or are we changing that

9    at all?

10           DEPUTY WARDEN TOMA:  So our

11    Incentive Program changed.  It increased the

12    amount of money that we're offering.  We

13    decreased the payments, so it was that three

14    years.  We decreased it to two years, and then we

15    also reflected this based on the contract change

16    of the probationary period as well.

17           We also added the additional

18    positions of healthcare social worker and

19    therapist to those eligible to receive the

20    sign-on bonus.

21           MR. O'CONNOR:  Okay.  So these are

22    different than the ones that we've had for the

23    past few years.  Okay.

24           All right.  And then we, in our

25    office, got a contract from I guess it's our

1    critical response team that we're doing training

2    with the PA DOC.  Is that coming up soon?  The

3    only question that I have from that is in the

4    contract, it said that there would be chemical

5    munitions used in the training, but based on the

6    referendum, you can't use that.  So I just didn't

7    know if that part of the training, which it

8    shouldn't be, or if that's just general

9    terminology that's used when we work with the PA

10    DOC?  And that can be an answer -- I want an

11    answer now, but I just didn't know if that's a

12    contract thing that you have to look back into.

13               CHIEF DEPUTY BEASOM:  Yeah, so

14    the --

15               MR. O'CONNOR:  Is there separate

16    training just that's outside of the realm of

17    the --

18               CHIEF DEPUTY BEASOM:  Are you

19    referring to the Interagency Agreement that was

20    signed with the DOC?

21               MR. O'CONNOR:  Yeah, and it had --

22    as I said, it had chemical munitions in it, and

23    that sort of worried us because it shouldn't be

24    based on the referendum.

25               CHIEF DEPUTY BEASOM:  Right.  So

1     the PA Department of Corrections still utilizes

2     chemical munitions.  If they would come to the

3     facility for training with us, we don't permit

4     them inside the facility, okay?

5                    MR. O'CONNOR:  So -- but it's in

6     the contract so should it be deleted, because

7     that's the terminology that they use just -- it's

8     just a broad terminology is what you're saying

9     that they use.

10                    CHIEF DEPUTY BEASOM:  Sure.

11                    MR. O'CONNOR:  But when they come

12    here, there's not going to touch it at all?

13                    CHIEF DEPUTY BEASOM:  Correct.  If

14    our personnel would go to the DOC, one of the

15    SCIs, then they may have the chemical agents

16    there.  But it will not be within our facility.

17                    MR. O'CONNOR:  Okay.  And then two

18    more questions.  The Use of Force report I know

19    there was a comment about an incident that

20    happened.  I think for us, it would be helpful --

21    I saw the report, or is it in my page -- oh, here

22    it is.  So we still are getting the 1 through 41

23    incidents right here.  So can somebody tell me

24    the incident that was mentioned in Public Comment

25    which number that is?  Because I -- I don't see

1   enough detail in here.  I think that's what a lot

2   of the Board has been discussing over the past

3   few months.

4             CHIEF DEPUTY BEASOM:  Mr. O'Connor,

5   when I generate this report, it's a -- it's a --

6   I take all the Use of Force packets from the

7   month, and I put those details on there.  But

8   they're not in any particular order.  So I would

9   have to go back --

10             MR. O'CONNOR:  Okay.

11             CHIEF DEPUTY BEASOM:  -- and get

12   that particular incident packet to be able to

13   provide additional details to the Board, okay?

14   As we've said, we can't discuss specifics --

15             MR. O'CONNOR:  And that's why I'm

16   not using names or anything like that.

17             CHIEF DEPUTY BEASOM:  Right.  Yes.

18             MR. O'CONNOR:  I'm just saying

19   like --

20             CHIEF DEPUTY BEASOM:  If anybody

21   would like to come to the jail --

22             MR. O'CONNOR:  You know we get

23   numbers.  A little more detail -- yeah, would be

24   helpful.

25             And then lastly, is anyone at the

1 jail involved in what's going on at Shuman

2 Center, giving some oversight?  And at that

3 point, what's the capacity that the jail has at

4 that center?

5 DEPUTY WARDEN TOMA:  The jail has

6 no capacity at Shuman.  We have no --

7 MR. O'CONNOR:  So nobody from the

8 jail is doing anything at Shuman at this point?

9 DEPUTY WARDEN TOMA:  I can say that

10 in my -- I can say that I have been at Shuman as

11 an extension of other roles that I facilitate in

12 the County, but not in my role --

13 MR. O'CONNOR:  Through a separate

14 role from the County, okay.

15 DEPUTY WARDEN TOMA:  Yeah.

16 MR. O'CONNOR:  So you're doing

17 double duty, sort of?

18 DEPUTY WARDEN TOMA:  I have done

19 for most of my career.  I have worked in other

20 departments --

21 MR. O'CONNOR:  Floated all over the

22 County, okay?

23 DEPUTY WARDEN TOMA:  -- at their

24 request.

25 MR. O'CONNOR:  Okay.

1            DEPUTY WARDEN TOMA:  Throughout.

2            MR. O'CONNOR:  Of the Manager or

3    the County Executive or somebody like that?

4            DEPUTY WARDEN TOMA:  To support the

5    County as a whole, I've been deployed to multiple

6    other departments, regardless of where my home

7    office was.

8            MR. O'CONNOR:  Okay.  Yeah, no.  I

9    just -- I just wondered because different kinds

10   of facilities that we're talking about here, so I

11   didn't know what the involvement was between the

12   jail and Shuman Center, so.

13            Okay.  Thank you.

14            JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Ms.

15   Innamorato?

16            MS. INNAMORATO:  Thank you, Judge.

17   First, I want to thank you all for framing your

18   reports and answering questions that were asked

19   last month.  So I see that.  I appreciate that.

20   I'm sure we'll hear from Councilperson Hallam of

21   whether all those questions were answered.

22            MS. HALLAM:  Most.

23            MS. INNAMORATO:  Most.  Oh,

24   progress.

25            So just two quick questions.  So

1   first, we kind of started to talk about Use of

2   Force.  Do you have perspective on best practices

3   that exist elsewhere in the State on how Use of

4   Force is reviewed and how those reviews are made

5   public to the folks who are concerned about the

6   issues occurring in the facility?

7           INTERIM WARDEN DADY:  Sure.  I

8   mean, I can speak to what we do with the State as

9   far as the review process, and it does go through

10   the administrative staff.  We do not provide Use

11   of Force reports to the public, so that's a

12   little different.

13           But as far as looking at the

14   process of Use of Force, we just have some

15   different tools at the State that we, you know,

16   as far as staffing, that's definitely an issue --

17   that continues to be an issue at the jail.  But

18   using, you know, definitely mental health

19   professionals prior to a Use of Force is

20   something that -- that is a best practice.  So we

21   don't have -- the inmates that are trained at the

22   State for certified peer support, we don't have

23   the use of those at the county jail.  There, we

24   just don't have -- the residents aren't there

25   long enough to be trained and to do that.

1        So, but those are different, you

2   know, layers of like prior to the physical force

3   that needs -- may need to be used that are best

4   practice that -- you know, definitely I want to

5   see implemented at the county jail.  So that's

6   just something that is -- it's a work in

7   progress.  It is being looked at, and I don't --

8   you know, I don't condone anybody being abused no

9   matter where it is, and we will definitely look

10  into the Use of Force and investigate it

11  thoroughly, so...

12        MS. INNAMORATO:  Thank you.  And

13  you have commitment from our administration to

14  help deploy those best practices.

15        The other one is just asking for an

16  update on getting the Online Allegheny Survey

17  available on the tablets that are available to

18  residents.

19        INTERIM WARDEN DADY:  I'd have to

20  defer to Deputy Toma on that one.

21        DEPUTY WARDEN TOMA:  Yeah, we're

22  still working on it.  The vendor ran into a

23  character limit based on the survey, so we needed

24  to reach back out to your office to see what we

25  can do about how the questions are, and they

1   reached back out -- we went to a third party that

2   submitted it and helps us manage the contract,

3   they reached out to GTL to see if they could

4   increase the character limit.  So that's where

5   we're kind of stuck in the middle.  And the

6   current link cannot be used because it's -- had

7   security issues within our system.

8                   MS. INNAMORATO:  Okay.  Thank you

9   for that update.

10                  JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  I have

11  a question about this Use of Force.  And what I'm

12  hearing is that the last month when we were here,

13  we requested -- or actually, it's not the Use of

14  Force.  The log -- that there were three

15  categories, medical -- I can't find my note on

16  this.  But in any event, we said to you last

17  month, okay, can't you -- instead of putting

18  medical, can't you put broken leg -- or we gave a

19  couple other examples.  And now what I'm hearing

20  today is that that would be a HIPAA violation

21  because maybe only one person broke their leg,

22  and then everybody would know who that was.  Is

23  that correct?

24                  CHIEF DEPUTY BEASOM:  (Nodding

25  head.)

1          JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Okay.

2    And I'm also hearing that you have offered that

3    the Oversight Board could come down to the jail

4    and look at all of these reports, or you will

5    bring these reports up here, and we can look at

6    them together; is that correct?

7          CHIEF DEPUTY BEASOM:  That is

8    correct, Your Honor.

9          JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Okay.

10   So I'm thinking that maybe it would be -- I know

11   that there are going to be Board members who

12   object to not having one or two words on here,

13   and I am hesitant to render an opinion on that

14   without looking at your -- looking at what you

15   would bring up here for us to review.  So I'm

16   going to suggest to the Board that you bring

17   these documents, the Use of Force and the

18   Segregation documents, I don't know, to the

19   County Council Conference Room.  Is that -- and

20   let us look at them.  And then -- and then maybe

21   we'll argue with you, or then maybe we'll say,

22   okay, we agree.  But I feel like we need to look

23   at them to render an opinion on whether you can

24   add these two words after each incident.  What

25   does -- what's everybody's pleasure on that?

1                MS. HALLAM:  I just -- something

2    that -- you know, there is no personally

3    identifiable information, so it is not a HIPAA

4    violation.  So the fact that that keeps being

5    used as an excuse over and over and over again is

6    absolute nonsense.

7                Also, I think it's evidenced by the

8    reports that we are sent by the liaison when she

9    conducts her investigations that she's sending us

10   a heck of a lot more information than they're

11   giving us in these meetings, so why is she

12   allowed to give that information and send it to

13   us via e-mail but we can't cut out the middleman

14   and have them just send it to us?

15               Like, the fact that we actually

16   have to schedule, which we have all seen how hard

17   it is in our schedules to schedule a time that we

18   can all get together, we can all be in the same

19   place, we can all review the same documents; it

20   is an unnecessary burden when they could simply

21   give us the information we're asking for.  They

22   keep saying like these are not for public

23   consumption.  We're not asking for the public to

24   have them.  I wouldn't have to ask for it over

25   and over again in the meetings if you would

1    simply send it to us as Board members.  And I

2    think that's all we're asking for.  I think it's

3    a very simple agreement this will not be

4    disseminated to the public, but we, as Board

5    members, should be able to receive them.

6                     JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Okay.

7    How would you respond to that?

8                     JUDGE BIGLEY:  Can I make a

9    comment?

10                    JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Sure.

11   JUDGE BIGLEY:  I'm no rocket scientist, but I

12   don't think that necessarily --a violation of

13   HIPAA isn't necessarily that we're disseminating

14   it to the public.  It's them disseminating it to

15   anybody.  So do you see what I'm saying?

16

17                    MS. HALLAM:  Yeah, but there's

18   no --

19                    JUDGE BIGLEY:  So it's

20   disseminating it outside of the patient's rights.

21   So it's not necessarily us telling everybody in

22   the audience.  It's the jail telling anyone

23   outside of the -- you know, the resident or the

24   patient.  So I don't -- I was frankly concerned

25   sometimes with information we're even getting

1  from our liaison, to be quite honest with you

2  because sometimes when I'm reading it, I'm

3  thinking we're getting information that sometimes

4  is in violation of HIPAA, and I'm wondering how

5  she's getting it to be honest with you.  So, you

6  know, again, I would caution that it's -- you

7  know, and I agree that sometimes people scream

8  HIPAA when it's not HIPAA.  But it's not an issue

9  of us disseminating it publicly.  It's any time a

10  provider, or in this case, the jail who provided

11  medical or something is disseminating it beyond

12  to anyone.

13                 So, I don't know -- I.

14                 JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  I don't

15  know.

16                 MS. HALLAM:  So I do understand

17  that.

18                 JUDGE BIGLEY:  Ask the County

19  Solicitor.

20                 MS. HALLAM:  He is -- will tell you

21  that he is not our solicitor and will not tell us

22  anything, but we'll have our own soon.

23                 JUDGE BIGLEY:  Well, he -- at this

24  point could say on behalf of the jail he could

25  tell us.

1              MS. HALLAM:  Sure.  Please tell us

2     on behalf of the jail.

3              JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Mr.

4     Bacharach, we're inviting you up.

5              MR. BACHARACH:  And I understand

6     that.

7              JUDGE BIGLEY:  No, would you agree

8     that HIPAA would apply when the jail tells

9     anyone?

10             MS. HALLAM:  He's not going to

11    answer you.

12             MR. BACHARACH:  No, I wouldn't want

13    to answer on a specific point because that would

14    be -- it's very complicated.

15             JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  But as

16    a general premise --

17             MR. BACHARACH:  As a general

18    premise, the jail doesn't give individually

19    identifiable information about an inmate's

20    medical condition to anyone outside of the jail

21    medical staff.  That's the general rule.

22             And it's not that -- I'm not saying

23    there aren't exceptions, but I would be very

24    careful about that.

25             JUDGE BIGLEY:  So I guess you're

1   saying -- is there any way you could tie it back

2   by giving it saying this particular Use of

3   Force -- why don't I get -- why don't -- I agree.

4   Why don't we do this.  Have them bring the stuff,

5   and then we'll decide whether or not it's --

6             MS. HALLAM:  Right.  And we could

7   even look at the stuff and say, hey, give us this

8   report and redact this personally identifiable

9   information.  Again, that is the key to HIPAA is

10   that you can personally identify the person.  We

11   are not asking for you to tell us like John

12   Smith, this happened to him on this date.  We

13   want to know this happened to a person on this

14   date.  That is not a violation of HIPAA.

15             Second of all, there are exceptions

16   to HIPAA for oversight and investigatory bodies.

17             Third of all, you're already giving

18   the information to the liaison.  You're -- if

19   it's HIPAA, you're already violating it by giving

20   it to the liaison.  So I would like to actually

21   hear an answer to what do you see as the

22   difference between providing that information to

23   the liaison and providing it directly to us?

24   That is what I would specifically like an answer

25   to.

1                    MR. BACHARACH:  I don't know what

2       information is given to the liaison.  So I can't

3       answer --

4                    MS. HALLAM:  Very detailed medical

5       information with personally identifiable

6       information that I believe is our right to have.

7       But we are being denied it as Board members, but

8       it is being freely given to someone who is coming

9       to the jail on our behalf and then regurgitating

10      the information to us?

11                   MR. BACHARACH:  You're asking a

12      specific opinion if you can be given -- I can't

13      give an answer to these generalizations.

14                   JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Okay.

15      Well how about the Use of Force report, because

16      that doesn't contain HIPAA information.  Why

17      couldn't -- why couldn't we get details on the

18      Use of Force?

19                   MR. BACHARACH:  I don't know.

20      There could be safety and security issues with

21      that.  I mean, there is some medical in there --

22      there can be, and there usually is -- in fact,

23      there always is when there's a Use of Force

24      medical information in these reports.

25                   But again, I don't know --

1          JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Well,

2     okay.  The circumstances leading up to the Use of

3     Force.

4          MR. BACHARACH:  The reason why the

5     force was used?

6          JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Yes.

7          MS. HALLAM:  Uh-huh.

8          MR. BACHARACH:  I don't know that

9     there's a specific reason that that would be a

10    problem unless there's some specific safety and

11    security detail that might be -- as a general

12    rule, I don't think there is.

13          JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Okay.

14    Could I hear from someone on the -- from the jail

15    on that issue?

16          CHIEF DEPUTY BEASOM:  Sure,

17    Your Honor.  So I think there's a

18    miscommunication as to what's being asked here.

19    The jail administration, we're not denying this

20    information to the Board, okay?  We've offered

21    multiple times, multiple different months for the

22    Board to come to the jail.  We'll show you

23    whatever you want to see.  We'll bring that

24    information to you.  But at the end of the day,

25    after the review is over, we have to bring that

1    material back to the facility to maintain the

2    integrity of those processes, okay?  So.

3                    MS. HALLAM:  Again, we are getting

4    reports e-mailed to us that include all of the

5    information that we are asking for you right now

6    from our liaison.  What we're saying is, why do

7    we have to send her there to do an investigation

8    when you could just send the exact same

9    information to us?

10                   CHIEF DEPUTY BEASOM:  I'm not going

11   to send any of it over e-mail.

12                   MS. HALLAM:  But it's already being

13   sent over e-mail.

14                   CHIEF DEPUTY BEASOM:  Ms. Hallam,

15   I'm -- I can't comment on that.

16                   JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  He

17   can't answer that probably.

18                   MS. HALLAM:  Right.  I understand

19   that.

20                   JUDGE BIGLEY:  Is all of the

21   information that we get on this summary of Use of

22   Force contained in one document?

23                   CHIEF DEPUTY BEASOM:  It's not a

24   single sheet of paper.  It's an entire incident

25   packet.  So --

1          JUDGE BIGLEY:  So then let me ask

2    you this.  Every month can our liaison get the

3    entire packet?

4          CHIEF DEPUTY BEASOM:  The liaison

5    has access to the packets the same as the

6    Oversight Board does.

7          JUDGE BIGLEY:  So then we can just

8    send the liaison down every month, and she can

9    get all of the packets and give it to us.

10          CHIEF DEPUTY BEASOM:  She can have

11    access to the information.  We will not hand over

12    the entire packet.

13          JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  In

14    other words, but she could sit down with a

15    notebook and take notes on these 41 Use of Force

16    incidents and report back to us?

17          CHIEF DEPUTY BEASOM:  Yes.

18          JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  She

19    just couldn't take the packet out of the jail?

20          CHIEF DEPUTY BEASOM:  Correct.

21          JUDGE BIGLEY:  But it's in one

22    packet?

23          CHIEF DEPUTY BEASOM:  Yes,

24    Your Honor.

25          JUDGE BIGLEY:  Okay.

1          CHIEF DEPUTY BEASOM:  Not all of

2    the -- just the -- just to be clear, a single

3    incident, a Use of Force incident is its own

4    packet.  You're not saying the entire month is in

5    a packet?

6          JUDGE BIGLEY:  But it would be

7    something that would -- she would be able to get

8    it from one place?

9          CHIEF DEPUTY BEASOM:  Correct.

10   Yes.

11         JUDGE BIGLEY:  Okay.

12         She wouldn't have to comb through

13   the --

14         CHIEF DEPUTY BEASOM:  Nope.  I have

15   the -- I have them all.

16         JUDGE BIGLEY:  Okay.  There we go.

17   We'll do that.  Thank you.

18         MS. HALLAM:  Great idea.  Thank

19   you.

20         Are you ready for me?

21         JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Go

22   ahead.

23         MS. HALLAM:  Okay.  I have a few

24   questions as well.

25         So bear with me.  I'm just trying

1    to organize myself.  So first of all, I'm going

2    to ask the question that made me the most angry,

3    so luckily, we had some time to kind of calm down

4    since it was said.  So you were speaking about

5    what I brought up last month about folks being

6    given, first of all, their entire dose of

7    Suboxone all at once and in the middle of the

8    night.  And so you said that the FDA has approved

9    both of those things, but the reality is the FDA

10   has only approved both with individualized

11   determinations, which would mean that the medical

12   professional would have to say for each patient

13   receiving the MOUD that yes, it is in their best

14   interest to receive it in the middle of the night

15   and be woken up to get it, and yes, it is in

16   their best interest for medical reasons to

17   receive that medication all at once.

18              Do you agree?

19              DHSA KOLLAR:  (Nodding head.)

20              MS. HALLAM:  So you're telling me

21   that for every single individual that is

22   receiving those medications, that an

23   individualized determination was made that it is

24   in their best medical interest to receive that

25   medication all at once and to be woken up in the

1  middle of the night to get it?

2                DHSA KOLLAR:  Yes.  And how I can

3  answer it is there is a prescription order from a

4  provider who reviews not only the script and the

5  dose but does see the patients in-clinic as

6  needed.  So reviews all of them, 132 of them.

7                MS. HALLAM:  Right.

8                DHSA KOLLAR:  Currently.

9                MS. HALLAM:  And so what you're

10  saying is if that person was not in the jail and

11  subject to the restrictions that are placed on

12  the folks in the jail receiving these

13  medications, that that provider would still

14  prescribe that person their entire dose, daily

15  dose at once?

16                DHSA KOLLAR:  No, I'm not saying

17  that.

18                MS. HALLAM:  And would still

19  require them to be woken up.

20                DHSA KOLLAR:  I'm not saying that.

21                MS. HALLAM:  So you are

22  admitting --

23                DHSA KOLLAR:  I'm saying that

24  inside a correctional environment like ours, with

25  the constraints that we have, the provider is

1    giving the appropriate medication to the patient.

2    Dose and the time is -- that it's administered,

3    is based on 24 hours.

4                    MS. HALLAM:  Then those are not

5    individualized.

6                    DHSA KOLLAR:  That's not

7    necessarily what 24 hours, but as long as they're

8    dosed within the 24 hours or at the 24-hour

9    period.

10                   MS. HALLAM:  Then those are not

11   individualized determinations.  That's a group

12   determination for the entire group within the

13   jail.

14                   DHSA KOLLAR:  The time is a group

15   determination.

16                   MS. HALLAM:  But it is not allowed

17   to be as per the FDA regulations.  They say that

18   that is for individualized determination.  It's

19   to be made on an individual basis.

20                   DHSA KOLLAR:  For the prescription

21   dose and that 24 hours, not necessarily the exact

22   time.

23                   MS. HALLAM:  Okay.  So you're

24   telling us that there is no less restrictive way

25   that we could be giving them this medication?  It

1   couldn't happen -- because you mentioned

2   specifically that we don't want to interfere with

3   people going to court.  You know, if you gave it

4   to them after dinner, is anybody going to court

5   at 6:00 at night, 7:00 at night?

6             DHSA KOLLAR:  So when the SURN team

7   comes, and there's more staff available, and

8   there's more coordination so that all those items

9   can be assessed and all those expectations can

10   happen, then that group can probably determine if

11   the -- the time, the 24-hour daily dose can

12   change.

13             MS. HALLAM:  So then the only

14   reason that that dosage is happening in the way

15   it is right now is because of lack of staffing?

16             DHSA KOLLAR:  No.  It's happening

17   because of recreation, time for movement,

18   absorption.

19             If you have this medication

20   delivered at any time, it is -- you have to come

21   out.  You have to wait the 10 minutes after, so

22   no one else can be out as you have this group out

23   taking this medication.

24             MS. HALLAM:  So a lot of them are

25   on a pod by them -- like they're the only folks

1   on the pod.  There's no one not receiving that

2   medication on the pod, so the excuse that was

3   given about the diversion of medication --

4                   DHSA KOLLAR:  No, there are 11

5   different pods.

6                   MS. HALLAM:  But there are pods

7   where everybody on the pod is receiving Suboxone.

8   I was on the pod myself.

9                   DHSA KOLLAR:  Uh-huh.

10                  MS. HALLAM:  So on that pod, why

11  are they still being woken up in the middle of

12  the night?  Why are they still receiving their

13  dose all at once?  It's because the jail has made

14  a group determination for all of the folks

15  receiving the medication to do it this way.

16                  DHSA KOLLAR:  So you're telling me

17  that --

18                  JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  The

19  question is, if there a whole pod that is getting

20  this medication, why can't that pod get it at --

21  during business hours?

22                  DHSA KOLLAR:  Yeah.  And I would

23  say to that, once the SURN team can really get

24  into what are the situations, what does that pod

25  do?  What does everybody else need to do to make

1    that happen?  I think that could be a

2    determination.

3              MS. HALLAM:  So it is because there

4    has not been staff members for that team hired

5    yet?

6              DHSA KOLLAR:  Well, they're going

7    through the process.  We just had 3 hired in the

8    last two weeks.  Yay.  And we have to remember,

9    we have, right now, not all SURN delivering the

10   MOUD or the Suboxone tabs.  We have physical

11   health doing it too and they have many other med

12   passes to do too.  So we're coordinating that.

13             So SURN is doing some while medical

14   is doing the other.

15             MS. HALLAM:  So are there other

16   medications in the jail that there is concern

17   about diversion of medications?  Are there other

18   medications given out other than MOUD?

19             DHSA KOLLAR:  Well, let's say

20   there's no other medication given out this way.

21             MS. HALLAM:  Right.  That was what

22   I was getting to.  So thank you for jumping to

23   that for me.  There is no other medications that

24   are given out to people in the jail in the method

25   that way that we're giving out MOUD?

1                    DHSA KOLLAR:  Uh-huh.

2                    MS. HALLAM:  So we are specifically

3     treating folks who receive MOUD in a way that's

4     different than folks who are receiving any other

5     type of medication?

6                    DHSA KOLLAR:  Well, this -- I guess

7     I'm not clear on your question.  Maybe my answer

8     is that when we do this particular Suboxone pass,

9     this particular medication needs this attention

10    and this delivery mechanism, if you will, this

11    type of administration.

12                   MS. HALLAM:  But I thought that

13    what you just said was that it doesn't and that

14    once this team is implemented, it will have a

15    different delivery method and mechanism and time

16    schedule?

17                   DHSA KOLLAR:  No, it will always be

18    that they have to come out.  They have to wait

19    the 10 minutes after administration.  It will

20    always have to be administered that way.

21                   JUDGE BIGLEY:  Are you talking

22    about because of how long you have to watch them

23    because the concern is that they can pass it?

24                   DHSA KOLLAR:  Uh-huh.

25                   JUDGE BIGLEY:  Unlike all other

1    medications that you're delivering?

2                    DHSA KOLLAR:  Yes.

3                    JUDGE BIGLEY:  Is that what we're

4    talking about?

5                    DHSA KOLLAR:  Yes.  And no other

6    distractions --

7                    JUDGE BIGLEY:  So you're talking

8    about other medications they give, they don't

9    have to watch them as long?  Is that what we

10   mean?

11                   MS. HALLAM:  Right.  That's what

12   I'm saying is if the concern is diversion, what

13   is the difference between diverting Suboxone and

14   diverting a different type of medication?

15                   JUDGE BIGLEY:  I don't think they

16   watch them as long, do they?

17                   DHSA KOLLAR:  No.

18                   MS. HALLAM:  No, that's what I'm

19   trying to understand is why?

20                   JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Okay.

21   Why --

22                   JUDGE BIGLEY:  Is it because they

23   can -- it's -- the time is way longer for

24   Suboxone, isn't it?

25                   DHSA KOLLAR:  Right.  Yeah.  You

1    have to see that it's been absorbed --

2                    MS. HALLAM:  Dissolved.

3                    DHSA KOLLAR:  -- versus the pills

4    that they're having for whatever other reason.

5    There's not diversion issues, that the patient

6    can take the pills right in front of you, swallow

7    them and move on.  There's no absorption.

8    There's no look to see if it's still in your

9    mouth.  It's an instant kind of thing.

10                   MS. HALLAM:  Right.  But then on

11   the pod where everyone is prescribed that

12   medication, why are they -- we still following

13   the same process as you are on other pods where

14   diversion is a concern?

15                   DHSA KOLLAR:  The activities that

16   are happening at that time during the day,

17   whether there's dinner, whether there's other

18   activities throughout --

19                   MS. HALLAM:  I'm going to move on,

20   and we'll talk about this later.

21                   DHSA KOLLAR:  Okay.  Thank you.

22                   MS. HALLAM:  Because I have other

23   questions I need to ask.

24                   DHSA KOLLAR:  Okay.

25                   MS. HALLAM:  So the next question I

1  have is Lu was asking specifically about

2  screening for folks with autism as they come in

3  the jail, which I think is a fantastic idea.  I

4  know we had talked about that in the past.  I

5  really hope that yinz work with her to do that.

6  She is a leading expert in this field, and I

7  think that you should really utilize her

8  expertise on this.  But I couldn't help but

9  remembering, and I was actually looking through

10  my phone to find it as we were sitting up here,

11  that the NCCHC, one of the deficiencies when they

12  did our yearly inspection, found that we didn't

13  do enough training to help folks with autism and

14  to teach the staff at the jail specifically how

15  to deal with folks with autism.  So I want to

16  know if you can give me any update on plans for

17  screening or plans to do additional training to

18  try to comply with the NCCHC standards?

19           DHSA KOLLAR:  I do know that

20  there's tools created, and we've implemented

21  them -- whether it's this tool, I don't know.  It

22  would be nice to compare what we have to what

23  this woman has available.

24           MS. HALLAM:  What's the word you

25  said, "tool"?

1                    DHSA KOLLAR:  Tool, T-O-O-L.

2                    MS. HALLAM:  Oh, tool.  I'm so

3     sorry.  I was like thinking something else.

4                    DHSA KOLLAR:  Like a screening.

5                    MS. HALLAM:  Like a screening.

6                    Okay.  So you have a screening?

7                    DHSA KOLLAR:  Uh-huh.

8                    MS. HALLAM:  Okay.  I have never

9     heard of that before, and I know it has been

10    broughten up -- brought up in the past.  Can you

11    give us a little information on what that

12    screening looks like?  It is a form that's filled

13    out?  Who conducts it?

14                    DHSA KOLLAR:  It's a questionnaire.

15    So I think that -- a self-questionnaire, so I

16    think that could be presented.

17                    MS. HALLAM:  It's a

18    self-questionnaire, as in they fill it out

19    themselves, or they're asked the questions, and

20    they answer themselves?

21                    DHSA KOLLAR:  It's interactive, but

22    yes.

23                    MS. HALLAM:  Okay.

24                    DHSA KOLLAR:  But yes, they

25    self-report.

1                    MS. HALLAM:  Yeah.  Can you please

2     send that to us?  I'd really like to see that.

3                    And then what about specifically

4     the trainings?

5                    DHSA KOLLAR:  That I don't have any

6     information of what we did or what we plan to do.

7                    MS. HALLAM:  Does anybody?

8                    JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Do you

9     have any special accommodations for people who

10    are diagnosed as autistic?

11                   DHSA KOLLAR:  I know that we've

12    been taking people that -- I guess I don't want

13    to speak out of turn, so I would have to look

14    into what we do because I know we do have -- have

15    had that opportunity to work with autistic

16    patients.

17                   MS. HALLAM:  Okay.  Next --

18                   JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Could

19    you give us an update on that?  I'm sorry.

20                   MS. HALLAM:  No, don't apologize.

21                   JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Next

22    month?

23                   DHSA KOLLAR:  Uh-huh.

24                   JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Okay.

25    Thank you for that.

1          MS. HALLAM:  Thank you.  Okay.  My

2     next question since we heard again, which I think

3     we've heard a lot lately, about dietary

4     restrictions, I had a couple questions

5     specifically about that.

6          So who in the kitchen is

7     responsible for making sure the food being served

8     complies with specialty diets?

9          DEPUTY WARDEN TOMA:  So that would

10    be vendor.  They receive every day the specialty

11    diet menus, whether it would be medical,

12    religious, and then they are the ones who ensure

13    that those are prepared and then delivered to

14    those housing units.

15         MS. HALLAM:  And is that something

16    that's required as per our contract with the

17    vendor?

18         DEPUTY WARDEN TOMA:  Yes.

19         MS. HALLAM:  Who ensures

20    compliance?

21         DEPUTY WARDEN TOMA:  We have hired

22    an individual who oversees that.  We also have a

23    sergeant assigned down there, that those -- that

24    we are receiving those, and they are getting

25    those meals.

1          MS. HALLAM:  Okay.  And I remember

2    previously, we were told that there was a

3    dietician specifically in the jail.  Is that

4    through the vendor, or is that a county employee?

5          DEPUTY WARDEN TOMA:  Correct.  The

6    contract provides that they have to provide a

7    dietician.

8          MS. HALLAM:  Okay.  Okay.  Can we

9    speak to that person?

10          DEPUTY WARDEN TOMA:  We can reach

11    out to the vendor and make that request.

12          MS. HALLAM:  Okay.  I know that has

13    happened before, so maybe when you reach out, can

14    you like cc us on it, because we've asked this, I

15    mean, going back at least a year or so.

16          DEPUTY WARDEN TOMA:  With the

17    previous vendor, they asked that the questions be

18    given to them in advance so they could come

19    prepared.  I'm sure this vendor may make the same

20    request, but I will cc the Board when I submit it

21    to Trinity Foods for the request.

22          MS. HALLAM:  Thank you very much.

23          The next thing is that somebody

24    brought up a really good point about hunger

25    strikes in general.  And does the jail keep track

1   of how many folks in the jail are currently on an

2   active hunger strike?

3               CHIEF DEPUTY BEASOM:  Yes.

4               MS. HALLAM:  Can you give me that

5   number?

6               CHIEF DEPUTY BEASOM:  One.

7               MS. HALLAM:  Just one.  Okay.  Can

8   you give us that number every month going

9   forward, please, in your report?

10              CHIEF DEPUTY BEASOM:  Sure.

11              MS. HALLAM:  Thank you.

12              Next, about a librarian.  I know

13   that's something that was talked about in the

14   past.  I had gotten a report that the library

15   was -- I don't want to call it on hold or pause

16   or at least maybe not functioning to its full

17   efficiency because of a lack of support for the

18   library.  Can someone speak to the status of

19   that?

20              DEPUTY WARDEN CLARK:  Yes.  So

21   we're currently working with the Department of

22   Human Services to finalize an RFP.  It's going to

23   go out for Reentry Services, and in that RFP, we

24   are looking for an individual who can help us

25   with the library organizing in and ensuring that

1    individuals can request specific books and those

2    get distributed to them.

3              MS. HALLAM:  And what's the

4    timeline on that RFP?

5              DEPUTY WARDEN CLARK:  It's in the

6    final editing to go out, so it should be soon.

7    It's been -- it's already been drafted.  It's

8    just waiting for final edits.

9              MS. HALLAM:  Okay.  Is there

10   anything we can do to support in the meantime?

11   Because I know we've just been waiting a long

12   time on this library to be fully up and running.

13            DEPUTY WARDEN CLARK:  It's a pretty

14   big undertaking just -- I mean, we have the

15   books.  They're on shelves.  We want to get a

16   better organization system for it so that we can

17   track them a little better, and that's what we're

18   going to do with this Resource Coordinator

19   position that we're looking to RFP for.

20           MS. HALLAM:  Okay.  Thank you very

21   much.  And then kind of along those lines too,

22   you talked about the new -- the new ability for

23   vendors who are sending books into the jail, but

24   you really just talked about the shipping

25   mechanisms and not really which vendors.  So does

1    that mean that any vendor that ships through,

2    what was it, USPS, UPS and what was the third?

3              DEPUTY WARDEN CLARK:  FedEx.

4              MS. HALLAM:  And FedEx.  So

5    basically, any major shipping?

6              DEPUTY WARDEN CLARK:  Correct.

7              MS. HALLAM:  So pretty much you can

8    get a book sent in from anywhere?

9              DEPUTY WARDEN CLARK:  Well, yes.

10   But Amazon can be a problem because they ship

11   their own, you know packages.

12             MS. HALLAM:  So no Amazon?

13             DEPUTY WARDEN CLARK:  But -- and

14   sometimes Amazon will ship via one of those

15   means.

16             MS. HALLAM:  But you don't know.

17             DEPUTY WARDEN CLARK:  But if they

18   don't, we wouldn't accept it.  But anyone that

19   ships through those means, those will be accepted

20   by the jail.

21             MS. HALLAM:  No more like have to

22   have a paper receipt in the box, nothing like

23   that?

24             DEPUTY WARDEN CLARK:  You still

25   have to have the receipt, but we've created the

1  software that allows individuals to go on our

2  website and upload their receipts.  Those come

3  directly to us, and then we match that with the

4  books when they're delivered.

5                 MS. HALLAM:  Awesome.  I am so glad

6  that that is happening.  So thank you very much

7  for that.

8                 My next question, oh, is kind of

9  like random, but I might as well check it off so

10  I can move on to the next page.  Deputy Warden

11  Toma, where is your office?  You talked a lot

12  about how you do like different roles and have

13  different like home offices.  Where are you based

14  out of, your job?  Physically, where do you go

15  every day?

16                 DEPUTY WARDEN TOMA:  It all depends

17  on where my assignment is for that day.

18  Tomorrow, I'll be reporting to the Law Offices

19  because that's where I'm needed.  So it's

20  wherever I'm going.  So I have arbitration

21  tomorrow.  I'll be there.

22                 MS. HALLAM:  Is that like

23  jail-related arbitration?

24                 DEPUTY WARDEN TOMA:  Yes.

25                 MS. HALLAM:  Okay.  So what -- what

1    department is your position under like in the

2    accounting of the jail -- the counting of the

3    county?  Are you a jail employee?

4                    DEPUTY WARDEN TOMA:  I guess I'm

5    going to ask you to be more specific as far as am

6    I employed by the -- I'm employed by Allegheny

7    County.

8                    MS. HALLAM:  Right.  But is your

9    position housed under the jail?

10                   DEPUTY WARDEN TOMA:  The jail

11   budget, yes.

12                   MS. HALLAM:  The jail budget.

13   Organizationally, where is your position out of?

14                   DEPUTY WARDEN TOMA:  In my capacity

15   as Deputy Warden, it's housed under the jail.

16                   MS. HALLAM:  So do you have

17   multiple separate positions?

18                   DEPUTY WARDEN TOMA:  In my -- I --

19                   MS. HALLAM:  No, just in general,

20   because you seem to be very intentional about

21   saying in my capacity as Deputy Warden.  So I'm

22   wondering if you have more than one position

23   within the county.

24                   DEPUTY WARDEN TOMA:  No, I'm Deputy

25   Warden at the Allegheny County Jail.

1                    MS. HALLAM:  Okay.  But yet you

2     said you have been kind of like subcontracted out

3     to other departments that are not the jail, so

4     I'm just a little confused about that.

5                    DEPUTY WARDEN TOMA:  Ever since I

6     started my employment with the Allegheny County

7     Medical Examiner's Office, if I have been asked

8     to use my resources to support the County in any

9     way, I support the County in any way that I can.

10                   MS. HALLAM:  And so how much time

11    would you say you spend on jail-related work?

12                   DEPUTY WARDEN TOMA:  40 hours a

13    week.

14                   MS. HALLAM:  So your entire work is

15    with the jail?

16                   DEPUTY WARDEN TOMA:  No, I'm

17    saying -- you asked me how many hours a week that

18    I dedicate to the jail.

19                   MS. HALLAM:  Uh-huh.

20                   DEPUTY WARDEN TOMA:  I dedicate 40

21    hours a week minimum to the jail.

22                   MS. HALLAM:  And how many hours do

23    you dedicate to work outside of the jail?

24                   DEPUTY WARDEN TOMA:  It all depends

25    on what is needed of my time.

1              MS. HALLAM:  Cool.  Thanks.  But do

2    you have -- do you have an office?

3              DEPUTY WARDEN TOMA:  Do I have an

4    office in the jail?

5              MS. HALLAM:  Yeah.

6              DEPUTY WARDEN TOMA:  I do.

7              MS. HALLAM:  Do you have an office

8    anywhere else in the County?

9              DEPUTY WARDEN TOMA:  Nope.  I have

10   an office at the jail.

11             MS. HALLAM:  Gotcha.  And would you

12   say you spend the majority of your time in that

13   office?

14             DEPUTY WARDEN TOMA:  I currently

15   spend the majority of my time in that office.

16             MS. HALLAM:  Gotcha.  Thank you

17   very much.

18             The next question I have -- oh,

19   it's actually online public comments.  Did we get

20   any?  Somebody told me earlier today they

21   submitted one.

22             JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Yes.

23   They're attached.

24             MS. HALLAM:  Yeah, so usually we

25   read them.  I didn't even look at them in this

1   material.  Are they all these e-mails?

2               JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Yes.  I

3   thought you didn't read them.

4               MS. HALLAM:  No, we usually do, but

5   I mean, I'm not going to like stop everything to

6   get to it.  If just going forward, we could read

7   them because I had some folks reach out

8   specifically, like looking forward to hearing

9   their comment read.

10              Maybe we can talk about it in our

11  bylaws conversation.

12              JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Let's

13  talk about it.  Okay.

14              MS. HALLAM:  We can talk about it

15  more.  Okay.

16              Next thing is -- oh, yeah.  So yinz

17  seem to read like very prepared notes whenever

18  you're all giving your reports leading up to our

19  questions.  Can we get those notes ahead of time

20  so that maybe we can prepare more for what you're

21  going to tell us here?  It seems that they are

22  typed up.  They are planned -- and I think it

23  would be really helpful to us as Board members to

24  be able to prepare our questions and direct our

25  questions if we know what you're going to say.

1                   Would that be a problem with any of

2    you, you know, the sheet that you have in front

3    of you where you're reading your statements for

4    each of the Deputy Warden reports and the Warden

5    reports?  Could you send those to us prior to the

6    meeting, please?

7                   DEPUTY WARDEN TOMA:  We are working

8    on those up until the point we show up.  So no,

9    we can't send them in advance.

10                  MS. HALLAM:  Oh, sure.  Even before

11   the meeting.

12                  DEPUTY WARDEN TOMA:  We are

13   literally --

14                  MS. HALLAM:  I mean, you walk over

15   probably what, like 15, 20 minutes before the

16   meeting.  Even if you could send them sometime

17   before 4:00 would be great.

18                  DEPUTY WARDEN TOMA:  We can look

19   into it, Ms. Hallam.

20                  MS. HALLAM:  No, can you please do

21   that?  I see that they are typed up, prepared

22   every single meeting.  I would like them to be

23   shared with us so that we can more adequately

24   prepare for our jobs.

25                  Does anyone have any objections to

1     that?

2

3          MS. HALLAM: No? Okay.  I will really look forward

4     to getting those for the next meeting then.

5                    Also, I think it would really help

6     our reporter, the person who does our meeting

7     minutes, if we could have that all in writing as

8     opposed to her having to verbalize it.  So thank

9     you very much for that.

10                   Next, specifically, I know

11    Controller O'Connor brought this up, and I was so

12    glad because I also have this sheet that's

13    literally just like scrolling, scrolling,

14    scrolling, scrolling, scrolling, just -- oh,

15    there's more, scrolling, scrolling, scrolling of

16    just like all these -- all these shifts that had

17    no mental health RN in the building, no provider,

18    PAs, doctors, or nurse practitioners in the

19    building, no LPN in the building.  I mean, every

20    single day, multiple shifts throughout the day,

21    there is no something for many, many, many of

22    those shifts.  And you had talked about how there

23    are still other medical professionals.  I don't

24    know who said that.  Maybe you said that somebody

25

1    was -- oh, maybe you said that, about how, oh,

2    there might not be a mental health nurse, but

3    there is an RN and that they can handle all that

4    stuff.  So I was just wondering, you know, with

5    regards to an RN who is not a mental health

6    professional taking on mental health

7    responsibilities, are they then compensated for

8    those additional responsibilities, or is there

9    some kind of compensation package for people who

10    are doing two jobs because of the short staffing

11    crisis?

12    DHSA KOLLAR:  Well, I don't know

13    that they're doing two jobs because they're doing

14    one assignment, and the assignment would be for

15    the physical health -- in this case, covering the

16    mental health unit.  I understand that physical

17    health will have the same expectations for

18    emergency, med pass, taking care of the patient,

19    wound care, and the needs that they need done.

20    MS. HALLAM:  Okay.  But if there's

21    supposed to be two people -- like if that's like

22    what is standard practice, let's just say -- that

23    the jail would like to have two people doing this

24    job, and then instead, one person still has to do

25    all the job, wouldn't that be them doing the job

1    of two people?

2              DHSA KOLLAR:  Well, in maybe a case

3    like there's a report-off and then the Assistant

4    Director of Nursing would cover that shift, yes,

5    they would still have to be an Assistant Director

6    of Nursing and ask any -- answer any questions

7    with anyone else, but they would take an

8    assignment for that day.

9              MS. HALLAM:  So then it is safe to

10   say that often one employee is doing the job and

11   the work of two employees?

12             DHSA KOLLAR:  I'd say -- how I

13   would think of that is as we build our staff, we

14   are doing sort of more work instead of triaging

15   the work we did maybe a year or two ago because

16   we now have two staff members.  For instance, you

17   have an Assistant Director of Nursing group that

18   has zones.  If they can't attend to their zone

19   and do the tracking and trending, or doing the

20   advancement in that area, they would do the med

21   pass for the nurse that -- or the open shift, or

22   the med pass nurse that reported off.

23             MS. HALLAM:  Okay.  And is there

24   any additional compensation for doing those

25   additional responsibilities?

1          DHSA KOLLAR:  No, they would just

2    substitute doing those duties.

3          MS. HALLAM:  Okay.  Thank you very

4    much.

5          My next question is about -- I know

6    we had talked in the past about notifying --

7    whenever someone is released from the jail

8    because they go to the hospital, we don't always

9    get those reported to us, like what happens next.

10   We all -- often have to go through ulterior means

11   to figure out, like, did that person pass away?

12   Are they alive?  Were they released back in the

13   community?

14         And so I was wondering what kind of

15   updates is the jail given after an incarcerated

16   individual is sent to the hospital if they are

17   released from custody?

18         DHSA KOLLAR:  If they're released

19   from custody, we do not get any updates.

20         MS. HALLAM:  Okay.  So now I'm

21   going to read an excerpt from the DOJ -- an

22   excerpt from the DOJ website specifically about

23   incarcerated individuals who die in the hospital.

24   It says, "If an incarcerated individual is

25   transferred to a medical facility and dies there,

1    not in a correctional facility, is that

2    reportable under the Federal Deaths in Custody

3    Reporting Act?

4              "Yes.  If the incarcerated person

5    absent the medical condition would have been in

6    prison at the time of the death, it counts as a

7    reportable death.  Although the person was not

8    physically in the correctional facility at the

9    time of the death, the death is still one of an

10    incarcerated individual."

11              Are you familiar with the Deaths in

12    Custody Reporting Act?  It's the federal law that

13    requires the jail to report deaths in custody.

14              DHSA KOLLAR:  When there are deaths

15    in custody, yes.

16              MS. HALLAM:  Right.  But do you see

17    that if -- but for the medical condition they

18    would have been in jail, which would be the

19    instance where someone is released because of

20    their medical condition, it is counted as a

21    reportable death?

22              JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  I think

23    what's she's saying is that when the person went

24    to the jail, the Judge lifted their detainer --

25              MS. HALLAM:  Uh-huh.

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 1                    JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Or
 2     released them; is that correct?
 3                    DHSA KOLLAR:  Exactly.
 4                    JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Okay.
 5     Not --
 6                    DHSA KOLLAR:  Or that could happen,
 7     yes.
 8                    JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Okay.
 9                    MS. HALLAM:  Right.  You're right.
10     They call it like a 6-A or something, and they
11     release them.
12                    JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Okay.
13     Yes.
14                    But I think they're saying that in
15     that instance, they've been released from the
16     jail.  They're no longer under the jail's care,
17     and therefore, the jail would not report that
18     death if it happened after they were released.
19                    MS. HALLAM:  That is what she's
20     saying.
21                    DHSA KOLLAR:  You're right.
22                    MS. HALLAM:  But that's illegal.
23                    DHSA KOLLAR:  We could investigate
24     it and see what we could do better, but yeah,
25     it's not -- I don't think it's reportable.
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1                    MS. HALLAM:  Yeah.  So I'll read it

2       again.  It says "absent the medical condition."

3       So someone who is released because of their

4       medical condition, I think we can agree, would be

5       in the jail if not for that medical condition,

6       right?

7                    JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Yeah,

8       but you're saying released, like released from --

9       I'm hearing released from the jail and taken to

10      the hospital still under the care of the jail.

11                   MS. HALLAM:  It does not say that

12      at all.  It says "if absent the medical condition

13      they would have been in jail, it's reportable."

14      Because otherwise, the jail would just do what

15      they did a couple years ago and just ask for

16      people to be released so that they wouldn't have

17      to report deaths that happened in the hospital.

18                   JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Okay.

19      I don't know.  I'm just -- I thought you guys

20      were both referring to release in a different

21      context, and I was trying to straighten it out,

22      and obviously, I've muddied the water.

23                   MS. HALLAM:  No, it's okay.  You're

24      not.  I want you to understand it too because

25      it's something that we have been talking about

1　for a really long time.

2　　　　　　INTERIM WARDEN DADY:  To what

3　extent would you, like -- is the jail's

4　responsibility.  You know, I mean, you could have

5　somebody that's released, gets out of the

6　hospital, but then several months later passes

7　away.  Is that on the jail to report that?

8　　　　　　MS. HALLAM:  I don't really know.

9　I guess we could ask the Department of Justice to

10　come and talk to us if you'd like.

11　　　　　　But yeah, that's kind of was where

12　I was leading with my question is this is very

13　clear that if absent the medical condition, they

14　would have been in jail, which is every single

15　situation in which they are released for their

16　medical condition, it is a reportable death.

17　　　　　　So I'm trying to get us to all kind

18　of agree that we should be reporting those deaths

19　and that the Jail Oversight Board should be

20　notified about those deaths.

21　　　　　　JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  I don't

22　know the answer to that.  I'm not disagreeing

23　with you necessarily, but I think it's the word

24　"released."

25　　　　　　MS. HALLAM:  Uh-huh.

1                   JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  In

2     other words, if somebody has a medical condition

3     and the jail sends -- let's not use release.

4                   MS. HALLAM:  Right.

5                   JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  The

6     jail transfers that individual to the hospital.

7                   MS. HALLAM:  And doesn't release

8     them you're saying.

9                   JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Yes.

10    They just simply transfer them to the hospital.

11    The jail's responsible for them while they're in

12    the hospital, right?

13                   MS. HALLAM:  Uh-huh.  And then what

14    happens often is close to their death, when the

15    medical professionals determine that they're

16    going to die, the jail -- the Courts and the jail

17    will work to release that person from custody so

18    that their families can be close to them so that

19    they don't have the restrictions --

20                   JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Okay.

21    Okay.

22                   MS. HALLAM:  -- that's placed on

23    incarcerated individual while they're in the

24    hospital.

25                   And so that sounds like, in good

1   faith and everything, you know.  But what I'm

2   trying to understand is how we, as the Jail

3   Oversight Board, can do our job to ensure that we

4   are conducting oversight of people who -- what

5   killed them happened in the jail.  That is under

6   our preview, absolutely.  Just because the courts

7   released them because of what happened to them in

8   the jail doesn't mean it's out of your hands.

9              INTERIM WARDEN DADY:  Yeah.  I

10  don't think that you can say that, you know, the

11  reason for the -- them being in the hospital is

12  because of being in the jail, though.

13             MS. HALLAM:  But the thing happened

14  to them in the jail.

15             INTERIM WARDEN DADY:  It could be a

16  preexisting --

17             MS. HALLAM:  Sure.  Of course.

18             JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Every

19  case is different.

20             MS. HALLAM:  Yeah, of course.  But

21  it could -- I don't mean that the jail killed

22  them --

23             INTERIM WARDEN DADY:  That's what

24  I'm hearing.

25             MS. HALLAM:  -- directly.  I mean,

1   no, the thing that killed them happened to them

2   in the jail.  If they have a heart attack in the

3   jail, that happened to them in the jail.  We, as

4   the Oversight Board, need to investigate that.

5   Do you agree?

6            JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  That

7   doesn't mean that the jail caused the heart

8   attack.

9            MS. HALLAM:  Right.  But if they

10  have a heart attack in the jail and go to the

11  hospital, do you believe that the Jail Oversight

12  Board should have oversight to investigate that?

13           JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  I think

14  the answer --

15           JUDGE BIGLEY:  Can I -- can I just

16  say this.  I would say that this is like the 1 in

17  20 million where you have an actual person who

18  dies, or I would say --

19           MS. HALLAM:  It happens way more

20  often than that, Judge Bigley.

21           JUDGE BIGLEY:  Well, hold on.

22  Excuse me.  This isn't -- it's not appropriate

23  for the audience to chime in.  I would say this,

24  though.  It would not -- most of the time.  Most

25  of the time when this happens and people -- we're

1  talking about people who are pregnant and other

2  things, a lot of times this isn't something

3  that's imminent -- I'm talking about the

4  hospital.

5             A lot of times, and we know how

6  often this happens when people go and are

7  transferred to the hospitals and people are --

8  and 6-A are done.  I don't know that necessarily

9  the jail then knows what happens because they're

10 released.

11            JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Or gets

12 the information.

13            JUDGE BIGLEY:  Do you know what I'm

14 saying?

15            MS. HALLAM:  That was where I was

16 getting to with my questioning is the jail has to

17 know because they have to report it.  So I was

18 trying to get to how do they find out.

19            JUDGE BIGLEY:  But what I'm saying,

20 though, is I don't know that they have the right

21 to know.

22            JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Okay.

23            JUDGE BIGLEY:  Once they've

24 released them, that the jail can call all they

25 want and find out what happened to Joe Blow, and

1   the hospital doesn't necessarily have to tell

2   them because they're no longer an inmate.

3             MS. HALLAM:  Right.  And so that

4   would lead them to directly violate the

5   Department of Justice and the Federal Justice

6   Death in Custody Reporting Act.

7             JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Okay.

8             JUDGE BIGLEY:  Fine, because then

9   the DOJ can say to them, well -- they can say to

10   the DOJ, well, I don't know what happened to

11   Joe Blow because he's no longer an inmate, and no

12   one would tell us if you get what I'm saying?

13             MS. HALLAM:  So do the courts not

14   keep track of -- if the people enter their courts

15   die?  Is that something that the courts ever --

16   like, how do you find that out?

17             JUDGE BIGLEY:  Somebody eventually

18   can tell us, but I can tell you right now, if a

19   defendant calls and says to me I'm in Gateway and

20   then hangs up, and we immediately call Gateway

21   and we say, is Joe Blow there?  They'll say,

22   we're not telling you anything.

23             MS. HALLAM:  Uh-huh.

24             JUDGE BIGLEY:  Like, we can't --

25   because of HIPAA, as you know, we can't call

1    places.

2                   MS. HALLAM:  Yes.

3                   JUDGE BIGLEY:  Well, if the jail --

4    if I send a 6-A and the jail releases an inmate

5    at 11 p.m.

6                   MS. HALLAM:  Uh-huh.

7                   JUDGE BIGLEY:  The jail could call

8    11:30 because they heard he died and say did the

9    inmate die and they'll say, we're not telling you

10   anything.

11                  MS. HALLAM:  Yeah.  I knew that --

12                  JUDGE BIGLEY:  He's not an inmate.

13                  MS. HALLAM:  -- but I just wanted

14   to kind of get them to admit that, yeah.

15                  JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Can I

16   summarize this?

17                  JUDGE BIGLEY:  Can you see what I'm

18   saying?

19                  JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Please.

20                  JUDGE BIGLEY:  This can be a little

21   more problematic than --

22                  MS. HALLAM:  Yes.

23                  JUDGE BIGLEY:  I think this is

24   something we should look into.

25                  MS. HALLAM:  I agree.

1                  JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Okay.

2    What I think this is is just a difference of

3    opinion, okay.  The jail's position is if the

4    person is in the hospital and the court releases

5    them, they're no longer under our care and our

6    watch.

7                  Ms. Hallam, you are saying that if

8    the condition happened in the jail --

9                  MS. HALLAM:  They have to report

10   it.

11                 JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  -- then

12   you're responsible for reporting it.

13                 MS. HALLAM:  Correct.

14                 JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  We need

15   a legal opinion.

16                 Mr. Bacharach, do you agree with

17   the jail's position?

18                 MR. BACHARACH:  I do.

19                 JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Okay.

20                 MS. HALLAM:  Shocker.

21                 JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  So

22   that --

23                 JUDGE BIGLEY:  So then what you do

24   is report them then.  Report them to the DOJ.

25                 JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  I mean,

1    that's the jail's position so you either -- we

2    could ask a solicitor when we get a solicitor.

3                    MS. HALLAM:  Uh-huh.

4                    JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  But

5    that's the end of that today.

6                    MS. HALLAM:  I have a better

7    solution.  I think that if the jail reported the

8    6-A releases for medical reasons to us, as the

9    Oversight Board, maybe that's kind of a middle

10   ground where we can say, okay, we can't find out

11   what happens after, but we can find out that they

12   were released because they were sent to the

13   hospital.

14                   JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Okay.

15                   MS. HALLAM:  Is that kind of a good

16   compromise?

17                   JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Can the

18   jail -- can you report to us --

19                   INTERIM WARDEN DADY:  That's

20   medical information then, correct?  We're back to

21   providing medical information.

22                   JUDGE BIGLEY:  Which I don't --

23                   JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Well,

24   you couldn't say they were transferred to the

25   hospital --

150

1                    MS. HALLAM:  It's gone when they

2    die.

3                    JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  -- and

4    then released --

5                    INTERIM WARDEN DADY:  I'm sorry.

6                    JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  -- by

7    the court?

8                    JUDGE BIGLEY:  Yeah, but then HIPAA

9    doesn't apply when they're dead.

10                    JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  I mean,

11    couldn't you say that John Doe --

12                    MS. HALLAM:  HIPAA follows you

13    through death, actually.  It does.

14                    JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  -- John

15    Doe was transferred to the hospital --

16                    JUDGE BIGLEY:  Does it?

17                    MS. HALLAM:  Yeah, it does.

18                    JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  -- and

19    John Doe was released by the court while he was

20    in the hospital?  Can you tell the Board that

21    information?

22                    INTERIM WARDEN DADY:  Yes.

23                    MR. BACHARACH:  That information,

24    yeah.

25                    JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Yes.

1          MS. HALLAM:  Well, you don't even

2    need to tell us they were at the hospital.  Say

3    they were a 6-A release because of a medical.

4          MR. BACHARACH:  Well, after this

5    happens in the hospital, you know, they don't

6    have to release the information to the court.

7          JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Right.

8    Exactly.

9          MR. BACHARACH:  So the Board would

10   know about that.

11          JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Well,

12   so would the jail know about it because the jail

13   knows we don't have to guard them anymore.

14          MR. BACHARACH:  You can tell -- I

15   mean, they could tell you that if somebody was in

16   the hospital and they were released.

17          MS. HALLAM:  That's all she's

18   asking for.  Is that -- Mr. Bacharach, do you

19   have a problem if the jail provides this Board

20   with that information?

21          MR. BACHARACH:  I don't have a

22   problem with the jail providing information --

23   just information that somebody was released while

24   they were in the hospital as long as we're not

25   talking about the reason why they were released.

1                JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  That's

2     fine.

3                MS. HALLAM:  Sure.

4                JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Okay.

5     Please provide that, and let's move on.

6                MS. HALLAM:  Thank you.  Thank you

7     very much.  I appreciate that.

8                Okay.  Now, I lost my page -- my

9     thing a little bit.

10               Yeah, and actually, I did print out

11    when -- in the January 2021 meeting, we had all

12    agreed that any time somebody goes to the

13    hospital, the Board would be notified and that's

14    never happened.  So if we could start that

15    Warden Dady, you would be like at the top of my

16    list of favorite wardens that's -- of the ACJ.

17               MR. O'CONNOR:  Oh, Councilwoman,

18    remember, we do have that Motion that has been

19    drafted, so we can --

20               MS. HALLAM:  Drafted and never

21    introduced.

22               MR. O'CONNOR:  We can send it to --

23               MS. HALLAM:  Never been introduced

24    for a vote, Controller O'Connor.

25               MR. O'CONNOR:  We can send it to

1 new Board members.  You guys can look before the

2 next Board meeting.

3     MS. HALLAM:  I would love that.

4     JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  So

5 you're saying that that was not done?

6     MS. HALLAM:  No, it was.  Here.

7     MR. O'CONNOR:  We drafted one.  I

8 don't remember if it was 2021.

9     MS. HALLAM:  Do you want to read

10 the transcript?  The top is Judge Clark when she

11 was the Chair of the Board, and then the bottom

12 is Warden Harper agreeing to do it.

13     JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Okay.

14 So it wasn't necessarily a Motion.

15     MS. HALLAM:  It wasn't.  It was

16 just an agreement.

17     JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  But the

18 jail --

19     MR. O'CONNOR:  2021 I can't speak

20 to.

21     JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Okay.

22     MS. HALLAM:  You can keep that if

23 you'd like.

24     JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Okay.

25 All right.  Will you please also include in your

1      report the number of defendants who are sent to

2      the hospital, please, or for medical treatment.

3                      MS. HALLAM:  Uh-huh.

4                      Okay.  When a jail death occurs,

5      who all is notified?  So now we're back to they

6      weren't released, getting away from that.  Who

7      all is notified when a death in the jail occurs?

8      So Jail Oversight Board, next of kin.  Who else

9      is on that list?

10                     CHIEF DEPUTY BEASOM:  You're saying

11     in-custody deaths within the facility?

12                     MS. HALLAM:  Uh-huh.  Or I mean, it

13     could be outside too but in-custody deaths.

14                     CHIEF DEPUTY BEASOM:  Yeah.  So if

15     it's in a hospital for an in-custody death, the

16     Healthcare Department is notified.  They notify

17     the jail administration, okay?

18                     Jail administration begins its

19     protocol with notifying County Homicide

20     Detectives.  They would need to report to the

21     facility or to the hospital to start their

22     investigation.  Next of kin as you said, the Jail

23     Oversight Board.

24                     MS. HALLAM:  Anyone else?  The

25     Medical Examiner?  Anybody like that?

1            CHIEF DEPUTY BEASOM:  The homicide

2    detectives take care of that notification.

3            MS. HALLAM:  Okay.  And they

4    also -- so the homicide detectives notify the

5    next of kin and the Medical Examiner, or do yinz

6    notify the next of kin?

7            CHIEF DEPUTY BEASOM:  We make

8    attempts to notify the next of kin through our

9    Chaplain's Department or emergency contact.

10           MS. HALLAM:  Okay.  Oh, yeah.

11   Sorry or emergency contact.  The people can

12   designate that.  Yep.

13           Okay.  Thank you very much.  I

14   think I'm almost done but let me just make sure

15   before I like finalize that.

16           Oh, I did have a question about

17   strip searches, specifically if there's a policy

18   for when those are used versus just regular cell

19   tosses.  I've been getting reports lately of like

20   an excessive number of strip searches happening

21   on certain pods.

22           CHIEF DEPUTY BEASOM:  I mean, so

23   anybody incarcerated within the facility is

24   subject to search at any time.

25           MS. HALLAM:  I know.  Uh-huh.

1          CHIEF DEPUTY BEASOM:  I don't know

2     what else you're trying --

3          MS. HALLAM:  But I mean, do you

4     just do it for fun, or do you -- is there a thing

5     that triggers strip searches, you know?

6          CHIEF DEPUTY BEASOM:  We're

7     obviously looking to see if anything is

8     concealed.

9          MS. HALLAM:  Right.  But does

10    something have to happen to trigger it, or are

11    they random strip searches?

12         CHIEF DEPUTY BEASOM:  They can be

13    random, yes.

14         MS. HALLAM:  Okay.  And is there --

15    how do you make sure that one pod specifically or

16    certain officers aren't specifically targeting

17    certain pods, certain people?  Is there some sort

18    of protocol this is when we do a strip search?

19         CHIEF DEPUTY BEASOM:  It's usually

20    during searches.  I mean, cell searches, housing

21    unit shakedowns, you know, those things.

22         MS. HALLAM:  Okay.  Do you keep

23    track of when pods are strip searched to be able

24    to see, like, hey, this pod has had 30 strip

25    searches in the past month, this one has had

1    none.  Why the discrepancy?

2                CHIEF DEPUTY BEASOM:  So if you see

3    any -- any lockdown forms that detail shakedowns,

4    that would then imply that everybody in that area

5    was strip searched.

6                MS. HALLAM:  I've never seen a

7    lockdown form, so.

8                CHIEF DEPUTY BEASOM:  They are

9    available --

10                MS. HALLAM:  I've never seen it.

11                CHIEF DEPUTY BEASOM:  -- at the

12    jail, Ms. Hallam.

13                MS. HALLAM:  That's what you say,

14    yeah.

15                I think that's -- oh, the only

16    other -- I have before, and I am really done, the

17    only -- the last -- oh, no.  Sorry.  I lied.  I

18    have two more.

19                I know somebody mentioned that we

20    have -- we needed 100 more officers.  That came

21    out of Controller O'Connor's audit.  I think John

22    brought it up earlier when he was talking.

23    For -- can -- a piece of information I'd like to

24    get in your reports for the next meeting is the

25    number of shifts that officers and healthcare

1   staff were forced to work overtime each month.

2   I'm talking about forced overtime specifically.

3   So I would just like that broken down.  Again,

4   don't need any names.  Don't need anything like

5   that, just, you know, 100 shifts of forced

6   overtime for COs.  100 shifts of forced overtime

7   for healthcare staff.

8               DEPUTY WARDEN TOMA:  Ms. Hallam,

9   point of note.  Healthcare can't be forced.  It's

10  in State law, so there --

11              MS. HALLAM:  It's only officers.

12  Thank you.  Then you can skip that second part.

13  Just the number of shifts -- because I was going

14  to say officers, but I guess the same officer

15  could get it 20 times.  So the number of shifts

16  of forced OT for officers each month.

17              CHIEF DEPUTY BEASOM:  Are you

18  talking the number of shifts that are accepted as

19  overtime?

20              MS. HALLAM:  I don't know.  What's

21  the difference?

22              CHIEF DEPUTY BEASOM:  People can

23  refuse.  Officers can refuse overtime using, you

24  know, federally protected leave or whatever it

25  may be.

1                    MS. HALLAM:  Yeah.  No, like how

2       many shifts are you trying to force people to do

3       overtime?

4                    JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Just

5       say request instead of force.

6                    MS. HALLAM:  Sure, request.  Thank

7       you.  Thank you for clarifying that.  Request.

8                    And then my last thing is, each

9       month, I would also like copies of the -- any

10      grievances submitted for that month.

11                   DEPUTY WARDEN TOMA:  That's a

12      personnel issue, I don't think we can do that.

13                   MS. HALLAM:  If you read what the

14      statute --

15                   DEPUTY WARDEN TOMA:  I understand

16      what the thing has --

17                   MS. HALLAM:  What the statute says.

18                   DEPUTY WARDEN TOMA:  But I -- I

19      would like to confer with our County Solicitor on

20      that matter.  I just --

21                   JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:

22      Mr. Bacharach.

23                   MS. HALLAM:  He hates when you do

24      that, Judge.

25                   MR. BACHARACH:  I'll have to get

1    back to you on that.  I don't -- I don't handle

2    employee grievances.  I don't know on that.

3                   MS. HALLAM:  I don't --

4                   JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Okay.

5    Well, will you ask -- will you ask --

6                   DEPUTY WARDEN TOMA:  You're not

7    talking about employee grievances.  You're

8    talking about inmate grievances?

9                   MS. HALLAM:  I'm talking about

10   incarcerated individuals' grievances.  Sorry.

11   Maybe I should have clarified.

12                  DEPUTY WARDEN TOMA:  Oh, all right.

13   We were going down employee files.

14                  MS. HALLAM:  I thought you were

15   trying to say that because sometimes they're

16   about employees that you won't give them to us.

17                  DEPUTY WARDEN TOMA:  No.  You were

18   talking about Use of Force.  You were talking

19   about employees.  I'm sorry.  I made --

20                  MS. HALLAM:  I'm sorry.  I should

21   have clarified.  I was jumping all around.

22                  DEPUTY WARDEN TOMA:  Yeah.

23                  MS. HALLAM:  Yeah, I would just

24   like copies of the grievances submitted by

25   incarcerated individuals each month.

1          JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  And on

2     that topic, I know that Karen had asked for the

3     incarcerated individuals to be permitted to

4     submit their grievances to her on their iPads.

5     Has any progress been made on that?

6          DEPUTY WARDEN TOMA:  We currently

7     don't have that ability.  As we've mentioned in

8     other meetings, this current vendor's contract

9     will expire next year, and that is definitely

10    something when we put out this RFP that we will

11    take consider -- we want to include that as a

12    requirement.

13          JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Is this

14    just a technology problem?

15          DEPUTY WARDEN TOMA:  So it's a

16    bunch of different things.  It's security, it's

17    access, because that information -- like, I could

18    go back to the survey that their -- the vendor

19    controls the tablet.  Whatever is put on there

20    has to meet certain security restrictions and how

21    communication goes out.

22          So right now, if a text message went

23    out, that's for fee.  So for communication to go

24    out, there currently isn't a system like that by

25    this developer.  So they would have to

1    develop it, and that is not in their roadmap.  So

2    it is something that we would want to include

3    moving forward --

4                    JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Okay.

5                    DEPUTY WARDEN TOMA:  -- that they

6    have that capability.

7                    JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  So they

8    can't communicate out at all on the --

9                    DEPUTY WARDEN TOMA:  On the -- not

10    without -- not outside our current system that's

11    utilized within the facility and not outside if

12    it's not for fee.

13                    JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Okay.

14    But why couldn't Karen -- why couldn't --

15    couldn't you put a -- set up a mailbox for her in

16    the system --

17                    DEPUTY WARDEN TOMA:  It's not a --

18    it's not that type of a --

19                    JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Well,

20    what -- I don't follow you.  And I'm not very

21    savvy on technology, but are you saying that they

22    can communicate with people in your system?

23    Could they send you an e-mail?

24                    DEPUTY WARDEN TOMA:  It's not an

25    e-mail.  So like --

1          JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Or a

2    communication?

3          DEPUTY WARDEN TOMA:  It's a

4    communication --

5          MS. HALLAM:  Or even that they

6    submit their grievances in.

7          DEPUTY WARDEN TOMA:  But that goes

8    into our secure OMSE System.  So that is an

9    interface that was built so that it can

10   communicate with our database system.

11         JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  So we

12   couldn't carve something out --

13         DEPUTY WARDEN TOMA:  Not with --

14   not without having security concerns of accessing

15   other information.

16         JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  What

17   kind of security concerns?

18         DEPUTY WARDEN TOMA:  So all the

19   other -- all the other information that's within

20   that system.  So for example, I'll use the

21   courts.  We share information with the courts,

22   but it goes out.  And you guys don't have access

23   into our system as it is there.  It's a very

24   specific information that goes outwards, and that

25   would have to be built.  So is there an option to

1 have it built out?  Sure.  Somebody wants to

2 undertake that and have that built out and pay

3 for that to be built out and work with the

4 vendor?

5                But again, that's why we want to

6 include that in this next RFP, so whoever comes

7 in will have that capability.

8                JUDGE BIGLEY:  Can I suggest

9 something?

10                JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Yeah.

11                JUDGE BIGLEY:  We have laptops down

12 there that are for use for the defendants for

13 their discovery.

14                JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  But

15 there's so few of them.  I mean, there's not that

16 many of them.  But what you're suggesting --

17                JUDGE BIGLEY:  Couldn't we supply

18 another one for the use for the jail liaison that

19 they could leave there that people could store

20 things on there?

21                JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Oh, a

22 laptop designated for that purpose?

23                JUDGE BIGLEY:  Yes.  Yes.

24                JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Would

25 that work if we had a -- if we provided a laptop?

1            DEPUTY WARDEN TOMA:  I -- that --

2  yeah.  I don't see how logistically that would be

3  able to work because it would have to be moved

4  around the entire facility for somebody to log on

5  and --

6            JUDGE BIGLEY:  Why couldn't it be

7  in one spot for the residents to go to -- if they

8  could go there specifically like -- you know, like

9  the suggestion box at the restaurant that we used

10  to have a long time ago?  And they could lodge

11  their complaints there and put it on the laptop,

12  and then somehow Sangeep could work something out?

13            I'm just saying, listen, let's --

14  everyone's answer is always that something can't

15  be done, and then I think somebody can always

16  think --

17            DEPUTY WARDEN TOMA:  No.

18            JUDGE BIGLEY:  And I didn't mean

19  that to be disrespectful to you.  I'm just saying

20  if Court Administration provided a laptop that

21  was specifically for use, then the inmates

22  could -- or even more than one -- I don't know

23  how big it is down there -- never been.  Sorry.

24  I've never been down there.

25            MS. HALLAM:  You're going to go

1    soon.

2               JUDGE BIGLEY:  I know.  I'll be

3    there, I guess.  But then people could do it on

4    there.  If they can't use their tablets, I'm sure

5    Court Administration could provide something.

6    I'm sure Ms. Hallam will provide the funding for

7    it.

8               MS. HALLAM:  Absolutely.

9               JUDGE BIGLEY:  Won't you,

10    Ms. Hallam?

11              MS. HALLAM:  Absolutely.

12              JUDGE BIGLEY:  And then therefore

13    there could be an electronic means to do this,

14    and that will satisfy everybody.

15              JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  So the

16    question is, is there a location that you can

17    think of where inmates could go to access this

18    laptop and type their grievance?

19              MS. HALLAM:  We have a library.

20    Wouldn't that be great if they went there?

21              JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Yeah.

22    Isn't there some like recreation -- what -- isn't

23    there some room that everybody goes to?  No?

24              DEPUTY WARDEN TOMA:  No.

25              MS. HALLAM:  Medical?

1                     DEPUTY WARDEN TOMA:  No.

2                     CHIEF DEPUTY BEASOM:  Logistically,

3     to move 1,600 people on average to one laptop is

4     virtually impossible.

5                     MS. HALLAM:  But it wouldn't be

6     1,600 people.

7                     JUDGE BIGLEY:  Right.  Well,

8     let's --

9                     CHIEF DEPUTY BEASOM:  If everybody

10    in the jail needs access to this thing --

11                    JUDGE BIGLEY:  Let's think about

12    it.

13                    JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  All

14    right.  We're going to think about it.

15                    Okay.  I'm really concerned about

16    the delay in getting medical care and mental

17    health care.  Is it strictly a staffing issue, or

18    is there some way we can shorten this?  I mean, 4

19    days' wait.  Now it's 2 days this month for

20    mental health sickness.  Mental health specialist

21    last month it was 6 days longest wait.  This

22    month it was 10 days.  That's a really long time.

23                    Last month, 7 days' wait for

24    medical care.  This month, it's 2 days.  But it's

25    so long.  I mean, how come?

1          DHSA KOLLAR:  Well, I can

2   understand that the sick call queue is large, and

3   in realtime, when the nurse goes to deliver the

4   meds, they can address some of the issues.  I can

5   understand that.

6               There is also -- if there is an

7   issue, the -- the patient can go to the

8   corrections officer.  The corrections officer can

9   call a medical emergency.  There can be immediate

10  care.  There can be phone calls to triage the

11  concern.  So sick call isn't the only way they

12  get medical care.

13              JUDGE BIGLEY:  But it still remains

14  a staffing issue.

15              JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Or is

16  it not then?

17              DHSA KOLLAR:  Well, one of those

18  items is the psychiatric queue, and they're using

19  it for follow-up care, so they put more sick

20  calls in than -- because the providers are now

21  using it.  And it would be nice to start as we

22  develop our Behavioral Health with our Director

23  of Psychiatric -- a Psychiatry to separate those

24  out so you can see really what is the realtime

25  reaction to Behavioral Health addressing, because

1    I think it's overinflated with the follow-up

2    calls.

3              JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Okay.

4    But I'm hearing that you are going to at least

5    work on the psychiatric calls.

6              DHSA KOLLAR:  Uh-huh.  They're the

7    biggest, yeah.

8              JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Okay.

9    Can you break down this report at all or get

10    us -- it just really alarms me when -- and I'm

11    hearing you say, well, okay, 7 days.  They might

12    not really wait 7 days because they may have seen

13    the nurse, or they may have done something else.

14              DHSA KOLLAR:  Uh-huh.

15              JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  But if

16    that's the case, then it's really not 7 days, is

17    it, because they received treatment?  So maybe --

18              DHSA KOLLAR:  Right.

19              JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  -- the

20    report is inaccurate.

21              DHSA KOLLAR:  It could be, because

22    I do know that when I do some audits, it is that

23    the patient was seen.  There's a progress note.

24    There's medication given, and the sick call isn't

25    always resolved.

1          We do have a lot of work, and we

2   did a lot of backlogging since the last 6 months

3   to a year, and we're still working on that.

4          JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Okay.

5   Well, maybe we could make this more accurate

6   somehow because it looks horrible in my view.

7          DHSA KOLLAR:  Uh-huh.

8          JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Oh,

9   yeah.  No.  I do have one more question, though.

10  Did Councilwoman Hallam pass the agility test?

11          MS. HALLAM:  No, I didn't take it.

12          JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Why

13  not?

14          MS. HALLAM:  I don't think I ever

15  knew when it was.  I went down to see the -- the

16  thing, and they were on lunch.

17          JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  You

18  just didn't want to take it.

19          MS. HALLAM:  I'm not scared of it.

20  I'll take it.

21          JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  You

22  knew you'd flunk.

23          MS. HALLAM:  I'll take it.  I went

24  down to see it, though, in my visit, and they

25  were on lunch, so I didn't even get to see the

1   people.  But I saw like the dummies and stuff set

2   up in the pod for their like comrades.

3               JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Well,

4   I'd like a full report on when that happens.

5               MS. HALLAM:  Yes.

6               JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Okay.

7   We missed two members of the public.  I

8   apologize.  I just got the sign-in sheet, the

9   last one.

10             Carlos Thomas.

11   **PUBLIC COMMENT (cont.)**

12               MR. THOMAS:  Good evening.  I guess

13   the first thing I'll ask is there an updated

14   procedure on the sign-in sheet process so that we

15   don't keep missing people and the appropriate

16   time and/or miss the online comments?  That's my

17   first question.

18               JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  I don't

19   know, but I'll look into it because I don't know

20   how these sheets are distributed, quite frankly.

21   But I'll find out.

22               MR. THOMAS:  Yeah, but that's, I

23   mean, more or less why I asked.

24               JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Okay.

25               MR. THOMAS:  Secondly, I wanted to

1    know if there were any updates on -- and they

2    kind of provide some purview.  I remember the

3    jail last week -- last month, I commented on the

4    amount of time it takes to process.  And the jail

5    had conveniently blamed it on the magistrates,

6    which I counted we have over 50-some odd

7    magistrates throughout Allegheny County, so I'm

8    sure that at any one point in time right now,

9    somebody could be sitting to get through

10   processing.

11              So I don't think that that's a

12   problem, but is there any other alternative to

13   speed up processing so that it doesn't take an

14   extreme amount of time to be processed in and out

15   of the jail, whether you're innocent and/or

16   waiting to be proven innocent?  But I know a lot

17   of situations occur within that 12- to 15-hour

18   time period in which you could be waiting to see

19   a magistrate, waiting to see medical, waiting to

20   see any one of the number of things that you need

21   to figure out where you're going next.

22              I digress.

23              JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  I --

24   there is a committee on pretrial procedures in

25   the Criminal Division, and I -- I know they're

1   looking into that. How long does it take --

2               MR. THOMAS: If I may suggest, this

3   would be before you even -- so before you're

4   arraigned, there's a period in which you're

5   sitting in a holding cell. After your arrest,

6   you're brought to the jail by law enforcement.

7               JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE: I know.

8               MR. THOMAS: So there's that time

9   period.

10              JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE: Well,

11   no. What we fixed is that you get credit for the

12   time when you walk in the jail. We fixed that.

13              MR. THOMAS: Okay.

14              JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE: But we

15   didn't necessarily address how long does that

16   take. I would like the jail to please look into

17   can we shorten that time at all? Can you

18   streamline some process to shorten that time?

19   Same as the discharge time.

20              I hear you that it's -- you know,

21   usually within 48 hours, but that's two more days

22   that somebody is sitting in jail after they've

23   been released.

24              JUDGE BIGLEY: They accrue time.

25              JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE: In

1   addition to that, think about the money.  I mean,

2   it's like a waste of money.  Like, we got to

3   shorten that up somehow.  I hear that you have --

4   have to go through these various checks, but I

5   can't believe that it would take 48 hours to do

6   these checks.

7                   MR. THOMAS:  I will also -- I will

8   also add that during that time that you don't

9   have an actual bed to sleep in, you are sleeping

10  on a floor inside of a holding cell.  You are

11  given a bologna sandwich and bread.  So for 48

12  hours from when the topic -- largely today was

13  nutrition that -- dietetics.  I would be

14  concerned whether a person is getting the proper

15  nutrition that they need to even function as a

16  person, to make cognitive decisions before they

17  even go into arraignment.

18                  JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Uh-huh.

19                  MR. THOMAS:  You're given a bologna

20  sandwich, six cookies and a juice.

21                  JUDGE BIGLEY:  I appreciate it, but

22  because of your comments last time, we're now

23  seeing as of today -- was it today, Sue?

24                  MS. HALLAM:  What?

25                  JUDGE BIGLEY:  As of today, we're

1    seeing it in the -- we're now seeing --

2              JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  That's

3    for credit for time served.

4              JUDGE BIGLEY:  But now when see --

5    when I pull up the screen when I'm sitting at my

6    desk, I see what time somebody walked in the

7    door, how long he sat there, what time the

8    Complaint was filed, what time you were

9    arraigned.  I see the time you got, right?  Am I

10   right?  You know, Warden.  I see the times of

11   everything.  I can see.  And so they're expanding

12   all the information that I can see.  And as part

13   of that, now Court Administration is seeing how

14   long these time periods are.

15             And as part of that I think what

16   happens is the people that see that see how long

17   these time periods are in each of these cases,

18   and it makes them question, okay, what is -- why

19   are these times so long?

20             Keep in mind that isn't always the

21   jail's issue either because it's also the court

22   because many people who are in this process don't

23   end up in jail.  They're arraigned, and then

24   they're released.

25             MR. THOMAS:  I think that's kind of

1    the concern is that you are sitting for so long

2    to get released, and by the time you get

3    released, you don't --

4                    JUDGE BIGLEY:  The vast majority of

5    people, though, don't end up going to jail.  They

6    end up being released.  So but what I'm saying,

7    though, is that this system that we're seeing

8    now, that we're all seeing this, is making

9    everybody that's in the whole process question

10   how can we improve?  How can we cut these times

11   down?

12                   MR. THOMAS:  I appreciate that.  We

13   appreciate that.

14                   JUDGE BIGLEY:  Who is all part of

15   this process that we're seeing all of these

16   times, and how can we make it less?  And that all

17   started with your comments.

18                   MR. THOMAS:  Thank you.

19                   JUDGE BIGLEY:  And we're all seeing

20   it.

21                   MR. THOMAS:  I appreciate that.

22                   JUDGE BIGLEY:  So thank you.

23                   JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Thank

24   you, sir.

25                   Anna Yatsko.

1          MS. HALLAM:  Also, Judge, while

2   Anna is walking up, can I maybe suggest that

3   going forward, we keep the Public Comment sheets

4   out there until Public Comments start, just

5   because I wonder if maybe that's why we're

6   missing folks?

7          JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  That's

8   fine.

9          MS. HALLAM:  Okay.

10         JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Does

11  anybody have a problem with that?

12         JUDGE BIGLEY:  No, that's fine.

13         JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Okay.

14         MS. INNAMORATO:  Put it in the

15  bylaws.

16         MS. HALLAM:  Yeah.  I can't wait.

17         JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  I'm

18  hitting start.

19         MS. YATSKO:  Hi, my name is Anna

20  Yatsko, A-N-N-A  Y-A-T-S-K-O.  I'm here speaking

21  exclusively in my personal capacity.

22         The first thing that I want to

23  raise is that only one person from one renewal

24  facility is here without knowledge of what

25  happens at the other facility.  I think once a

1  month, in order to best understand, there should

2  be one person from each facility.

3            Based on the comments I heard

4  today, I have a concern that the Jail Oversight

5  Board doesn't have a physical, unredacted,

6  complete copy of all the policies and procedures

7  at the jail.  That is very concerning to me that

8  you have to go to the jail to obtain that --blind

9  100 percent trust in everything is exactly why

10  we're here.  So I would really appreciate it if a

11  third party were to hold onto all those rules.

12            Speaking of rules, I think there was

13  generally something that was raised today, not in

14  terms of anything specific that maybe people who

15  are on medical leave or in the medical pod don't

16  have access to tablets.  So generally, I would

17  love for maybe those policies to be brought up to

18  us, because I looked at the mail policy, and I

19  looked at the tablet policy, and while they're

20  specified that there's no tablets in the

21  medication line.  It doesn't say anything about

22  medical leave.

23   As for what Tanisha said about transparency being

24                              an issue, certainly, Use of

25

1    Force transparency, third-party reports are very

2    valuable.  I remember in the death of Gerald --

3    well, first of all, I remember when the names

4    were being read and nobody stood.  Bethany stood.

5            And I would also like to say I

6    remember when former Warden Harper said that in

7    the death of Gerald Thomas, he couldn't answer

8    questions about that because of the threat of

9    litigation.  Many of these deaths, the civil

10    liability has passed.  The statute of limitations

11    is up, and I would absolutely love to see full

12    details with interviews and transcripts

13    investigations by a third party on the deaths of

14    the jail where now, based on what was previously

15    barring comment, that concern is up.

16            I will say I personally knew

17    someone who was housed in the Allegheny County

18    Jail who went home, got to see his daughter one

19    last time, and died the next day, and that wasn't

20    on the list.

21            Thank you.

22            JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Thank

23    you.

24    **OLD BUSINESS**

25            JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Okay.

1    Old Business.  I believe everything on here was

2    covered in the Warden's Report.

3                    MS. HALLAM:  Uh-huh.

4                    JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Does

5    anybody disagree?

6                    JUDGE BIGLEY:  No.

7                    MS. HALLAM:  No.

8                    JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Okay.

9    The next item is the Allegheny County Jail and

10   alternative housing population statistics.

11                   I would ask, do I have a Motion

12   that we can just henceforth approve that report

13   and incorporate it into our minutes without

14   reading it?

15                   MS. HALLAM:  Oh, I like that idea.

16                   JUDGE BIGLEY:  I like it too.

17   Second -- well, yeah, second.

18                   JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Okay.

19   Wonderful.  All those in favor?

20                   (Chorus of ayes.)

21                   JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:

22   Opposed?

23                   (No response.)

24                   JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Okay.

25   Wonderful.

1  **NEW BUSINESS**

2            JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  New

3  business, none.

4  **ADJOURNMENT**

5            JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Okay.

6  Do I have Motion to adjourn?  Sheriff?

7            SHERIFF KRAUS:  Motion moved.

8            JUDGE BIGLEY:  Thank you.

9            JUDGE EVASHAVIK DILUCENTE:  Thank

10  you, everybody.

11            (Whereupon, the hearing was

12  concluded at 7:00 p.m.)

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CERTIFICATE


I hereby certify that the
proceedings and evidence are contained fully and
accurately to the best of my ability in the notes
taken by me via an audio recording of the within
cause and that this is a true and correct
transcript of the same.


_____
Diane G. Galvin
Notary Public


Commonwealth of Pennsylvania - Notary Seal
Diane G. Galvin, Notary Public
Allegheny County
My commission expires July 22, 2026
Commission number 1055705
Member, Pennsylvania Association of Notaries

# $

**$16** [1] - 8:23

# '

**'24** [1] - 25:19

# 1

**1** [8] - 1:13, 5:19, 12:16, 79:5, 84:21, 93:22, 144:16
**1,600** [2] - 167:3, 167:6
**10** [5] - 85:18, 85:23, 114:21, 117:19, 167:22
**100** [8] - 44:5, 44:8, 44:9, 54:5, 157:20, 158:5, 158:6, 178:9
**105** [1] - 81:15
**11** [4] - 8:21, 88:11, 115:4, 147:5
**11.5** [1] - 20:3
**11:30** [1] - 147:8
**11th** [2] - 80:10, 81:18
**12** [1] - 172:17
**12/10/2023** [1] - 89:14
**12:00** [1] - 87:4
**13** [3] - 9:1, 9:9, 44:18
**132** [2] - 88:10, 112:6
**134** [1] - 80:19
**14** [3] - 9:1, 80:11, 85:17
**147** [1] - 81:5
**15** [3] - 79:11, 86:7, 133:15
**15-hour** [1] - 172:17
**15219** [1] - 1:22
**16th** [1] - 78:25
**17th** [1] - 79:9
**18** [2] - 20:24, 78:24
**19** [1] - 26:20

# 2

**2** [6] - 12:15, 85:14, 85:15, 89:21, 167:19, 167:24
**20** [3] - 133:15, 144:17, 158:15
**2020** [2] - 53:20, 62:11

**2021** [4] - 63:25, 152:11, 153:8, 153:19
**2022** [1] - 20:11
**2023** [3] - 76:11, 76:17, 85:8
**2024** [3] - 1:13, 79:15, 84:18
**205** [1] - 76:6
**207** [1] - 84:23
**21st** [1] - 11:21
**22** [3] - 84:24, 84:25, 89:24
**22nd** [1] - 79:8
**23** [1] - 79:11
**23rd** [1] - 82:20
**24** [5] - 87:15, 113:3, 113:7, 113:8, 113:21
**24-hour** [2] - 113:8, 114:11
**24/7** [2] - 23:11, 90:10
**25** [1] - 81:10
**25th** [1] - 79:2
**28** [2] - 84:20, 85:16
**281** [1] - 85:15
**28th** [1] - 5:22

# 3

**3** [5] - 8:20, 43:2, 79:5, 86:6, 116:7
**30** [5] - 20:12, 22:18, 61:25, 63:8, 156:24
**30-day** [1] - 38:13
**300** [2] - 79:5, 79:8
**33** [1] - 85:6
**35** [1] - 85:13
**36** [3] - 5:15, 21:5, 85:10
**362** [1] - 80:17

# 4

**4** [5] - 28:15, 85:5, 85:9, 85:11, 167:18
**40** [3] - 81:12, 130:12, 130:20
**400** [1] - 20:15
**41** [3] - 79:15, 93:22, 109:15
**412** [1] - 64:4
**436** [1] - 1:21
**44** [1] - 40:24
**454** [1] - 80:20
**46** [1] - 5:16
**48** [6] - 77:18, 89:8, 89:10, 173:21, 174:5, 174:11

**49** [1] - 85:1
**4:00** [2] - 87:4, 133:17
**4:07** [1] - 4:2
**4th** [1] - 1:19

# 5

**5** [3] - 85:4, 85:9, 85:12
**5-C** [2] - 45:2, 45:4
**5-year-old** [1] - 84:4
**50-some** [1] - 172:6
**51** [1] - 8:17
**59** [1] - 8:17
**5th** [1] - 76:7

# 6

**6** [4] - 5:17, 46:17, 167:21, 170:2
**6-A** [5] - 139:10, 145:8, 147:4, 149:8, 151:3
**60** [2] - 49:5, 54:20
**62** [1] - 8:22
**63** [2] - 80:18, 81:8
**6:00** [1] - 114:5

# 7

**7** [10] - 12:15, 46:17, 74:1, 79:4, 79:6, 85:14, 167:23, 169:11, 169:12, 169:16
**70** [1] - 54:20
**708-5200** [1] - 64:4
**754** [1] - 80:19
**77** [1] - 81:4
**78** [1] - 40:25
**7:00** [2] - 114:5, 181:12

# 8

**8** [5] - 8:17, 8:20, 9:2, 46:17, 79:12
**80** [2] - 54:20, 81:13
**89** [1] - 89:12

# 9

**9** [5] - 5:17, 6:7, 12:14, 85:8, 86:6
**9-1-1** [1] - 11:7

# A

**a.m** [1] - 87:4
**ability** [4] - 61:4, 126:22, 161:7, 182:6
**able** [20] - 12:25, 22:10, 23:7, 26:4, 26:6, 30:18, 34:11, 48:17, 49:18, 54:8, 60:24, 62:9, 77:9, 77:11, 94:12, 102:5, 110:7, 132:24, 156:23, 165:3
**absent** [4] - 138:5, 140:2, 140:12, 141:13
**absentee** [1] - 82:21
**absolute** [1] - 101:6
**absolutely** [4] - 143:6, 166:8, 166:11, 179:11
**absorbed** [2] - 86:1, 119:1
**absorption** [3] - 87:12, 114:18, 119:7
**abuse** [1] - 84:20
**abused** [1] - 98:8
**Academic** [1] - 84:5
**academic** [1] - 84:12
**academy** [1] - 79:1
**accept** [2] - 58:21, 127:18
**acceptable** [2] - 44:25, 52:7
**accepted** [2] - 127:19, 158:18
**accepting** [1] - 83:16
**access** [9] - 21:1, 83:25, 109:5, 109:11, 161:17, 163:22, 166:17, 167:10, 178:17
**accessing** [1] - 163:14
**accommodate** [2] - 40:15, 86:21
**accommodations** [1] - 122:9
**accomplish** [1] - 56:12
**accomplished** [1] - 25:8
**accomplishments** [2] - 61:8, 80:15
**account** [1] - 67:24
**accountable** [2] - 47:1, 60:6
**accounting** [1] - 129:2
**accreditation** [1] -

76:24
**accrue** [1] - 173:24
**accurate** [2] - 30:19, 170:5
**accurately** [1] - 182:6
**Achieva** [1] - 19:21
**achieved** [1] - 88:18
**ACJ** [18] - 9:2, 9:10, 14:19, 38:5, 48:12, 48:17, 48:21, 49:16, 50:2, 50:14, 52:16, 53:18, 57:18, 59:16, 61:22, 79:11, 79:25, 152:16
**acknowledged** [1] - 38:25
**Act** [3] - 138:3, 138:12, 146:6
**act** [1] - 68:6
**acting** [1] - 25:21
**action** [2] - 70:3, 70:12
**actions** [2] - 58:9, 67:3
**activates** [1] - 22:11
**active** [5] - 5:15, 5:16, 9:16, 31:22, 125:2
**activities** [3] - 12:24, 119:15, 119:18
**activity** [2] - 37:4, 86:18
**actual** [4] - 69:6, 69:9, 144:17, 174:9
**ADAM** [1] - 8:14
**Adam** [2] - 2:22, 8:13
**Adam's** [1] - 12:13
**add** [5] - 35:24, 77:9, 89:2, 100:24, 174:8
**added** [1] - 91:17
**addiction** [1] - 89:5
**addition** [1] - 174:1
**additional** [9] - 75:22, 78:5, 78:7, 91:17, 94:13, 120:17, 135:8, 136:24, 136:25
**address** [6] - 30:17, 31:6, 76:16, 77:6, 168:4, 173:15
**addressed** [1] - 62:2
**addressing** [1] - 168:25
**adequate** [2] - 23:14, 49:23
**adequately** [1] - 133:23
**adjourn** [1] - 181:6
**ADJOURNMENT** [1] - 181:4

167:3
**avoid** [1] - 89:9
**awaiting** [1] - 85:7
**aware** [3] - 11:19,
37:9, 90:24
**awesome** [1] - 128:5
**ayes** [2] - 74:9,
180:20

**B**

**baby** [3] - 45:12,
45:13, 45:14
**baby's** [1] - 46:13
**Bacharach** [4] -
104:4, 148:16,
151:18, 159:22
**BACHARACH** [15] -
104:5, 104:12,
104:17, 106:1,
106:11, 106:19,
107:4, 107:8, 148:18,
150:23, 151:4, 151:9,
151:14, 151:21,
159:25
**backgrounds** [2] -
48:7, 48:9
**Backgrounds** [1] -
49:11
**backing** [1] - 91:7
**backlogging** [1] -
170:2
**bad** [1] - 29:9
**ball** [2] - 39:11, 39:13
**ballot** [1] - 82:21
**ban** [1] - 64:1
**Barbara** [4] - 3:9,
50:7, 50:9, 52:21
**barely** [1] - 62:2
**barring** [1] - 179:15
**Baruffi** [1] - 62:23
**based** [15] - 19:15,
55:16, 61:10, 63:23,
65:5, 81:7, 89:6,
91:15, 92:5, 92:24,
98:23, 113:3, 128:13,
178:3, 179:14
**basis** [1] - 113:19
**bear** [1] - 110:25
**BEASOM** [55] -
31:20, 32:1, 32:9,
34:8, 34:16, 34:20,
35:6, 36:16, 36:19,
36:24, 37:1, 37:8,
78:14, 92:13, 92:18,
92:25, 93:10, 93:13,
94:4, 94:11, 94:17,
94:20, 99:24, 100:7,
107:16, 108:10,

108:14, 108:23,
109:4, 109:10,
109:17, 109:20,
109:23, 110:1, 110:9,
110:14, 125:3, 125:6,
125:10, 154:10,
154:14, 155:1, 155:7,
155:22, 156:1, 156:6,
156:12, 156:19,
157:2, 157:8, 157:11,
158:17, 158:22,
167:2, 167:9
**Beasom** [3] - 2:13,
45:3, 78:11
**beating** [3] - 60:10,
60:15, 67:5
**become** [1] - 13:17
**bed** [3] - 7:3, 29:23,
174:9
**beer** [1] - 43:19
**beg** [1] - 68:1
**began** [2] - 81:19,
84:2
**begin** [4] - 58:10,
78:21, 79:1, 82:20
**beginning** [2] - 61:7,
82:22
**begins** [1] - 154:18
**begun** [1] - 88:1
**behalf** [4] - 59:8,
103:24, 104:2, 106:9
**behavioral** [1] -
81:22
**Behavioral** [4] -
33:7, 33:10, 168:22,
168:25
**behaviors** [1] - 84:11
**belief** [1] - 55:5
**benefiting** [1] - 86:1
**best** [11] - 58:23,
60:1, 97:2, 97:20,
98:3, 98:14, 111:13,
111:16, 111:24,
178:1, 182:6
**Bethany** [5] - 2:4,
32:10, 63:19, 71:7,
179:4
**better** [20] - 9:21,
12:23, 21:4, 22:16,
26:22, 26:23, 27:11,
51:23, 57:25, 58:5,
58:10, 58:14, 64:14,
66:22, 90:5, 126:16,
126:17, 139:24, 149:6
**between** [7] - 14:1,
16:20, 57:7, 75:1,
96:11, 105:22, 118:13
**beyond** [2] - 73:14,
103:11
**big** [2] - 126:14,

165:23
**biggest** [1] - 169:7
**Bigley** [5] - 2:3, 4:11,
34:2, 71:9, 144:20
**BIGLEY** [102] - 4:12,
24:7, 24:12, 24:16,
24:20, 30:11, 30:22,
31:2, 31:7, 31:11,
31:14, 31:17, 31:23,
32:5, 32:10, 32:17,
32:20, 33:4, 33:10,
33:15, 33:23, 34:22,
35:3, 35:8, 35:15,
35:18, 35:20, 35:22,
36:4, 37:14, 37:17,
37:20, 42:13, 42:16,
42:20, 42:23, 47:5,
74:6, 102:8, 102:11,
102:19, 103:18,
103:23, 104:7,
104:25, 108:20,
109:1, 109:7, 109:21,
109:25, 110:6,
110:11, 110:16,
117:21, 117:25,
118:3, 118:7, 118:15,
118:22, 144:15,
144:21, 145:13,
145:19, 145:23,
146:8, 146:17,
146:24, 147:3, 147:7,
147:12, 147:17,
147:20, 147:23,
148:23, 149:22,
150:8, 150:16, 164:8,
164:11, 164:17,
164:23, 165:6,
165:18, 166:2, 166:9,
166:12, 167:7,
167:11, 168:13,
173:24, 174:21,
174:25, 175:4, 176:4,
176:14, 176:19,
176:22, 177:12,
177:14, 180:6,
180:16, 181:8
**bit** [3] - 17:4, 17:25,
152:9
**Black** [4] - 61:7,
63:23, 68:14, 68:22
**black** [3] - 61:9,
61:13, 84:4
**Black-led** [1] - 63:23
**Blake** [1] - 62:15
**blamed** [1] - 172:5
**BLANKENSHIP** [3] -
68:12, 70:22, 70:25
**Blankenship** [3] -
3:15, 68:11, 68:13
**blanket** [4] - 36:13,

36:14, 36:17, 65:5
**blind** [1] - 178:9
**Blow** [3] - 145:25,
146:11, 146:21
**Blythe** [1] - 2:15
**Board** [78] - 5:6,
5:20, 19:25, 20:24,
25:10, 30:15, 32:7,
35:1, 40:6, 42:21,
43:10, 44:3, 44:10,
44:16, 45:7, 48:6,
50:18, 53:5, 53:19,
53:23, 53:25, 54:14,
54:15, 54:16, 54:24,
55:18, 57:8, 57:11,
57:24, 61:21, 63:6,
63:18, 64:9, 68:17,
68:21, 69:7, 69:14,
70:4, 70:6, 71:3,
73:13, 74:18, 74:20,
74:23, 75:19, 76:16,
78:15, 78:17, 80:6,
89:4, 94:2, 94:13,
100:3, 100:11,
100:16, 102:1, 102:4,
106:7, 107:20,
107:22, 109:6,
124:20, 132:23,
141:19, 143:3, 144:4,
144:12, 149:9,
150:20, 151:9,
151:19, 152:13,
153:1, 153:2, 153:11,
154:8, 154:23, 178:5
**BOARD** [2] - 1:8, 2:1
**bodies** [1] - 105:16
**body** [1] - 60:13
**bologna** [2] - 174:11,
174:19
**BONAVO** [1] - 59:7
**Bonavoglia** [3] -
3:12, 59:2, 59:7
**BONAVOGLIA** [2] -
59:3, 59:6
**Bonomo** [1] - 62:23
**bonus** [1] - 91:20
**book** [9] - 75:5, 83:2,
83:8, 83:9, 83:11,
83:13, 83:16, 83:17,
127:8
**booking** [2] - 77:9,
77:10
**books** [7] - 82:25,
83:3, 83:5, 126:1,
126:15, 126:23, 128:4
**bottom** [1] - 153:11
**Boulevard** [2] -
10:15, 11:6
**box** [2] - 127:22,
165:9

**boxes** [1] - 80:18
**BPEP** [5] - 68:14,
68:16, 68:22, 69:7,
69:21
**Bradinger** [1] - 79:25
**Brady** [2] - 62:16,
62:18
**brain** [5] - 21:25,
22:1, 65:21, 65:22
**Brandon** [1] - 78:21
**bread** [1] - 174:11
**break** [1] - 169:9
**breaking** [1] - 28:2
**Brian** [3] - 3:7, 42:7,
42:8
**brian** [1] - 64:18
**bridges** [1] - 55:8
**bring** [11] - 9:13,
11:2, 26:19, 44:3,
44:9, 100:5, 100:15,
100:16, 105:4,
107:23, 107:25
**bringing** [1] - 67:4
**broad** [1] - 93:8
**broke** [2] - 65:9,
99:21
**broken** [4] - 79:17,
79:19, 99:18, 158:3
**brought** [12] - 10:2,
23:23, 45:18, 45:19,
45:20, 111:5, 121:10,
124:24, 134:12,
157:22, 173:6, 178:19
**broughten** [1] -
121:10
**bruised** [1] - 60:15
**Bs** [1] - 79:5
**Bucek** [1] - 62:17
**budget** [2] - 129:11,
129:12
**build** [5] - 55:19,
55:21, 58:10, 58:16,
136:13
**building** [5] - 10:17,
89:23, 134:18, 134:20
**built** [5] - 163:9,
163:25, 164:1, 164:2,
164:3
**bunch** [1] - 161:16
**Buprenorphine** [1] -
85:20
**burden** [1] - 101:20
**burn** [1] - 55:8
**bus** [1] - 80:20
**BUSINESS** [2] -
179:24, 181:1
**business** [3] - 5:2,
115:21, 181:3
**Business** [1] - 180:1
**busting** [3] - 43:17,

43:19, 47:8
**but..** [1] - 31:13
**butcher** [1] - 63:11
**bylaws** [2] - 132:11, 177:15

## C

**cadet** [1] - 78:23
**calm** [1] - 111:3
**cam** [1] - 60:13
**canceled** [1] - 38:23
**Candace** [1] - 5:25
**candidates** [2] - 70:6, 78:24
**cannot** [2] - 65:16, 99:6
**capability** [2] - 162:6, 164:7
**capable** [1] - 91:2
**capacity** [5] - 95:3, 95:6, 129:14, 129:21, 177:21
**captain** [1] - 46:11
**Captain** [2] - 46:11, 78:19
**captains** [1] - 45:10
**cardiac** [1] - 65:22
**cards** [1] - 23:23
**care** [27] - 23:1, 32:3, 48:15, 48:21, 49:24, 50:1, 51:17, 51:18, 51:23, 52:4, 52:16, 57:5, 57:13, 73:17, 90:13, 135:18, 135:19, 139:16, 140:10, 148:5, 155:2, 167:16, 167:17, 167:24, 168:10, 168:12, 168:19
**career** [1] - 95:19
**careful** [1] - 104:24
**caring** [1] - 57:4
**Carlos** [2] - 3:17, 171:10
**carries** [1] - 74:14
**carve** [1] - 163:12
**case** [11] - 5:19, 34:25, 38:16, 54:3, 65:21, 82:15, 103:10, 135:15, 136:2, 143:19, 169:16
**cases** [7] - 9:3, 20:13, 30:12, 60:18, 60:21, 79:7, 175:17
**cat** [1] - 26:12
**catch** [1] - 21:21
**catch-up** [1] - 21:21
**categories** [1] -

99:15
**Catena** [1] - 2:4
**caused** [1] - 144:7
**caution** [1] - 103:6
**cc** [2] - 124:14, 124:20
**celebrate** [2] - 61:8, 62:12
**celebration** [1] - 80:13
**cell** [7] - 37:3, 54:6, 62:1, 155:18, 156:20, 173:5, 174:10
**center** [3] - 22:11, 51:2, 95:4
**Center** [14] - 2:22, 2:23, 8:12, 10:10, 11:4, 20:2, 49:17, 77:23, 80:17, 83:20, 84:3, 84:7, 95:2, 96:12
**CEO** [1] - 76:20
**certain** [5] - 155:21, 156:16, 156:17, 161:20
**certainly** [1] - 178:25
**certified** [1] - 97:22
**certify** [1] - 182:4
**chain** [1] - 46:3
**Chair** [1] - 153:11
**chairs** [1] - 86:5
**chance** [4] - 22:16, 71:9, 71:13, 87:17
**change** [4] - 55:14, 69:23, 91:15, 114:12
**changed** [2] - 91:6, 91:11
**changes** [3] - 62:4, 68:3, 69:15
**changing** [1] - 91:8
**Chaplain's** [1] - 155:9
**Chaplaincy** [1] - 80:7
**Chapter** [1] - 76:5
**character** [2] - 98:23, 99:4
**charge** [2] - 66:8, 87:9
**Charge** [1] - 88:17
**charged** [1] - 61:13
**charges** [2] - 59:17, 77:24
**check** [4] - 11:24, 33:21, 67:3, 128:9
**checked** [1] - 77:22
**checks** [2] - 174:4, 174:6
**chemical** [4] - 92:4, 92:22, 93:2, 93:15
**chicken** [1] - 45:19

**CHIEF** [55] - 31:20, 32:1, 32:9, 34:8, 34:16, 34:20, 35:6, 36:16, 36:19, 36:24, 37:1, 37:8, 78:14, 92:13, 92:18, 92:25, 93:10, 93:13, 94:4, 94:11, 94:17, 94:20, 99:24, 100:7, 107:16, 108:10, 108:14, 108:23, 109:4, 109:10, 109:17, 109:20, 109:23, 110:1, 110:9, 110:14, 125:3, 125:6, 125:10, 154:10, 154:14, 155:1, 155:7, 155:22, 156:1, 156:6, 156:12, 156:19, 157:2, 157:8, 157:11, 158:17, 158:22, 167:2, 167:9
**Chief** [5] - 2:13, 5:24, 43:13, 45:3, 78:11
**children** [1] - 72:20
**chime** [1] - 144:23
**choice** [1] - 21:24
**chorus** [2] - 74:9, 180:20
**Christine** [1] - 79:24
**chronic** [1] - 51:22
**circumstances** [2] - 40:6, 107:2
**citizens** [1] - 49:14
**city's** [1] - 51:8
**civil** [1] - 179:9
**CJ** [3] - 3:11, 56:18, 56:20
**claim** [1] - 66:24
**clarified** [2] - 160:11, 160:21
**clarifying** [1] - 159:7
**CLARK** [20] - 13:24, 14:3, 14:21, 15:2, 15:11, 15:22, 16:3, 16:18, 16:25, 17:5, 80:5, 125:20, 126:5, 126:13, 127:3, 127:6, 127:9, 127:13, 127:17, 127:24
**Clark** [4] - 2:16, 77:6, 80:3, 153:10
**class** [2] - 78:23, 79:1
**classroom** [3] - 83:20, 83:21, 83:25
**classrooms** [1] - 83:24
**clear** [7] - 22:2, 43:16, 54:11, 67:13, 110:2, 117:7, 141:13

**Clearance** [1] - 74:25
**clients** [7] - 5:15, 5:17, 8:18, 15:14, 16:9, 16:10, 16:22
**clinic** [2] - 89:6, 112:5
**Clinical** [2] - 9:6, 12:12
**clinical** [1] - 85:6
**clock** [1] - 90:10
**close** [2] - 142:14, 142:18
**closed** [1] - 26:24
**clue** [1] - 44:22
**CNAs** [1] - 90:25
**CO** [1] - 54:12
**Coalition** [3] - 62:6, 63:7, 72:16
**coalition** [1] - 63:21
**Cody** [1] - 62:16
**cognitive** [2] - 81:21, 174:16
**collaborates** [1] - 88:21
**colleagues** [1] - 61:19
**collective** [2] - 48:20, 48:22
**Colorful** [1] - 49:11
**comb** [1] - 110:12
**combination** [1] - 88:14
**combine** [1] - 64:13
**combined** [1] - 36:5
**comfort** [1] - 89:11
**comfortable** [1] - 38:16
**coming** [10] - 9:19, 12:19, 15:3, 15:14, 21:1, 22:13, 63:5, 72:5, 92:2, 106:8
**command** [3] - 44:19, 44:23, 46:4
**commands** [1] - 22:8
**comment** [8] - 12:13, 42:19, 47:16, 93:19, 102:9, 108:15, 132:9, 179:15
**Comment** [4] - 19:6, 42:17, 93:24, 177:3
**COMMENT** [2] - 19:11, 171:11
**commented** [1] - 172:3
**Comments** [1] - 177:4
**comments** [6] - 73:24, 131:19, 171:16, 174:22, 176:17, 178:3

**Commission** [1] - 19:23
**commitment** [3] - 48:13, 85:6, 98:13
**committed** [4] - 49:21, 58:9, 75:12, 85:5
**committee** [3] - 51:5, 51:6, 172:24
**Committee** [1] - 72:3
**Commons** [1] - 10:16
**communicate** [3] - 162:8, 162:22, 163:10
**communication** [8] - 21:10, 32:11, 75:6, 82:3, 161:21, 161:23, 163:2, 163:4
**communities** [2] - 48:19, 61:24
**COMMUNITY** [1] - 2:20
**Community** [1] - 5:3
**community** [10] - 5:5, 20:1, 26:2, 63:23, 68:13, 70:10, 80:23, 84:23, 137:13
**company** [1] - 59:23
**compare** [1] - 120:22
**compassionate** [1] - 51:17
**compensated** [1] - 135:7
**compensation** [2] - 135:9, 136:24
**complaining** [1] - 27:11
**Complaint** [1] - 175:8
**complaints** [2] - 64:6, 165:11
**complement** [1] - 53:8
**complete** [2] - 78:1, 178:6
**completed** [4] - 76:19, 80:12, 85:20, 89:13
**completely** [3] - 17:24, 20:14, 29:18
**completes** [1] - 54:24
**completing** [1] - 81:16
**completions** [1] - 9:1
**complex** [1] - 88:5
**compliance** [1] - 123:20
**compliant** [1] - 76:5
**complicated** [1] -

104:14
**complies** [1] - 123:8
**comply** [2] - 87:10, 120:18
**complying** [1] - 88:7
**components** [1] - 86:3
**Comprehensive** [3] - 76:12, 76:14, 76:17
**compromise** [1] - 149:16
**compromised** [1] - 66:12
**compromising** [1] - 75:17
**computer** [2] - 22:5, 49:18
**comrades** [1] - 171:2
**concealed** [1] - 156:8
**concern** [11] - 35:3, 35:9, 75:12, 116:16, 117:23, 118:12, 119:14, 168:11, 176:1, 178:4, 179:15
**concerned** [6] - 26:4, 36:6, 97:5, 102:24, 167:15, 174:14
**concerning** [1] - 178:7
**concerns** [3] - 76:3, 163:14, 163:17
**conclude** [1] - 70:21
**concluded** [2] - 73:23, 181:12
**concludes** [3] - 78:10, 82:3, 84:13
**conclusion** [1] - 56:14
**concur** [1] - 69:8
**condition** [14] - 21:23, 29:14, 34:9, 138:5, 138:17, 138:20, 140:2, 140:4, 140:5, 140:12, 141:13, 141:16, 142:2, 148:8
**conditions** [7] - 10:22, 48:11, 49:25, 50:14, 57:19, 58:23, 104:20
**condoms** [1] - 80:20
**condone** [1] - 98:8
**conduct** [2] - 53:20, 76:11
**conducted** [4] - 53:23, 54:1, 84:5, 86:16
**conducting** [2] - 55:4, 143:4

**conducts** [2] - 101:9, 121:13
**confer** [1] - 159:19
**Conference** [1] - 100:19
**confinement** [2] - 51:21, 64:1
**conflicts** [1] - 87:21
**confused** [1] - 130:4
**congratulate** [1] - 80:14
**congratulations** [3] - 50:17, 50:18, 80:2
**connect** [1] - 80:22
**connected** [1] - 51:8
**connecting** [1] - 18:9
**Connection** [1] - 19:20
**connections** [1] - 17:20
**Connie** [2] - 2:16, 84:16
**consider** [1] - 161:11
**considered** [1] - 15:20
**consistent** [3] - 86:14, 87:20, 88:7
**consistently** [1] - 57:23
**consists** [1] - 78:23
**constitutional** [1] - 71:15
**constraints** [1] - 112:25
**consumption** [1] - 101:23
**cont** [1] - 171:11
**Contact** [2] - 75:1, 80:24
**contact** [8] - 29:12, 30:20, 32:25, 65:11, 80:25, 81:4, 155:9, 155:11
**contain** [1] - 106:16
**contained** [2] - 108:22, 182:5
**container** [1] - 46:8
**containing** [1] - 75:10
**Contas** [2] - 29:4, 30:23
**context** [3] - 88:9, 89:12, 140:21
**continue** [11] - 12:18, 27:8, 56:23, 57:19, 70:7, 76:23, 76:25, 78:2, 80:3, 88:2, 88:24
**continued** [3] - 57:2, 85:1, 88:5

**continues** [3] - 80:21, 87:24, 97:17
**continuing** [4] - 13:16, 17:9, 49:9, 80:25
**contract** [12] - 16:5, 16:7, 52:11, 91:15, 91:25, 92:4, 92:12, 93:6, 99:2, 123:16, 124:6, 161:8
**contracts** [2] - 16:6, 52:7
**contributing** [1] - 57:17
**Controller** [4] - 2:6, 134:12, 152:24, 157:21
**controller** [1] - 4:17
**Controller's** [1] - 54:4
**controls** [1] - 161:19
**conveniently** [1] - 172:5
**conversation** [2] - 75:24, 132:11
**cookies** [1] - 174:20
**cool** [1] - 131:1
**cooperation** [1] - 76:21
**coordinating** [1] - 116:12
**coordination** [1] - 114:8
**Coordinator** [2] - 78:20, 126:18
**copies** [3] - 67:21, 159:9, 160:24
**copy** [1] - 178:6
**Corey** [4] - 2:6, 4:17, 63:19, 71:7
**Corporation** [1] - 68:24
**correct** [15] - 17:13, 20:19, 34:5, 93:13, 99:23, 100:6, 100:8, 109:20, 110:9, 124:5, 127:6, 139:2, 148:13, 149:20, 182:8
**correction** [3] - 45:23, 77:4, 78:24
**Correctional** [1] - 80:1
**correctional** [13] - 49:22, 52:1, 53:24, 54:1, 54:25, 65:19, 86:4, 86:15, 87:10, 88:15, 112:24, 138:1, 138:8
**Corrections** [3] - 5:3, 79:4, 93:1

**CORRECTIONS** [1] - 2:20
**corrections** [4] - 5:5, 67:4, 168:8
**COs** [3] - 65:25, 66:11, 158:6
**Council** [6] - 19:25, 48:22, 53:8, 71:25, 72:5, 100:19
**Councilman** [1] - 2:4
**Councilperson** [1] - 96:20
**Councilwoman** [3] - 4:23, 152:17, 170:10
**count** [2] - 24:6, 69:21
**counted** [2] - 138:20, 172:6
**counting** [1] - 129:2
**countless** [1] - 69:22
**counts** [1] - 138:6
**county** [10] - 12:14, 21:18, 44:19, 44:24, 71:10, 97:23, 98:5, 124:4, 129:3, 129:23
**COUNTY** [1] - 1:7
**County** [47] - 1:20, 2:5, 4:19, 10:16, 27:24, 31:3, 42:25, 43:3, 43:25, 44:4, 48:22, 49:12, 49:23, 52:6, 53:8, 56:23, 63:9, 66:17, 68:21, 69:1, 69:16, 69:20, 70:2, 70:11, 73:8, 75:2, 79:13, 95:12, 95:14, 95:22, 96:3, 96:5, 100:19, 103:18, 129:7, 129:25, 130:6, 130:8, 130:9, 131:8, 154:19, 159:19, 172:7, 179:17, 180:9
**County's** [2] - 20:8, 91:7
**countywide** [1] - 69:4
**couple** [6] - 13:7, 76:9, 89:19, 99:19, 123:4, 140:15
**course** [4] - 6:6, 58:13, 143:17, 143:20
**Court** [6] - 24:8, 77:11, 79:13, 165:20, 166:5, 175:13
**court** [13] - 28:10, 28:11, 61:20, 87:6, 87:13, 87:22, 114:3, 114:4, 148:4, 150:7, 150:19, 151:6, 175:21
**court's** [1] - 77:10

**Courthouse** [1] - 1:20
**courtrooms** [1] - 61:18
**Courts** [5] - 20:8, 24:9, 78:4, 81:7, 142:16
**courts** [8] - 77:8, 77:19, 143:6, 146:13, 146:14, 146:15, 163:21
**cover** [3] - 22:14, 36:20, 136:4
**coverage** [2] - 90:17, 90:18
**covered** [1] - 180:2
**covering** [1] - 135:15
**covers** [2] - 82:1, 91:1
**COVID** [2] - 5:19, 9:3
**create** [4] - 57:14, 58:5, 58:11, 75:11
**created** [4] - 69:4, 71:6, 120:20, 127:25
**creating** [2] - 53:6, 68:24
**creation** [1] - 69:7
**credit** [2] - 173:11, 175:3
**Crime** [2] - 19:23, 77:23
**criminal** [2] - 68:25, 82:10
**Criminal** [1] - 172:25
**crisis** [2] - 53:16, 135:11
**critical** [3] - 54:12, 54:16, 92:1
**crush** [1] - 20:15
**culture** [1] - 56:13
**current** [11] - 5:14, 16:7, 25:20, 31:21, 69:18, 78:23, 81:24, 88:2, 99:6, 161:8, 162:10
**Custody** [3] - 138:2, 138:12, 146:6
**custody** [10] - 15:21, 76:10, 137:17, 137:19, 138:13, 138:15, 142:17, 154:11, 154:13, 154:15
**cut** [4] - 32:15, 49:20, 101:13, 176:10
**cuts** [1] - 28:4

# D

**D-A-M-I-C-K** [1] - 25:1

**D-E-T-T-O-R-E** [1] - 12:11

**DA** [3] - 59:20, 60:17, 61:4

**DA's** [1] - 20:10

**dad** [1] - 30:20

**DADY** [10] - 74:17, 97:7, 98:19, 141:2, 143:9, 143:15, 143:23, 149:19, 150:5, 150:22

**Dady** [9] - 2:12, 42:9, 46:21, 59:10, 63:16, 65:16, 66:6, 66:15, 152:15

**daily** [6] - 46:19, 87:3, 87:14, 88:7, 112:14, 114:11

**DAMICK** [2] - 24:25, 27:4

**Damick** [2] - 3:3, 24:24

**Damon** [1] - 62:22

**dams** [1] - 80:20

**danger** [1] - 34:18

**dangerous** [1] - 57:19

**Daniel** [1] - 62:16

**Darrell** [3] - 3:6, 37:21, 38:1

**DAs** [1] - 60:19

**Data** [1] - 85:13

**data** [2] - 77:12, 84:19

**database** [3] - 77:11, 77:12, 163:10

**Database** [1] - 77:23

**date** [4] - 5:16, 49:10, 105:12, 105:14

**daughter** [2] - 60:2, 179:18

**days** [15] - 10:13, 32:18, 40:24, 85:14, 85:15, 85:17, 85:18, 167:19, 167:21, 167:22, 167:24, 169:11, 169:12, 169:16, 173:21

**days'** [2] - 167:19, 167:23

**dead** [1] - 150:9

**deal** [3] - 25:11, 30:12, 120:15

**dear** [1] - 62:14

**death** [16] - 57:4,

57:18, 138:6, 138:7, 138:9, 138:21, 139:18, 141:16, 142:14, 150:13, 154:4, 154:7, 154:15, 179:2, 179:7

**Death** [1] - 146:6

**deaths** [11] - 9:4, 76:10, 138:13, 138:14, 140:17, 141:18, 141:20, 154:11, 154:13, 179:9, 179:13

**Deaths** [2] - 138:2, 138:11

**December** [3] - 53:19, 74:1, 79:8

**decide** [1] - 105:5

**decided** [2] - 13:14, 43:4

**deciding** [1] - 60:25

**decision** [1] - 61:3

**decisions** [2] - 51:14, 174:16

**decrease** [2] - 54:18, 84:10

**decreased** [2] - 91:13, 91:14

**dedicate** [3] - 130:18, 130:20, 130:23

**deep** [1] - 57:6

**Deer** [1] - 29:23

**defendant** [3] - 34:6, 34:7, 146:19

**defendants** [2] - 154:1, 164:12

**defer** [1] - 98:20

**deficiencies** [2] - 51:2, 120:11

**definitely** [5] - 97:16, 97:18, 98:4, 98:9, 161:9

**delay** [1] - 167:16

**deleted** [1] - 93:6

**Delinquencies** [1] - 19:24

**deliver** [1] - 168:3

**delivered** [6] - 60:2, 83:6, 83:9, 114:20, 123:13, 128:4

**delivering** [2] - 116:9, 118:1

**delivery** [2] - 117:10, 117:15

**denial** [1] - 83:10

**denied** [3] - 30:1, 83:9, 106:7

**dental** [1] - 80:20

**denying** [1] - 107:19

**Department** [12] - 52:12, 75:16, 75:25, 78:3, 79:4, 83:19, 93:1, 125:21, 141:9, 146:5, 154:16, 155:9

**department** [2] - 51:8, 129:1

**departments** [3] - 95:20, 96:6, 130:3

**deploy** [1] - 98:14

**deployed** [1] - 96:5

**depriving** [1] - 33:17

**Deputy** [15] - 2:13, 2:15, 2:16, 77:5, 77:6, 78:11, 80:3, 80:4, 88:17, 98:20, 128:10, 129:15, 129:21, 129:24, 133:4

**deputy** [1] - 42:10

**DEPUTY** [137] - 13:24, 14:3, 14:21, 15:2, 15:11, 15:22, 16:3, 16:18, 16:25, 17:5, 31:20, 32:1, 32:9, 34:8, 34:16, 34:20, 35:6, 36:16, 36:19, 36:24, 37:1, 37:8, 39:5, 39:10, 39:16, 39:23, 78:13, 78:14, 80:5, 91:10, 92:13, 92:18, 92:25, 93:10, 93:13, 94:4, 94:11, 94:17, 94:20, 95:5, 95:9, 95:15, 95:18, 95:23, 96:1, 96:4, 98:21, 99:24, 100:7, 107:16, 108:10, 108:14, 108:23, 109:4, 109:10, 109:17, 109:20, 109:23, 110:1, 110:9, 110:14, 123:9, 123:18, 123:21, 124:5, 124:10, 124:16, 125:3, 125:6, 125:10, 125:20, 126:5, 126:13, 127:3, 127:6, 127:9, 127:13, 127:17, 127:24, 128:16, 128:24, 129:4, 129:10, 129:14, 129:18, 129:24, 130:5, 130:12, 130:16, 130:20, 130:24, 131:3, 131:6, 131:9, 131:14, 133:7, 133:12, 133:18, 134:2, 154:10,

154:14, 155:1, 155:7, 155:22, 156:1, 156:6, 156:12, 156:19, 157:2, 157:8, 157:11, 158:8, 158:17, 158:22, 159:11, 159:15, 159:18, 160:6, 160:12, 160:17, 160:22, 161:6, 161:15, 162:5, 162:9, 162:17, 162:24, 163:3, 163:7, 163:13, 163:18, 165:1, 165:17, 166:24, 167:1, 167:2, 167:9

**designate** [1] - 155:12

**designated** [2] - 81:2, 164:22

**designed** [1] - 48:16

**desk** [1] - 175:6

**detail** [5] - 19:15, 94:1, 94:23, 107:11, 157:3

**detailed** [2] - 75:10, 106:4

**details** [8] - 73:5, 75:22, 76:1, 94:7, 94:13, 106:17, 179:12

**detainer** [5] - 28:9, 28:13, 29:25, 30:16, 138:24

**detainers** [2] - 77:24, 79:6

**Detectives** [1] - 154:20

**detectives** [2] - 155:2, 155:4

**determination** [7] - 14:22, 111:23, 113:12, 113:15, 113:18, 115:14, 116:2

**determinations** [2] - 111:11, 113:11

**determine** [3] - 78:4, 114:10, 142:15

**detoxing** [1] - 89:8

**Dettore** [2] - 2:23, 12:11

**DETTORE** [9] - 12:10, 13:11, 13:15, 17:9, 17:15, 18:2, 18:12, 18:17, 18:23

**develop** [2] - 162:1, 168:22

**developed** [1] - 82:16

**developer** [1] - 161:25

**development** [1] - 22:1

**develops** [1] - 88:20

**devices** [1] - 30:21

**Devine** [1] - 12:18

**DHSA** [61] - 2:14, 84:16, 90:8, 90:17, 90:21, 90:23, 111:19, 112:2, 112:8, 112:16, 112:20, 112:23, 113:6, 113:14, 113:20, 114:6, 114:16, 115:4, 115:9, 115:16, 115:22, 116:6, 116:19, 117:1, 117:6, 117:17, 117:24, 118:2, 118:5, 118:17, 118:25, 119:3, 119:15, 119:21, 119:24, 120:19, 121:1, 121:4, 121:7, 121:14, 121:21, 121:24, 122:5, 122:11, 122:23, 135:12, 136:2, 136:12, 137:1, 137:18, 138:14, 139:6, 139:21, 139:23, 168:1, 168:17, 169:6, 169:14, 169:18, 169:21, 170:7

**diagnosed** [1] - 122:10

**dial** [1] - 22:5

**Diana** [3] - 3:8, 47:22, 48:3

**Diane** [1] - 182:13

**dictionaries** [1] - 49:20

**die** [7] - 56:23, 59:14, 137:23, 142:16, 146:15, 147:9, 150:2

**died** [4] - 62:11, 67:7, 147:8, 179:19

**dies** [2] - 137:25, 144:18

**diet** [5] - 40:19, 40:21, 40:22, 41:7, 123:11

**dietary** [4] - 37:2, 38:24, 40:15, 123:3

**dietetics** [1] - 174:13

**dietician** [4] - 46:7, 124:3, 124:7

**diets** [3] - 38:5, 123:8

**difference** [5] - 61:21, 105:22, 118:13, 148:2, 158:21

**differences** [1] - 21:25

**different** [24] - 41:16, 44:5, 44:8, 44:9, 59:19, 60:18, 66:5, 88:6, 88:12, 91:22, 96:9, 97:12, 97:15, 98:1, 107:21, 115:5, 117:4, 117:15, 118:14, 128:12, 128:13, 140:20, 143:19, 161:16

**dignity** [1] - 58:20

**digress** [1] - 172:22

**DILUCENTE** [230] - 4:3, 4:6, 4:13, 4:16, 4:19, 4:22, 4:25, 5:7, 6:2, 7:14, 8:5, 8:8, 8:11, 11:13, 12:5, 12:8, 15:7, 15:18, 15:24, 16:12, 16:24, 17:2, 17:7, 18:18, 18:21, 18:24, 19:4, 23:15, 23:18, 23:21, 24:22, 27:2, 27:14, 27:19, 29:21, 30:3, 30:6, 30:9, 30:14, 31:1, 31:5, 31:9, 33:8, 33:12, 34:4, 34:13, 34:24, 35:7, 36:9, 36:18, 36:22, 36:25, 37:10, 37:15, 37:18, 37:21, 37:24, 38:14, 38:19, 39:3, 39:8, 39:21, 40:2, 40:13, 40:20, 41:2, 41:15, 41:18, 41:21, 42:1, 42:5, 43:8, 43:22, 44:2, 44:7, 44:13, 46:1, 47:11, 47:19, 47:22, 50:4, 50:7, 50:24, 52:18, 52:22, 53:1, 56:3, 56:16, 58:25, 59:4, 62:25, 63:13, 64:16, 64:21, 68:9, 70:14, 70:24, 71:19, 73:21, 74:4, 74:7, 74:10, 74:13, 89:16, 96:14, 99:10, 100:1, 100:9, 102:6, 102:10, 103:14, 104:3, 104:15, 106:14, 107:1, 107:6, 107:13, 108:16, 109:13, 109:18, 110:21, 115:18, 118:20, 122:8, 122:18, 122:21, 122:24, 131:22, 132:2, 132:12,

138:22, 139:1, 139:4, 139:8, 139:12, 140:7, 140:18, 141:21, 142:1, 142:5, 142:9, 142:20, 143:18, 144:6, 144:13, 145:11, 145:22, 146:7, 147:15, 147:19, 148:1, 148:11, 148:14, 148:19, 148:21, 148:25, 149:4, 149:14, 149:17, 149:23, 150:3, 150:6, 150:10, 150:14, 150:18, 150:25, 151:7, 151:11, 152:1, 152:4, 153:4, 153:13, 153:17, 153:21, 153:24, 159:4, 159:21, 160:4, 161:1, 161:13, 162:4, 162:7, 162:13, 162:19, 163:1, 163:11, 163:16, 164:10, 164:14, 164:21, 164:24, 166:15, 166:21, 167:13, 168:15, 169:3, 169:8, 169:15, 169:19, 170:4, 170:8, 170:12, 170:17, 170:21, 171:3, 171:6, 171:18, 171:24, 172:23, 173:7, 173:10, 173:14, 173:25, 174:18, 175:2, 176:23, 177:7, 177:10, 177:13, 177:17, 179:22, 179:25, 180:4, 180:8, 180:18, 180:21, 180:24, 181:2, 181:5, 181:9

**DiLucente** [1] - 2:2

**dinner** [3] - 24:1, 114:4, 119:17

**direct** [4] - 42:17, 42:20, 42:25, 132:24

**Directives** [1] - 75:15

**directly** [7] - 14:19, 48:24, 57:3, 105:23, 128:3, 143:25, 146:4

**Director** [9] - 5:12, 9:6, 12:12, 51:12, 88:16, 136:4, 136:5, 136:17, 168:22

**director** [1] - 49:5

**disability** [3] - 20:14, 21:11, 23:13

**disagree** [1] - 180:5

**disagreeing** [1] - 141:22

**Discharge** [3] - 78:22, 80:16, 80:17

**discharge** [1] - 173:19

**discharges** [1] - 12:14

**Disciplinary** [1] - 75:8

**discovery** [1] - 164:13

**discrepancy** [1] - 157:1

**discuss** [1] - 94:14

**discussed** [1] - 68:23

**discussing** [3] - 53:5, 69:23, 94:2

**dismayed** [1] - 52:9

**dismissed** [1] - 67:20

**Disorder** [1] - 7:7

**disorder** [3] - 7:23, 21:11, 84:20

**disparities** [3] - 68:25, 69:18, 69:19

**disparity** [1] - 70:13

**disrespectful** [1] - 165:19

**disruption** [1] - 86:23

**disseminated** [1] - 102:4

**disseminating** [5] - 102:14, 102:15, 102:20, 103:9, 103:11

**dissolve** [1] - 85:23

**dissolved** [1] - 119:2

**distracting** [1] - 12:21

**distractions** [3] - 87:2, 87:12, 118:6

**distributed** [3] - 80:18, 126:2, 171:20

**distributing** [1] - 82:20

**distrust** [1] - 55:17

**Diversion** [2] - 81:11

**diversion** [8] - 24:6, 86:2, 86:24, 115:3, 116:17, 118:12, 119:5, 119:14

**divert** [1] - 43:14

**diverting** [2] - 118:13, 118:14

**Division** [1] - 172:25

**DOC** [4] - 92:2, 92:10, 92:20, 93:14

**doctors** [1] - 134:19

**document** [2] - 68:19, 108:22

**documented** [1] - 51:1

**documents** [6] - 74:19, 74:22, 75:9, 100:17, 100:18, 101:19

**Doe** [3] - 150:11, 150:15, 150:19

**dog** [3] - 26:12, 84:2, 84:4

**DOJ** [13] - 7:5, 7:22, 13:12, 14:1, 15:12, 16:13, 16:20, 75:1, 137:21, 137:22, 146:9, 146:10, 148:24

**done** [20] - 22:18, 25:13, 25:21, 26:8, 27:8, 38:7, 53:22, 55:1, 55:2, 55:6, 67:3, 89:7, 95:18, 135:19, 145:8, 153:5, 155:14, 157:16, 165:15, 169:13

**door** [1] - 175:7

**dosage** [1] - 114:14

**dose** [10] - 87:20, 89:7, 111:6, 112:5, 112:14, 112:15, 113:2, 113:21, 114:11, 115:13

**dosed** [3] - 87:3, 87:15, 113:8

**dosing** [4] - 86:25, 87:7, 87:14, 87:18

**double** [1] - 95:17

**Dougherty** [1] - 24:11

**Douglas** [1] - 62:23

**down** [16] - 55:5, 65:9, 100:3, 109:8, 109:14, 111:3, 123:23, 158:3, 160:13, 164:11, 165:23, 165:24, 169:9, 170:15, 170:24, 176:11

**dozens** [1] - 20:12

**draconian** [1] - 28:24

**drafted** [4] - 126:7, 152:19, 152:20, 153:7

**DRC** [1] - 80:21

**dropped** [3] - 39:11, 39:13, 59:17

**drug** [1] - 28:11

**Drug** [1] - 8:19

**drugs** [2] - 9:14, 67:4

**due** [5] - 61:25, 75:9,

76:2, 77:2, 85:6

**dummies** [1] - 171:1

**during** [9] - 67:1, 85:20, 86:16, 89:3, 89:9, 115:21, 119:16, 156:20, 174:8

**duties** [3] - 88:1, 90:12, 137:2

**duty** [3] - 48:20, 88:3, 95:17

**dynamic** [1] - 82:12

## E

**e-mail** [12] - 11:25, 38:12, 40:3, 40:5, 40:11, 42:4, 56:7, 101:13, 108:11, 108:13, 162:23, 162:25

**e-mailed** [2] - 74:23, 108:4

**e-mails** [1] - 132:1

**early** [3] - 60:3, 87:3, 87:5

**Easter** [1] - 80:9

**eating** [2] - 33:17, 35:9

**editing** [1] - 126:6

**edits** [1] - 126:8

**Education** [3] - 81:21, 83:19, 83:20

**educational** [1] - 81:25

**Educational** [3] - 82:18, 84:3, 84:7

**Edward** [1] - 68:13

**effect** [3] - 13:22, 72:6, 77:14

**effective** [1] - 87:14

**efficiency** [1] - 125:17

**efficiently** [1] - 82:25

**effort** [2] - 76:21, 88:24

**eggs** [1] - 45:18

**either** [3] - 29:25, 149:1, 175:21

**election** [1] - 82:19

**Electronic** [2] - 18:25, 19:1

**electronic** [2] - 30:21, 166:13

**electronically** [1] - 83:2

**eligible** [2] - 80:13, 91:19

**elsewhere** [1] - 97:3

**emergency** [6] -

# H

**H-U-L-L** [1] - 48:3
**half** [1] - 71:4
**Hallam** [11] - 2:4, 4:23, 13:24, 96:20, 108:14, 148:7, 157:12, 158:8, 166:6, 166:10, 170:10
**HALLAM** [244] - 4:24, 6:4, 6:7, 6:14, 6:18, 7:4, 7:12, 7:16, 7:20, 8:2, 9:8, 9:23, 10:6, 10:19, 11:1, 11:10, 13:7, 13:12, 13:19, 14:2, 14:18, 14:25, 15:5, 17:14, 17:19, 18:6, 18:15, 19:3, 28:16, 32:12, 32:19, 32:21, 33:13, 33:20, 33:25, 34:19, 35:24, 36:8, 36:11, 37:6, 37:25, 41:4, 41:14, 47:15, 47:21, 47:24, 50:6, 52:20, 71:18, 72:1, 72:12, 74:2, 96:22, 101:1, 102:17, 103:16, 103:20, 104:1, 104:10, 105:6, 106:4, 107:7, 108:3, 108:12, 108:18, 110:18, 110:23, 111:20, 112:7, 112:9, 112:18, 112:21, 113:4, 113:10, 113:16, 113:23, 114:13, 114:24, 115:6, 115:10, 116:3, 116:15, 116:21, 117:2, 117:12, 118:11, 118:18, 119:2, 119:10, 119:19, 119:22, 119:25, 120:24, 121:2, 121:5, 121:8, 121:17, 121:23, 122:1, 122:7, 122:17, 122:20, 123:1, 123:15, 123:19, 124:1, 124:8, 124:12, 124:22, 125:4, 125:7, 125:11, 126:3, 126:9, 126:20, 127:4, 127:7, 127:12, 127:16, 127:21, 128:5, 128:22, 128:25, 129:8, 129:12, 129:16, 129:19, 130:1, 130:10, 130:14, 130:19,

130:22, 131:1, 131:5, 131:7, 131:11, 131:16, 131:24, 132:4, 132:14, 133:10, 133:14, 133:20, 134:3, 135:20, 136:9, 136:23, 137:3, 137:20, 138:16, 138:25, 139:3, 139:9, 139:19, 139:22, 140:1, 140:11, 140:23, 141:8, 141:25, 142:4, 142:7, 142:13, 142:22, 143:13, 143:17, 143:20, 143:25, 144:9, 144:19, 145:15, 146:3, 146:13, 146:23, 147:2, 147:6, 147:11, 147:13, 147:22, 147:25, 148:9, 148:13, 148:20, 149:3, 149:6, 149:15, 150:1, 150:12, 150:17, 151:1, 151:17, 152:3, 152:6, 152:20, 152:23, 153:3, 153:6, 153:9, 153:15, 153:22, 154:3, 154:12, 154:24, 155:3, 155:10, 155:25, 156:3, 156:9, 156:14, 156:22, 157:6, 157:10, 157:13, 158:11, 158:20, 159:1, 159:6, 159:13, 159:17, 159:23, 160:3, 160:9, 160:14, 160:20, 160:23, 163:5, 165:25, 166:8, 166:11, 166:19, 166:25, 167:5, 170:11, 170:14, 170:19, 170:23, 171:5, 174:24, 177:1, 177:9, 177:16, 180:3, 180:7, 180:15
**hand** [2] - 55:22, 109:11
**handle** [2] - 135:3, 160:1
**handled** [4] - 20:12, 45:5, 65:10, 66:11
**hands** [4] - 22:9, 56:6, 65:17, 143:8
**hands-on** [1] - 22:9
**hang** [1] - 30:10

**hangs** [1] - 146:20
**happenings** [1] - 57:25
**hard** [1] - 101:16
**harmed** [1] - 22:21
**Harper** [5] - 62:17, 65:18, 66:6, 153:12, 179:6
**Harris** [2] - 62:17, 78:19
**Harrisburg** [1] - 20:1
**hate** [2] - 22:19, 70:19
**hates** [1] - 159:23
**head** [5] - 29:3, 30:24, 49:4, 99:25, 111:19
**health** [41] - 33:16, 33:18, 36:1, 48:15, 49:24, 50:22, 51:3, 51:5, 51:9, 51:14, 51:16, 52:1, 62:2, 62:5, 65:5, 65:10, 65:20, 66:13, 78:7, 85:15, 85:17, 89:23, 90:1, 90:9, 90:11, 90:13, 90:16, 90:19, 90:20, 97:18, 116:11, 134:18, 135:2, 135:5, 135:6, 135:15, 135:16, 135:17, 167:17, 167:20
**Health** [9] - 44:21, 45:2, 45:5, 49:12, 51:10, 74:25, 85:9, 168:22, 168:25
**Healthcare** [2] - 85:19, 154:16
**healthcare** [10] - 54:7, 55:1, 75:4, 76:22, 84:15, 89:20, 91:18, 157:25, 158:7, 158:9
**hear** [8] - 5:3, 58:1, 62:4, 96:20, 105:21, 107:14, 173:20, 174:3
**heard** [7] - 49:1, 55:7, 121:9, 123:2, 123:3, 147:8, 178:3
**hearing** [13] - 49:8, 49:10, 49:16, 62:7, 99:12, 99:19, 100:2, 132:8, 140:9, 143:24, 169:4, 169:11, 181:11
**hearings** [3] - 59:19, 60:7, 60:22
**heart** [3] - 144:2, 144:7, 144:10
**heat** [1] - 11:17
**heating** [1] - 11:16

**heck** [1] - 101:10
**held** [1] - 80:11
**hello** [4] - 19:12, 24:25, 37:23, 56:19
**help** [21] - 17:19, 17:20, 22:20, 25:10, 30:2, 33:18, 36:3, 48:17, 49:3, 49:13, 52:8, 52:15, 53:17, 56:8, 57:22, 81:23, 98:14, 120:8, 120:13, 125:24, 134:6
**helpful** [6] - 15:6, 18:9, 27:9, 93:20, 94:24, 132:23
**helps** [3] - 82:9, 82:11, 99:2
**hence** [2] - 34:22, 34:23
**henceforth** [1] - 180:12
**hereby** [1] - 182:4
**hernia** [2] - 45:11, 46:12
**hesitant** [1] - 100:13
**hi** [8] - 6:4, 12:10, 37:24, 37:25, 53:11, 63:2, 71:22, 177:19
**Hi** [2] - 19:13, 27:21
**high** [6] - 40:19, 40:21, 41:12, 54:23, 57:16, 57:18
**high-fiber** [3] - 40:19, 40:21, 41:12
**higher** [1] - 20:4
**highlighted** [1] - 75:2
**highly** [1] - 76:20
**himself** [1] - 33:17
**HIPAA** [16] - 76:4, 99:20, 101:3, 102:13, 103:4, 103:8, 104:8, 105:9, 105:14, 105:16, 105:19, 106:7, 146:25, 150:8, 150:12
**hired** [4] - 57:15, 116:4, 116:7, 123:21
**hiring** [3] - 75:4, 87:25, 91:6
**History** [1] - 61:7
**history** [1] - 61:9
**hit** [1] - 22:24
**hitting** [1] - 177:18
**hold** [4] - 43:18, 125:15, 144:21, 178:11
**holding** [2] - 173:5, 174:10
**holds** [2] - 46:25,

79:12
**holidays** [1] - 80:9
**holy** [1] - 57:1
**home** [4] - 28:4, 96:6, 128:13, 179:18
**Homicide** [1] - 154:19
**homicide** [2] - 155:1, 155:4
**honest** [2] - 103:1, 103:5
**honestly** [1] - 39:23
**Honor** [7] - 15:23, 31:20, 39:11, 71:8, 100:8, 107:17, 109:24
**Honorable** [2] - 68:20, 69:13
**hope** [2] - 53:6, 120:5
**Hope** [3] - 80:8, 80:10, 80:12
**hopeful** [2] - 61:20, 64:7
**hopefully** [3] - 21:3, 25:13, 72:7
**hopes** [1] - 54:23
**horrible** [1] - 170:6
**hospital** [27] - 137:8, 137:16, 137:23, 140:10, 140:17, 141:6, 142:6, 142:10, 142:12, 142:24, 143:11, 144:11, 145:4, 146:1, 148:4, 149:13, 149:25, 150:15, 150:20, 151:2, 151:5, 151:16, 151:24, 152:13, 154:2, 154:15, 154:21
**Hospital** [1] - 85:3
**hospitalization** [2] - 35:10, 66:1
**hospitalized** [1] - 66:14
**hospitals** [1] - 145:7
**host** [1] - 80:25
**hotline** [1] - 64:2
**hour** [2] - 8:24, 45:16
**hours** [18] - 54:20, 69:22, 77:18, 87:15, 89:8, 89:10, 113:3, 113:7, 113:8, 113:21, 115:21, 130:12, 130:17, 130:21, 130:22, 173:21, 174:5, 174:12
**house** [3] - 14:4, 16:21, 90:9
**housed** [5] - 77:3, 88:11, 129:9, 129:15,

**invite** [2] - 55:23, 62:9
**inviting** [1] - 104:4
**involved** [5] - 6:22, 24:7, 59:20, 88:23, 95:1
**involvement** [2] - 88:15, 96:11
**iPad** [3] - 34:14, 34:18, 35:4
**iPads** [1] - 161:4
**issue** [20] - 11:16, 12:2, 43:24, 44:3, 47:3, 47:4, 54:22, 55:3, 67:10, 67:17, 90:3, 97:16, 97:17, 103:8, 107:15, 167:17, 168:7, 168:14, 175:21, 178:25
**issues** [8] - 51:3, 57:22, 67:16, 97:6, 99:7, 106:20, 119:5, 168:4
**item** [1] - 180:9
**items** [4] - 87:13, 88:5, 114:8, 168:18
**itself** [2] - 7:7, 22:2

## J

**J-A-M-E-S** [1] - 63:3
**jail** [187] - 6:15, 9:11, 9:15, 9:21, 9:25, 10:5, 14:1, 14:17, 15:4, 15:9, 15:14, 15:19, 16:20, 16:23, 20:6, 20:19, 20:21, 20:23, 22:7, 23:1, 23:4, 26:2, 26:21, 28:8, 29:6, 29:15, 32:13, 38:15, 38:25, 40:14, 43:1, 44:18, 44:20, 44:24, 46:16, 46:18, 46:22, 47:3, 48:25, 53:16, 54:17, 54:23, 55:16, 55:19, 56:13, 57:7, 57:12, 58:1, 58:10, 58:14, 58:16, 59:13, 62:1, 62:3, 63:21, 64:3, 64:14, 66:20, 67:12, 67:14, 67:22, 68:7, 75:21, 75:24, 76:21, 77:14, 77:19, 80:24, 81:17, 81:19, 82:20, 82:23, 83:8, 83:16, 84:1, 94:21, 95:1, 95:3, 95:5, 95:8, 96:12, 97:17, 97:23, 98:5, 100:3, 102:22,

103:10, 103:24, 104:2, 104:8, 104:18, 104:20, 106:9, 107:14, 107:19, 107:22, 109:19, 112:10, 112:12, 113:13, 115:13, 116:16, 116:24, 120:3, 120:14, 124:3, 124:25, 125:1, 126:23, 127:20, 128:23, 129:2, 129:3, 129:9, 129:10, 129:12, 129:15, 130:3, 130:11, 130:15, 130:18, 130:21, 130:23, 131:4, 131:10, 135:23, 137:7, 137:15, 138:13, 138:18, 138:24, 139:16, 139:17, 140:5, 140:9, 140:10, 140:13, 140:14, 141:7, 141:14, 142:3, 142:6, 142:16, 143:5, 143:8, 143:12, 143:14, 143:21, 144:2, 144:3, 144:7, 144:10, 145:9, 145:16, 145:24, 147:3, 147:4, 147:7, 148:8, 149:7, 149:18, 151:12, 151:19, 151:22, 153:18, 154:4, 154:7, 154:17, 154:18, 157:12, 164:18, 167:10, 172:3, 172:4, 172:15, 173:6, 173:12, 173:16, 173:22, 175:23, 176:5, 178:7, 178:8, 179:14
**Jail** [28] - 20:24, 27:24, 30:15, 32:7, 35:1, 43:9, 44:15, 53:19, 56:23, 64:8, 69:6, 69:16, 69:20, 70:2, 70:11, 71:3, 73:8, 75:19, 89:4, 129:25, 141:19, 143:2, 144:11, 154:8, 154:22, 178:4, 179:18, 180:9
**JAIL** [2] - 1:8, 2:11
**jail's** [9] - 13:22, 76:12, 139:16, 141:3, 142:11, 148:3, 148:17, 149:1, 175:21
**jail-related** [2] - 128:23, 130:11

**jails** [1] - 66:24
**James** [7] - 3:5, 3:13, 27:20, 27:21, 62:22, 63:1, 63:3
**JAMES** [2] - 63:2, 63:15
**January** [16] - 5:22, 25:20, 64:6, 79:9, 79:14, 80:2, 80:10, 80:21, 81:3, 81:9, 81:13, 81:17, 81:18, 84:18, 89:25, 152:11
**Jason** [1] - 2:13
**Jerry** [1] - 62:19
**Jessica** [1] - 79:25
**Jewish** [1] - 63:22
**Jim** [2] - 47:13
**Job** [2] - 54:11, 55:10
**JOB** [8] - 48:22, 48:23, 54:7, 54:22, 55:22, 56:8, 61:16
**job** [11] - 21:4, 45:23, 73:3, 82:4, 90:6, 128:14, 135:24, 135:25, 136:10, 143:3
**jobs** [4] - 71:15, 133:24, 135:10, 135:13
**Joe** [3] - 145:25, 146:11, 146:21
**John** [11] - 3:10, 37:15, 52:22, 53:12, 57:21, 62:16, 105:11, 150:11, 150:14, 150:19, 157:21
**join** [2] - 70:5, 84:4
**joining** [1] - 56:5
**Joseph** [1] - 62:20
**Jr** [5] - 3:6, 3:15, 61:11, 62:19, 68:13
**judge** [6] - 11:11, 22:13, 30:1, 30:16, 60:9, 67:1
**Judge** [13] - 2:2, 2:3, 4:11, 4:23, 34:1, 63:10, 71:9, 96:16, 138:24, 144:20, 153:10, 159:24, 177:1
**JUDGE** [332] - 4:3, 4:6, 4:12, 4:13, 4:16, 4:19, 4:22, 4:25, 5:7, 6:2, 7:14, 8:5, 8:8, 8:11, 11:13, 12:5, 12:8, 15:7, 15:18, 15:24, 16:12, 16:24, 17:2, 17:7, 18:18, 18:21, 18:24, 19:4, 23:15, 23:18, 23:21, 24:7, 24:12, 24:16,

24:20, 24:22, 27:2, 27:14, 27:19, 29:21, 30:3, 30:6, 30:9, 30:11, 30:14, 30:22, 31:1, 31:2, 31:5, 31:7, 31:9, 31:11, 31:14, 31:17, 31:23, 32:5, 32:10, 32:17, 32:20, 33:4, 33:8, 33:10, 33:12, 33:15, 33:23, 34:4, 34:13, 34:22, 34:24, 35:3, 35:7, 35:8, 35:15, 35:18, 35:20, 35:22, 36:4, 36:9, 36:18, 36:22, 36:25, 37:10, 37:14, 37:15, 37:17, 37:18, 37:20, 37:21, 37:24, 38:14, 38:19, 39:3, 39:8, 39:21, 40:2, 40:13, 40:20, 41:2, 41:15, 41:18, 41:21, 42:1, 42:5, 42:13, 42:16, 42:20, 42:23, 43:8, 43:22, 44:2, 44:7, 44:13, 46:1, 47:5, 47:11, 47:19, 47:22, 50:4, 50:7, 50:24, 52:18, 52:22, 53:1, 56:3, 56:16, 58:25, 59:4, 62:25, 63:13, 64:16, 64:21, 68:9, 70:14, 70:24, 71:19, 73:21, 74:4, 74:6, 74:7, 74:10, 74:13, 89:16, 96:14, 99:10, 100:1, 100:9, 102:6, 102:8, 102:10, 102:11, 102:19, 103:14, 103:18, 103:23, 104:3, 104:7, 104:15, 104:25, 106:14, 107:1, 107:6, 107:13, 108:16, 108:20, 109:1, 109:7, 109:13, 109:18, 109:21, 109:25, 110:6, 110:11, 110:16, 110:21, 115:18, 117:21, 117:25, 118:3, 118:7, 118:15, 118:20, 118:22, 122:8, 122:18, 122:21, 122:24, 131:22, 132:2, 132:12, 138:22, 139:1, 139:4, 139:8, 139:12, 140:7, 140:18, 141:21, 142:1, 142:5, 142:9, 142:20, 143:18,

144:6, 144:13, 144:15, 144:21, 145:11, 145:13, 145:19, 145:22, 145:23, 146:7, 146:8, 146:17, 146:24, 147:3, 147:7, 147:12, 147:15, 147:17, 147:19, 147:20, 147:23, 148:1, 148:11, 148:14, 148:19, 148:21, 148:23, 148:25, 149:4, 149:14, 149:17, 149:22, 149:23, 150:3, 150:6, 150:8, 150:10, 150:14, 150:16, 150:18, 150:25, 151:7, 151:11, 152:1, 152:4, 153:4, 153:13, 153:17, 153:21, 153:24, 159:4, 159:21, 160:4, 161:1, 161:13, 162:4, 162:7, 162:13, 162:19, 163:1, 163:11, 163:16, 164:8, 164:10, 164:11, 164:14, 164:17, 164:21, 164:23, 164:24, 165:6, 165:18, 166:2, 166:9, 166:12, 166:15, 166:21, 167:7, 167:11, 167:13, 168:13, 168:15, 169:3, 169:8, 169:15, 169:19, 170:4, 170:8, 170:12, 170:17, 170:21, 171:3, 171:6, 171:18, 171:24, 172:23, 173:7, 173:10, 173:14, 173:24, 173:25, 174:18, 174:21, 174:25, 175:2, 175:4, 176:4, 176:14, 176:19, 176:22, 176:23, 177:7, 177:10, 177:12, 177:13, 177:14, 177:17, 179:22, 179:25, 180:4, 180:6, 180:8, 180:16, 180:18, 180:21, 180:24, 181:2, 181:5, 181:8, 181:9
**judges** [4] - 20:10, 21:7, 48:25, 61:17
**juice** [1] - 174:20

54:15, 76:6

**months** [10] - 20:25, 27:25, 28:3, 59:16, 59:25, 65:15, 94:3, 107:21, 141:6, 170:2

**morale** [2] - 47:3, 47:4

**morally** [1] - 52:4

**morning** [1] - 87:6

**mortality** [2] - 76:13, 77:1

**most** [8] - 55:3, 86:14, 95:19, 96:22, 96:23, 111:2, 144:24

**mother** [2] - 27:25, 28:3

**Motion** [4] - 152:18, 153:14, 180:11, 181:6

**motion** [3] - 74:2, 74:13, 181:7

**motivated** [1] - 12:24

**MOUD** [6] - 16:10, 111:13, 116:10, 116:18, 116:25, 117:3

**mouth** [2] - 56:13, 119:9

**move** [7] - 19:5, 70:9, 119:7, 119:19, 128:10, 152:5, 167:3

**moved** [3] - 34:11, 165:3, 181:7

**movement** [4] - 37:3, 87:5, 87:13, 114:17

**moving** [2] - 88:6, 162:3

**MR** [120] - 4:18, 5:6, 5:11, 6:10, 6:16, 6:25, 7:10, 7:19, 8:1, 8:4, 8:10, 8:13, 9:12, 10:1, 10:14, 10:21, 11:9, 11:11, 11:15, 11:19, 11:20, 11:22, 11:24, 27:17, 29:22, 30:5, 30:8, 31:13, 31:16, 35:13, 35:17, 35:19, 37:12, 37:23, 38:1, 38:18, 39:20, 40:11, 40:18, 40:23, 41:10, 41:17, 41:20, 41:25, 42:3, 42:8, 42:14, 42:18, 42:22, 42:24, 43:11, 43:25, 44:6, 44:11, 44:15, 46:3, 47:6, 47:14, 48:1, 53:11, 56:5, 63:2, 63:15, 64:25, 68:12, 70:22, 70:25, 71:22, 72:13, 89:18, 90:15, 90:18, 90:22, 91:4, 91:21, 92:15, 92:21,

93:5, 93:11, 93:17, 94:10, 94:15, 94:18, 94:22, 95:7, 95:13, 95:16, 95:21, 95:25, 96:2, 96:8, 104:5, 104:12, 104:17, 106:1, 106:11, 106:19, 107:4, 107:8, 148:18, 150:23, 151:4, 151:9, 151:14, 151:21, 152:17, 152:22, 152:25, 153:7, 153:19, 159:25, 171:12, 171:25, 173:8, 173:13, 174:7, 174:19, 175:25, 176:12, 176:21

**MS** [274] - 4:21, 4:24, 6:4, 6:7, 6:14, 6:18, 7:4, 7:12, 7:16, 7:20, 8:2, 9:8, 9:23, 10:6, 10:19, 11:1, 11:10, 12:10, 13:7, 13:11, 13:12, 13:15, 13:19, 14:2, 14:18, 14:25, 15:5, 17:9, 17:14, 17:15, 17:19, 18:2, 18:6, 18:12, 18:15, 18:17, 18:23, 19:3, 23:17, 23:19, 23:22, 24:13, 24:18, 27:4, 28:16, 32:12, 32:19, 32:21, 33:13, 33:20, 33:25, 34:19, 35:24, 36:8, 36:11, 37:6, 37:25, 41:4, 41:14, 47:15, 47:21, 47:24, 48:2, 50:6, 50:9, 51:1, 52:20, 52:24, 53:3, 56:19, 59:3, 59:6, 65:2, 71:18, 72:1, 72:12, 74:2, 96:16, 96:22, 96:23, 98:12, 99:8, 101:1, 102:17, 103:16, 103:20, 104:1, 104:10, 105:6, 106:4, 107:7, 108:3, 108:12, 108:18, 110:18, 110:23, 111:20, 112:7, 112:9, 112:18, 112:21, 113:4, 113:10, 113:16, 113:23, 114:13, 114:24, 115:6, 115:10, 116:3, 116:15, 116:21, 117:2, 117:12, 118:11, 118:18, 119:2, 119:10, 119:19, 119:22,

119:25, 120:24, 121:2, 121:5, 121:8, 121:17, 121:23, 122:1, 122:7, 122:17, 122:20, 123:1, 123:15, 123:19, 124:1, 124:8, 124:12, 124:22, 125:4, 125:7, 125:11, 126:3, 126:9, 126:20, 127:4, 127:7, 127:12, 127:16, 127:21, 128:5, 128:22, 128:25, 129:8, 129:12, 129:16, 129:19, 130:1, 130:10, 130:14, 130:19, 130:22, 131:1, 131:5, 131:7, 131:11, 131:16, 131:24, 132:4, 132:14, 133:10, 133:14, 133:20, 134:3, 135:20, 136:9, 136:23, 137:3, 137:20, 138:16, 138:25, 139:3, 139:9, 139:19, 139:22, 140:1, 140:11, 140:23, 141:8, 141:25, 142:4, 142:7, 142:13, 142:22, 143:13, 143:17, 143:20, 143:25, 144:9, 144:19, 145:15, 146:3, 146:13, 146:23, 147:2, 147:6, 147:11, 147:13, 147:22, 147:25, 148:9, 148:13, 148:20, 149:3, 149:6, 149:15, 150:1, 150:12, 150:17, 151:1, 151:17, 152:3, 152:6, 152:20, 152:23, 153:3, 153:6, 153:9, 153:15, 153:22, 154:3, 154:12, 154:24, 155:3, 155:10, 155:25, 156:3, 156:9, 156:14, 156:22, 157:6, 157:10, 157:13, 158:11, 158:20, 159:1, 159:6, 159:13, 159:17, 159:23, 160:3, 160:9, 160:14, 160:20, 160:23, 163:5, 165:25, 166:8, 166:11, 166:19,

166:25, 167:5, 170:11, 170:14, 170:19, 170:23, 171:5, 174:24, 177:1, 177:9, 177:16, 177:19, 180:3, 180:7, 180:15

**muddied** [1] - 140:22

**multiple** [8] - 57:23, 82:10, 87:7, 96:5, 107:21, 129:17, 134:21

**munitions** [3] - 92:5, 92:22, 93:2

**must** [4] - 13:21, 50:13, 52:6, 57:5

## N

**Naltrexone** [1] - 84:21

**name** [24] - 5:9, 5:10, 12:10, 12:11, 19:17, 27:21, 29:4, 31:8, 35:12, 35:13, 35:16, 42:8, 48:2, 53:11, 56:19, 59:6, 59:16, 63:3, 63:11, 67:7, 68:12, 177:19

**named** [1] - 79:25

**names** [4] - 62:10, 94:16, 158:4, 179:3

**Narcan** [1] - 80:18

**National** [1] - 77:22

**nationwide** [1] - 21:13

**naturally** [1] - 29:24

**nature** [1] - 10:25

**NCCHC** [7] - 76:8, 76:13, 76:15, 76:20, 76:23, 120:11, 120:18

**necessarily** [10] - 102:12, 102:13, 102:21, 113:7, 113:21, 141:23, 145:8, 146:1, 153:14, 173:15

**necessary** [2] - 87:4, 87:12

**need** [36] - 7:2, 18:10, 19:14, 21:4, 21:6, 22:14, 23:24, 26:12, 38:5, 38:8, 38:11, 49:11, 49:18, 54:5, 54:9, 56:9, 67:16, 68:4, 68:5, 72:4, 90:5, 98:3, 100:22, 115:25, 119:23, 135:19,

144:4, 148:14, 151:2, 154:20, 158:4, 172:20, 174:15

**needed** [6] - 60:20, 98:23, 112:6, 128:19, 130:25, 157:20

**needs** [16] - 25:7, 33:18, 35:9, 45:24, 51:20, 52:13, 54:9, 55:14, 57:2, 62:2, 82:13, 82:16, 98:3, 117:9, 135:19, 167:10

**negative** [1] - 55:6

**nerve** [1] - 22:1

**Network** [3] - 48:5, 51:10, 56:24

**never** [15] - 18:10, 24:4, 40:7, 45:24, 47:8, 53:23, 53:25, 121:8, 152:14, 152:20, 152:23, 157:6, 157:10, 165:23, 165:24

**new** [25] - 19:14, 25:15, 27:12, 42:25, 48:6, 50:12, 52:10, 54:22, 63:6, 70:4, 71:24, 73:1, 78:21, 81:12, 81:19, 82:23, 83:14, 84:1, 88:15, 126:22, 153:1

**New** [2] - 50:13, 181:2

**NEW** [1] - 181:1

**newly** [1] - 57:15

**newspaper** [2] - 25:17, 25:18

**next** [38] - 7:21, 10:7, 11:1, 14:13, 18:5, 18:14, 40:4, 53:7, 59:12, 72:8, 73:19, 79:1, 119:25, 122:17, 122:21, 123:2, 124:23, 125:12, 128:8, 128:10, 131:18, 132:16, 134:4, 134:11, 137:5, 137:9, 153:2, 154:8, 154:22, 155:5, 155:6, 155:8, 157:24, 161:9, 164:6, 172:21, 179:19, 180:9

**nice** [4] - 12:25, 71:22, 120:22, 168:21

**Nicole** [1] - 62:23

**night** [7] - 11:17, 111:8, 111:14, 112:1, 114:5, 115:12

**nights** [2] - 89:21, 89:25

NIH [1] - 20:3
nobody [4] - 46:19, 46:25, 95:7, 179:4
nobody's [1] - 58:13
nominated [1] - 50:19
nominees [1] - 53:9
non [3] - 40:18, 40:21, 41:12
non-solid [3] - 40:18, 40:21, 41:12
none [5] - 38:24, 59:20, 67:5, 157:1, 181:3
nonsense [1] - 101:6
Notary [1] - 182:14
note [4] - 87:6, 99:15, 158:9, 169:23
notebook [1] - 109:15
notes [6] - 40:10, 83:4, 109:15, 132:17, 132:19, 182:6
nothing [5] - 30:15, 44:10, 46:13, 67:3, 127:22
noticed [1] - 6:20
notification [2] - 83:10, 155:2
notified [5] - 141:20, 152:13, 154:5, 154:7, 154:16
notify [4] - 154:16, 155:4, 155:6, 155:8
notifying [2] - 137:6, 154:19
nuances [1] - 71:1
number [16] - 5:14, 6:11, 32:17, 48:16, 86:7, 88:25, 93:25, 125:5, 125:8, 154:1, 155:20, 157:25, 158:13, 158:15, 158:18, 172:20
Number [1] - 79:10
numbers [4] - 6:13, 12:14, 79:14, 94:23
numerous [1] - 55:11
nurse [8] - 51:11, 86:12, 134:19, 135:2, 136:21, 136:22, 168:3, 169:13
nurses [2] - 85:24, 90:11
Nursing [3] - 136:4, 136:6, 136:17
nursing [3] - 87:24, 88:3, 90:24
nutrients [1] - 33:17

nutrition [3] - 51:22, 174:13, 174:15

## O

o'clock [1] - 4:2
O'Connor [5] - 2:6, 4:17, 94:4, 134:12, 152:24
O'CONNOR [32] - 4:18, 11:11, 11:15, 11:20, 11:24, 89:18, 90:15, 90:18, 90:22, 91:4, 91:21, 92:15, 92:21, 93:5, 93:11, 93:17, 94:10, 94:15, 94:18, 94:22, 95:7, 95:13, 95:16, 95:21, 95:25, 96:2, 96:8, 152:17, 152:22, 152:25, 153:7, 153:19
O'Connor's [1] - 157:21
object [1] - 100:12
objections [1] - 133:25
observe [2] - 85:24, 86:22
obtain [1] - 178:8
obviously [4] - 26:22, 35:11, 140:22, 156:7
occur [1] - 172:17
occurred [1] - 76:11
occurrence [1] - 12:3
occurring [1] - 97:6
occurs [3] - 60:16, 154:4, 154:7
October [3] - 66:8, 90:1
odd [1] - 172:6
OF [1] - 2:1
offer [3] - 52:7, 78:7, 86:19
offered [6] - 23:10, 34:21, 52:12, 78:5, 100:2, 107:20
offering [3] - 52:15, 81:19, 91:12
offers [1] - 58:5
Office [1] - 130:7
office [12] - 60:18, 61:4, 91:25, 96:7, 98:24, 128:11, 131:2, 131:4, 131:7, 131:10, 131:13, 131:15
Officer [2] - 5:25, 31:3

officer [8] - 30:2, 45:23, 53:24, 54:2, 78:24, 158:14, 168:8
officers [19] - 47:4, 54:5, 54:9, 54:10, 54:19, 54:25, 59:20, 60:7, 60:11, 65:16, 65:19, 67:4, 156:16, 157:20, 157:25, 158:11, 158:14, 158:16, 158:23
offices [1] - 128:13
Offices [1] - 128:18
often [7] - 55:18, 63:19, 136:10, 137:10, 142:14, 144:20, 145:6
Ohio [1] - 82:8
OLD [1] - 179:24
Old [1] - 180:1
OMSE [2] - 77:11, 163:8
on-site [1] - 58:2
once [15] - 14:12, 20:17, 53:7, 77:18, 86:25, 87:13, 111:7, 111:17, 111:25, 112:15, 115:13, 115:23, 117:14, 145:23, 177:25
once-a-day [1] - 86:25
one [73] - 6:11, 11:16, 19:9, 21:5, 21:19, 24:1, 25:2, 25:14, 26:10, 26:17, 27:7, 28:7, 30:22, 33:4, 35:24, 36:12, 38:11, 39:11, 39:18, 41:24, 43:12, 45:1, 45:5, 50:21, 51:8, 64:7, 65:1, 65:25, 66:3, 67:10, 68:3, 71:9, 72:17, 90:13, 91:7, 93:14, 98:15, 98:20, 99:21, 100:12, 108:22, 109:21, 110:8, 114:22, 115:1, 120:11, 125:6, 125:7, 127:14, 129:22, 131:21, 135:14, 135:24, 136:10, 138:9, 146:12, 153:7, 156:15, 156:25, 164:18, 165:7, 165:22, 167:3, 168:17, 170:9, 171:9, 172:8, 172:20, 177:23, 178:2, 179:18
ones [4] - 62:13,

75:13, 91:22, 123:12
ongoing [1] - 62:1
Online [1] - 98:16
online [2] - 131:19, 171:16
onsite [1] - 84:6
open [5] - 6:1, 24:19, 41:12, 79:7, 136:21
openness [1] - 51:24
operating [1] - 69:24
operational [1] - 86:20
operationally [1] - 86:25
Operations [1] - 5:13
operations [3] - 38:4, 69:16, 69:18
opinion [5] - 100:13, 100:23, 106:12, 148:3, 148:15
Opioid [1] - 7:6
opioid [1] - 7:23
opportunities [1] - 81:25
opportunity [3] - 63:17, 85:24, 122:15
opposed [3] - 74:11, 134:9, 180:22
oppositional [1] - 84:11
optimistic [1] - 19:13
option [2] - 84:9, 163:25
oral [1] - 84:21
ORAS [2] - 82:7, 82:8
order [5] - 38:4, 81:24, 94:8, 112:3, 178:1
ordered [1] - 82:25
orderly [1] - 86:10
orders [1] - 81:7
organization [2] - 76:25, 126:16
organizationally [1] - 129:13
organizations [4] - 48:14, 63:8, 63:22, 63:24
organize [1] - 111:1
organizer [1] - 68:14
organizing [1] - 125:25
orientation [1] - 87:25
Orlando [1] - 65:18
OT [1] - 158:16
otherwise [2] - 25:11, 140:14
out-of-cell [2] - 37:3,

54:6
outpatient [1] - 87:8
outside [10] - 28:11, 61:16, 92:16, 102:20, 102:23, 104:20, 130:23, 154:13, 162:10, 162:11
outstanding [1] - 77:24
outwards [1] - 163:24
overdoses [1] - 9:4
overinflated [1] - 169:1
overlaps [1] - 69:5
oversees [2] - 51:10, 123:22
Oversight [23] - 20:24, 30:15, 32:7, 35:1, 43:9, 57:8, 64:8, 68:21, 69:6, 71:3, 74:20, 75:19, 89:4, 100:3, 109:6, 141:19, 143:3, 144:4, 144:11, 149:9, 154:8, 154:23, 178:4
OVERSIGHT [1] - 1:8
oversight [5] - 51:9, 95:2, 105:16, 143:4, 144:12
overtime [10] - 54:12, 54:19, 57:11, 158:1, 158:2, 158:6, 158:19, 158:23, 159:3
owe [1] - 66:20
own [12] - 39:18, 52:4, 61:2, 61:18, 61:23, 65:12, 85:21, 87:9, 103:22, 110:3, 127:11
owns [1] - 59:22

## P

P-A-L-M-E-R [1] - 38:2
P-R-I-C-E [1] - 5:12
p.m [3] - 4:2, 147:5, 181:12
PA [5] - 19:23, 79:4, 92:2, 92:9, 93:1
package [1] - 135:9
packages [1] - 127:11
packet [8] - 94:12, 108:25, 109:3, 109:12, 109:19, 109:22, 110:4, 110:5
packets [3] - 94:6,

89:9

**predict** [1] - 82:9
**preexisting** [2] - 10:22, 143:16
**pregnant** [2] - 60:1, 145:1
**premise** [2] - 104:16, 104:18
**preparation** [2] - 51:23, 82:19
**prepare** [4] - 49:14, 132:20, 132:24, 133:24
**prepared** [5] - 68:16, 123:13, 124:19, 132:17, 133:21
**prepares** [1] - 86:12
**preparing** [1] - 80:8
**Prerelease** [1] - 80:7
**prescribe** [1] - 112:14
**prescribed** [4] - 84:21, 86:9, 89:10, 119:11
**prescription** [2] - 112:3, 113:20
**present** [2] - 69:19, 89:23
**presented** [1] - 121:16
**PRESENTERS** [1] - 2:20
**president** [1] - 63:10
**President** [4] - 2:2, 19:19, 43:1, 43:5
**pretrial** [2] - 20:10, 172:24
**pretty** [4] - 19:12, 20:18, 126:13, 127:7
**preventing** [1] - 86:2
**preview** [1] - 143:6
**previous** [2] - 19:16, 124:17
**previously** [2] - 124:2, 179:14
**Price** [3] - 2:21, 5:11, 5:12
**PRICE** [11] - 5:6, 5:11, 6:6, 6:10, 6:16, 6:25, 7:10, 7:19, 8:1, 8:4, 8:10
**primarily** [1] - 10:14
**primary** [1] - 82:19
**prime** [1] - 59:24
**print** [1] - 152:10
**prioritize** [1] - 82:13
**prison** [3] - 49:2, 49:7, 138:6
**Prisons** [1] - 49:5
**private** [2] - 38:12,

55:20

**probation** [3] - 28:9, 30:1, 32:6
**Probation** [5] - 29:3, 30:24, 30:25, 31:3, 78:3
**probationary** [1] - 91:16
**problem** [10] - 21:2, 65:18, 107:10, 127:10, 133:1, 151:19, 151:22, 161:14, 172:12, 177:11
**problematic** [1] - 147:21
**procedure** [1] - 171:14
**procedures** [4] - 69:24, 86:21, 172:24, 178:6
**proceedings** [1] - 182:5
**process** [23] - 14:12, 22:4, 67:18, 76:18, 76:23, 77:14, 83:3, 83:7, 83:12, 86:3, 88:5, 88:9, 88:25, 97:9, 97:14, 116:7, 119:13, 171:14, 172:4, 173:18, 175:22, 176:9, 176:15
**processed** [1] - 172:14
**processes** [2] - 78:4, 108:2
**processing** [2] - 172:10, 172:13
**professional** [3] - 50:20, 111:12, 135:6
**Professionals** [1] - 80:1
**professionals** [4] - 51:25, 97:19, 134:24, 142:15
**program** [13] - 6:9, 9:20, 12:20, 12:21, 18:3, 25:23, 75:5, 80:10, 81:1, 81:19, 82:1, 82:24, 84:10
**Program** [10] - 5:24, 8:16, 8:20, 9:7, 12:15, 81:11, 81:12, 81:14, 91:5, 91:11
**programmatic** [1] - 82:13
**programming** [2] - 77:3, 86:18
**Programs** [1] - 84:14
**programs** [3] -

14:22, 48:16, 49:11

**progress** [5] - 87:24, 96:24, 98:7, 161:5, 169:23
**Project** [2] - 68:15, 68:23
**promise** [1] - 32:23
**promoted** [2] - 78:18, 78:19
**promotions** [1] - 78:17
**proper** [3] - 77:21, 86:13, 174:14
**properly** [1] - 57:12
**property** [1] - 59:23
**protect** [1] - 71:14
**protected** [2] - 56:10, 158:24
**protecting** [1] - 20:9
**Protective** [1] - 19:25
**protein** [1] - 46:9
**protocol** [3] - 89:7, 154:19, 156:18
**protocols** [2] - 75:11, 86:22
**proven** [2] - 87:14, 172:16
**provide** [15] - 48:15, 49:23, 49:25, 54:8, 54:9, 73:16, 76:1, 84:14, 94:13, 97:10, 124:6, 152:5, 166:5, 166:6, 172:2
**provided** [6] - 40:11, 42:3, 57:14, 103:10, 164:25, 165:20
**provider** [14] - 6:17, 6:23, 13:17, 21:14, 21:17, 32:3, 34:10, 39:13, 89:5, 103:10, 112:4, 112:13, 112:25, 134:18
**providers** [6] - 6:19, 14:4, 15:16, 16:6, 16:21, 168:20
**provides** [4] - 73:6, 85:24, 124:6, 151:19
**providing** [8] - 7:22, 51:24, 57:24, 67:14, 105:22, 105:23, 149:21, 151:22
**psychiatric** [3] - 85:16, 168:18, 169:5
**Psychiatric** [1] - 168:23
**Psychiatry** [1] - 168:23
**public** [18] - 42:18, 47:15, 67:15, 70:7, 71:24, 73:3, 73:4,

73:10, 73:23, 76:2, 97:5, 97:11, 101:22, 101:23, 102:4, 102:14, 131:19, 171:7
**PUBLIC** [3] - 3:1, 19:11, 171:11
**Public** [6] - 19:6, 42:17, 93:24, 177:3, 177:4, 182:14
**public's** [1] - 70:8
**publicly** [2] - 75:14, 103:9
**pull** [1] - 175:5
**purpose** [2] - 48:11, 164:22
**purposes** [1] - 87:6
**pursue** [3] - 52:3, 60:25, 61:5
**pursuit** [1] - 76:24
**purview** [4] - 7:8, 61:16, 61:24, 172:2
**put** [13] - 21:15, 26:8, 28:9, 32:23, 71:4, 94:7, 99:18, 161:10, 161:19, 162:15, 165:11, 168:19, 177:14
**putting** [1] - 99:17

## Q

**Quakers** [1] - 72:15
**quality** [3] - 48:15, 49:25, 69:25
**questioning** [1] - 145:16
**questionnaire** [3] - 121:14, 121:15, 121:18
**questions** [27] - 6:1, 6:3, 9:6, 13:5, 20:22, 72:19, 72:24, 72:25, 73:12, 74:19, 89:17, 89:19, 93:18, 96:18, 96:21, 96:25, 98:25, 110:24, 119:23, 121:19, 123:4, 124:17, 132:19, 132:24, 132:25, 136:6, 179:8
**queue** [2] - 168:2, 168:18
**quick** [3] - 11:12, 65:3, 96:25
**quickly** [1] - 22:4
**quite** [4] - 48:8, 55:2, 103:1, 171:20

## R

**R-A-N-D-A-L-L** [1] - 19:18
**racial** [2] - 68:25, 70:13
**racism** [1] - 61:10
**raise** [2] - 73:11, 177:23
**raised** [5] - 72:24, 72:25, 74:20, 75:3, 178:14
**Ramadan** [1] - 80:9
**ran** [1] - 98:22
**RAND** [1] - 68:24
**Randall** [3] - 3:2, 19:10, 19:17
**RANDALL** [8] - 19:12, 23:17, 23:19, 23:22, 24:10, 24:13, 24:18, 24:21
**random** [4] - 12:3, 128:9, 156:11, 156:13
**rank** [1] - 78:18
**rate** [4] - 8:22, 8:23, 57:5, 57:18
**rates** [1] - 57:17
**rather** [1] - 40:4
**raving** [1] - 18:7
**razor** [1] - 28:5
**rea** [1] - 34:22
**reach** [6] - 66:9, 73:16, 98:24, 124:10, 124:13, 132:7
**reached** [4] - 38:12, 43:13, 99:1, 99:3
**reaction** [1] - 168:25
**read** [12] - 68:15, 68:23, 131:25, 132:3, 132:6, 132:9, 132:17, 137:21, 140:1, 153:9, 159:13, 179:4
**readiness** [1] - 82:4
**reading** [6] - 62:10, 67:8, 69:5, 103:2, 133:3, 180:14
**ready** [3] - 60:20, 87:4, 110:20
**Realistic** [1] - 81:20
**reality** [1] - 111:9
**really** [29] - 18:11, 20:14, 21:6, 23:20, 25:12, 26:3, 30:2, 49:3, 63:5, 115:23, 120:5, 120:7, 122:2, 124:24, 126:24, 126:25, 132:23, 134:3, 134:6, 141:1, 141:8, 157:16,

167:15, 167:22, 168:24, 169:10, 169:12, 169:16, 178:10

**realm** [1] - 92:16
**realtime** [2] - 168:3, 168:24
**reason** [13] - 10:4, 11:7, 58:21, 58:22, 70:9, 77:17, 83:9, 107:4, 107:9, 114:14, 119:4, 143:11, 151:25
**reasons** [6] - 9:12, 9:22, 10:21, 20:14, 111:16, 149:8
**reassigning** [1] - 60:18
**rebooting** [1] - 22:6
**receipt** [3] - 83:4, 127:22, 127:25
**receipts** [2] - 83:2, 128:2
**receive** [9] - 82:15, 83:6, 91:19, 102:5, 111:14, 111:17, 111:24, 117:3, 123:10
**received** [8] - 41:9, 41:11, 79:8, 81:4, 81:12, 83:1, 87:19, 169:17
**receives** [3] - 54:15, 77:19, 83:8
**receiving** [12] - 83:23, 84:22, 87:2, 111:13, 111:22, 112:12, 115:1, 115:7, 115:12, 115:15, 117:4, 123:24
**recidivism** [2] - 49:4, 82:10
**reclaim** [1] - 44:11
**recommend** [1] - 51:4
**recommended** [1] - 72:2
**record** [1] - 36:12
**recording** [1] - 182:7
**recovery** [1] - 87:23
**Recovery** [3] - 2:21, 5:4, 5:13
**recreation** [4] - 86:17, 86:23, 114:17, 166:22
**recreational** [2] - 13:1, 86:19
**rectified** [1] - 45:17
**redact** [1] - 105:8
**redone** [1] - 25:7
**reduce** [1] - 49:3
**Reed** [3] - 47:13,

47:25
**REED** [3] - 47:14, 47:18, 48:1
**reentrance** [1] - 12:22
**reentrant** [1] - 13:3
**Reentry** [5] - 49:13, 78:20, 81:18, 82:6, 125:23
**reentry** [1] - 82:14
**refer** [1] - 17:23
**Referendum** [1] - 76:6
**referendum** [2] - 92:6, 92:24
**referral** [4] - 33:7, 33:9, 33:11, 33:16
**referrals** [2] - 80:22, 81:12
**referring** [3] - 15:3, 92:19, 140:20
**reflect** [1] - 77:13
**reflected** [1] - 91:15
**refreshing** [1] - 72:18
**refuse** [2] - 158:23
**refused** [1] - 63:18
**refusing** [2] - 29:8, 55:12
**regard** [1] - 61:19
**regarding** [9] - 5:21, 7:6, 40:7, 54:15, 56:11, 76:16, 77:15, 79:17, 89:3
**regardless** [3] - 31:6, 91:1, 96:6
**regards** [3] - 9:7, 65:10, 135:5
**registration** [1] - 82:21
**regular** [1] - 155:18
**regulation** [1] - 51:21
**regulations** [3] - 16:23, 77:2, 113:17
**regurgitating** [1] - 106:9
**rehabilitation** [1] - 66:25
**Reimagine** [1] - 49:13
**reinstalled** [1] - 79:22
**reintegrate** [1] - 48:18
**rejection** [1] - 75:5
**related** [3] - 44:16, 128:23, 130:11
**relationship** [3] - 17:24, 18:11, 55:19

**relationships** [1] - 58:17
**relatives** [1] - 72:21
**Release** [5] - 8:16, 9:7, 78:22, 80:16, 80:17
**release** [11] - 51:23, 77:15, 81:17, 84:23, 139:11, 140:20, 142:3, 142:7, 142:17, 151:3, 151:6
**released** [33] - 77:18, 77:21, 137:7, 137:12, 137:17, 137:18, 138:19, 139:2, 139:15, 139:18, 140:3, 140:8, 140:9, 140:16, 141:5, 141:15, 141:24, 143:7, 145:10, 145:24, 149:12, 150:4, 150:19, 151:16, 151:23, 151:25, 154:6, 173:23, 175:24, 176:2, 176:3, 176:6
**releases** [3] - 147:4, 148:4, 149:8
**releasing** [1] - 77:16
**relief** [1] - 67:14
**relieve** [1] - 88:2
**religious** [2] - 38:5, 123:12
**remain** [1] - 76:5
**remains** [1] - 168:13
**remember** [10] - 19:7, 62:13, 116:8, 124:1, 152:18, 153:8, 172:2, 179:2, 179:3, 179:6
**remembered** [1] - 59:5
**remembering** [1] - 120:9
**remind** [1] - 46:15
**remove** [1] - 42:12
**removed** [1] - 79:21
**render** [2] - 100:13, 100:23
**Renee** [1] - 39:5
**renewal** [1] - 177:23
**Renewal** [17] - 2:22, 2:23, 7:13, 7:15, 8:11, 8:14, 9:24, 10:9, 10:20, 11:4, 12:12, 13:20, 14:12, 15:20, 16:14, 17:24, 49:16
**repair** [1] - 68:25
**repaired** [1] - 25:7
**repeat** [1] - 53:25

**report** [40] - 5:16, 19:1, 25:6, 33:2, 34:24, 35:1, 35:2, 46:19, 76:6, 77:7, 78:10, 84:13, 89:20, 89:24, 91:1, 93:18, 93:21, 94:5, 105:8, 106:15, 109:16, 121:25, 125:9, 125:14, 136:3, 138:13, 139:17, 140:17, 141:7, 145:17, 148:9, 148:24, 149:18, 154:1, 154:20, 169:9, 169:20, 171:4, 180:12
**Report** [4] - 74:15, 78:12, 80:4, 180:2
**REPORT** [2] - 74:16, 78:13
**report-off** [1] - 136:3
**reportable** [6] - 138:2, 138:7, 138:21, 139:25, 140:13, 141:16
**reported** [5] - 11:16, 79:19, 136:22, 137:9, 149:7
**reporter** [1] - 134:7
**reporting** [4] - 8:14, 128:18, 141:18, 148:12
**Reporting** [3] - 138:3, 138:12, 146:6
**Reports** [1] - 5:3
**reports** [15] - 5:5, 76:18, 96:18, 97:11, 100:4, 100:5, 101:8, 106:24, 108:4, 132:18, 133:4, 133:5, 155:19, 157:24, 179:1
**represent** [1] - 47:7
**representatives** [1] - 48:23
**representing** [3] - 43:6, 70:5, 70:10
**reprisal** [2] - 55:12, 55:14
**reps** [1] - 20:10
**repurposed** [1] - 83:20
**request** [10] - 9:24, 39:18, 95:24, 124:11, 124:20, 124:21, 126:1, 159:5, 159:6, 159:7
**Request** [2] - 74:24, 85:13
**requested** [3] - 74:19, 75:9, 99:13

**require** [1] - 112:19
**required** [6] - 15:9, 15:13, 16:1, 17:17, 28:6, 123:16
**requirement** [1] - 161:12
**requirements** [1] - 82:2
**requires** [2] - 85:22, 138:13
**reschedule** [1] - 38:8
**rescinded** [1] - 85:5
**reseal** [1] - 79:21
**research** [1] - 55:2
**resident** [4] - 6:21, 57:14, 71:2, 102:23
**Residential** [2] - 81:6, 81:7
**residents** [15] - 5:23, 48:12, 48:17, 50:1, 54:6, 56:22, 57:4, 57:19, 58:4, 58:16, 69:22, 71:11, 97:24, 98:18, 165:7
**Resolution** [1] - 50:13
**resolved** [1] - 169:25
**Resource** [1] - 126:18
**resource** [1] - 17:21
**resources** [1] - 130:8
**respect** [3] - 45:6, 62:10, 69:25
**respectful** [2] - 19:9, 70:20
**respond** [4] - 22:7, 73:3, 73:9, 102:7
**responding** [2] - 51:19, 72:18
**response** [8] - 8:7, 11:7, 12:7, 18:20, 51:20, 74:12, 92:1, 180:23
**responses** [1] - 55:7
**responsibilities** [3] - 135:7, 135:8, 136:25
**responsibility** [2] - 39:17, 141:4
**responsible** [8] - 26:18, 26:24, 48:24, 52:5, 73:12, 123:7, 142:11, 148:12
**responsibly** [1] - 77:17
**responsiveness** [1] - 73:2
**rest** [1] - 20:5
**restriction** [2] - 31:19, 34:10
**restrictions** [18] -

31:24, 34:2, 34:7, 36:13, 36:14, 37:2, 37:3, 37:7, 38:24, 40:16, 44:21, 45:4, 65:5, 65:11, 112:11, 123:4, 142:19, 161:20
**restrictive** [2] - 41:7, 113:24
**retain** [1] - 52:8
**retaliated** [1] - 28:7
**retelling** [1] - 58:13
**returned** [2] - 9:17, 83:11
**returning** [3] - 49:14, 54:21, 76:8
**review** [6] - 39:24, 76:10, 97:9, 100:15, 101:19, 107:25
**Review** [4] - 72:3, 76:12, 76:14, 76:17
**reviewed** [5] - 68:23, 73:25, 75:14, 83:13, 97:4
**reviewing** [2] - 74:19, 75:12
**reviews** [6] - 18:8, 76:13, 77:1, 97:4, 112:4, 112:6
**RFP** [6] - 125:22, 125:23, 126:4, 126:19, 161:10, 164:6
**rice** [1] - 45:20
**Richard** [2] - 62:15, 62:24
**rift** [1] - 57:6
**rights** [2] - 71:15, 102:20
**risk** [2] - 82:7, 82:12
**Risk** [1] - 82:8
**RN** [5] - 89:23, 90:25, 134:18, 135:3, 135:5
**roadmap** [1] - 162:1
**Robert** [2] - 62:15, 62:17
**rocket** [1] - 102:11
**Roger** [1] - 62:18
**role** [2] - 95:12, 95:14
**roles** [2] - 95:11, 128:12
**roll** [1] - 4:9
**Romanelli** [1] - 78:18
**Ronald** [1] - 62:20
**Room** [2] - 1:18, 100:19
**room** [1] - 166:23
**Ross** [1] - 62:19
**roving** [1] - 90:2
**rows** [1] - 86:6
**Roy** [2] - 3:15, 68:13

**roy** [1] - 68:11
**rule** [3] - 70:17, 104:21, 107:12
**rules** [3] - 16:22, 178:12, 178:13
**run** [1] - 23:9
**Run** [1] - 29:23
**run-around** [1] - 23:9
**running** [2] - 46:16, 126:12

## S

**sacrifice** [1] - 58:7
**safe** [2] - 54:7, 136:9
**safely** [2] - 77:16, 86:10
**safety** [9] - 66:13, 75:11, 75:17, 76:3, 87:1, 87:11, 89:20, 106:20, 107:10
**Sahm** [1] - 62:23
**sandwich** [2] - 174:11, 174:20
**Sangeep** [1] - 165:12
**Sara** [4] - 2:5, 50:18, 63:10, 71:7
**sat** [1] - 175:7
**Satisfaction** [2] - 54:11, 55:10
**satisfies** [1] - 87:1
**satisfy** [1] - 166:14
**Saturdays** [1] - 81:2
**savvy** [1] - 162:21
**saw** [6] - 27:5, 32:12, 32:14, 32:24, 93:21, 171:1
**scared** [1] - 170:19
**schedule** [4] - 40:8, 101:16, 101:17, 117:16
**scheduled** [3] - 38:6, 38:23, 78:25
**schedules** [1] - 101:17
**scheduling** [3] - 90:3, 90:6, 91:2
**scientist** [1] - 102:12
**SCIs** [1] - 93:15
**Sciubba** [1] - 62:24
**scores** [1] - 21:16
**scrambled** [1] - 45:18
**scream** [1] - 103:7
**screen** [1] - 175:5
**screened** [1] - 23:13
**screening** [8] - 21:7, 21:15, 120:2, 120:17, 121:4, 121:5, 121:6,

121:12
**script** [1] - 112:4
**scrolling** [8] - 134:14, 134:15, 134:16
**scum** [1] - 61:10
**search** [3] - 66:19, 155:24, 156:18
**searched** [2] - 156:23, 157:5
**searches** [7] - 155:17, 155:20, 156:5, 156:11, 156:20, 156:25
**seat** [1] - 86:11
**seats** [2] - 86:7
**Second** [1] - 11:5
**second** [11] - 44:19, 44:23, 56:11, 74:5, 74:6, 105:15, 158:12, 180:17
**second-largest** [1] - 44:19
**secondly** [1] - 171:25
**sections** [1] - 69:17
**secure** [2] - 75:21, 163:8
**securely** [1] - 86:10
**security** [12] - 75:11, 75:17, 76:3, 87:1, 87:11, 99:7, 106:20, 107:11, 161:16, 161:20, 163:14, 163:17
**see** [55] - 7:2, 10:20, 20:17, 22:19, 25:12, 29:16, 31:21, 32:14, 48:7, 48:9, 60:14, 70:4, 71:1, 71:22, 72:23, 75:13, 75:16, 77:9, 93:25, 96:19, 98:5, 98:24, 99:3, 102:15, 105:21, 107:23, 112:5, 119:1, 119:8, 122:2, 133:21, 138:16, 139:24, 147:17, 156:7, 156:24, 157:2, 165:2, 168:24, 170:15, 170:24, 170:25, 172:18, 172:19, 172:20, 175:4, 175:6, 175:9, 175:10, 175:11, 175:12, 175:16, 179:11, 179:18
**seeing** [9] - 12:23, 174:23, 175:1, 175:13, 176:7, 176:8,

176:15, 176:19
**seek** [1] - 86:19
**Seely** [1] - 79:24
**seem** [6] - 10:9, 15:25, 16:13, 65:16, 129:20, 132:17
**sees** [2] - 7:7, 89:5
**segregation** [1] - 75:23
**Segregation** [2] - 74:25, 100:18
**seizure** [1] - 10:24
**self** [4] - 21:16, 121:15, 121:18, 121:25
**self-questionnaire** [2] - 121:15, 121:18
**self-report** [1] - 121:25
**self-scores** [1] - 21:16
**send** [23] - 6:24, 11:25, 16:14, 18:8, 18:13, 40:3, 40:5, 45:10, 101:12, 101:14, 102:1, 108:7, 108:8, 108:11, 109:8, 122:2, 133:5, 133:9, 133:16, 147:4, 152:22, 152:25, 162:23
**sending** [3] - 49:2, 101:9, 126:23
**sends** [1] - 142:3
**Senior** [1] - 79:24
**sense** [1] - 48:10
**sent** [16] - 6:20, 6:22, 9:10, 9:11, 12:16, 12:17, 69:9, 75:5, 75:6, 83:10, 101:8, 108:13, 127:8, 137:16, 149:12, 154:1
**sentences** [1] - 56:2
**separate** [5] - 59:19, 92:15, 95:13, 129:17, 168:23
**separated** [1] - 83:23
**separately** [1] - 77:4
**sepsis** [1] - 65:23
**sergeant** [1] - 123:23
**sergeants** [2] - 45:9, 46:10
**serious** [1] - 57:17
**seriously** [1] - 36:21
**serve** [1] - 70:7
**served** [4] - 71:10, 81:12, 123:7, 175:3
**Service** [1] - 83:18
**Services** [12] - 12:12, 19:24, 19:25, 49:12,

78:3, 78:20, 81:6, 81:8, 81:18, 82:18, 125:22, 125:23
**services** [10] - 18:10, 20:11, 51:16, 51:17, 51:24, 54:8, 78:5, 80:22, 84:15, 85:2
**session** [1] - 76:16
**set** [4] - 6:16, 19:8, 162:15, 171:1
**setting** [2] - 83:25, 87:8
**settled** [1] - 14:13
**settlement** [9] - 7:6, 7:9, 7:22, 13:13, 13:21, 14:1, 15:12, 16:19, 75:1
**several** [5] - 38:23, 61:5, 65:25, 86:3, 141:6
**severely** [1] - 52:9
**shakedowns** [2] - 156:21, 157:3
**Shane** [5] - 2:12, 59:15, 60:6, 61:11, 61:25
**shane's** [1] - 60:9
**share** [2] - 88:9, 163:21
**shared** [1] - 133:23
**Sharon** [4] - 3:12, 59:2, 59:6, 67:8
**sheet** [5] - 108:24, 133:2, 134:13, 171:8, 171:14
**sheets** [3] - 64:24, 171:20, 177:3
**shelves** [1] - 126:15
**Sheriff** [3] - 2:7, 4:13, 181:6
**SHERIFF** [2] - 4:15, 181:7
**Sheriffs** [1] - 42:12
**shift** [2] - 136:4, 136:21
**shifts** [10] - 134:17, 134:21, 134:23, 157:25, 158:5, 158:6, 158:13, 158:15, 158:18, 159:2
**ship** [3] - 83:17, 127:10, 127:14
**shipping** [2] - 126:24, 127:5
**ships** [2] - 127:1, 127:19
**shocker** [1] - 148:20
**short** [2] - 90:4, 135:10
**shortage** [1] - 90:3

**shorten** [4] - 167:18, 173:17, 173:18, 174:3
**shorter** [1] - 49:3
**shortest** [1] - 79:9
**show** [8] - 43:19, 45:7, 45:13, 58:9, 58:14, 60:17, 107:22, 133:8
**showed** [1] - 59:20
**shower** [4] - 28:23, 34:15, 34:19, 34:21
**showing** [1] - 60:6
**shown** [1] - 59:18
**shredded** [1] - 45:19
**Shuman** [10] - 26:17, 26:18, 26:19, 26:21, 95:1, 95:6, 95:8, 95:10, 96:12
**sick** [5] - 51:19, 168:2, 168:11, 168:19, 169:24
**Sick** [1] - 85:13
**sickness** [1] - 167:20
**side** [1] - 79:18
**sign** [3] - 91:20, 171:8, 171:14
**sign-in** [2] - 171:8, 171:14
**sign-on** [1] - 91:20
**signed** [6] - 29:13, 46:8, 47:14, 64:23, 64:25, 92:20
**significant** [1] - 62:4
**significantly** [1] - 54:23
**silent** [2] - 59:5, 59:7
**simple** [1] - 102:3
**simply** [4] - 49:20, 101:20, 102:1, 142:10
**sincerest** [1] - 5:23
**single** [8] - 87:18, 89:6, 108:24, 110:2, 111:21, 133:22, 134:21, 141:14
**single-day** [1] - 87:18
**Sister** [3] - 50:9, 52:20, 53:4
**sit** [4] - 19:23, 24:3, 50:18, 109:14
**site** [1] - 58:2
**sites** [1] - 14:10
**sitting** [8] - 61:17, 71:14, 120:10, 172:9, 173:5, 173:22, 175:5, 176:1
**situation** [3] - 45:17, 73:8, 141:15
**situations** [3] - 22:9, 115:24, 172:17

**six** [1] - 174:20
**skills** [2] - 81:24, 82:3
**skip** [1] - 158:12
**sleep** [2] - 10:4, 174:9
**sleeping** [1] - 174:9
**slow** [1] - 60:19
**small** [1] - 59:22
**smart** [1] - 82:1
**Smith** [1] - 105:12
**so..** [1] - 98:11
**social** [2] - 21:11, 91:18
**software** [6] - 21:13, 21:16, 82:24, 83:12, 83:15, 128:1
**Solicitor** [3] - 43:3, 103:19, 159:19
**solicitor** [3] - 103:21, 149:2
**solid** [3] - 40:18, 40:21, 41:12
**solitary** [2] - 51:21, 63:25
**solution** [1] - 149:7
**someone** [15] - 25:6, 31:18, 32:5, 35:11, 50:21, 68:7, 73:10, 73:12, 106:8, 107:14, 125:18, 137:7, 138:19, 140:3, 179:17
**sometime** [1] - 133:16
**sometimes** [9] - 9:15, 22:9, 36:5, 102:25, 103:2, 103:3, 103:7, 127:14, 160:15
**somewhat** [1] - 20:9
**somewhere** [1] - 14:20
**son** [8] - 27:23, 28:15, 29:5, 29:12, 29:17, 29:20, 30:18, 31:18
**son's** [2] - 29:1, 35:15
**Sonenday** [1] - 37:16
**soon** [4] - 92:2, 103:22, 126:6, 166:1
**Sorry** [1] - 160:10
**sorry** [19] - 4:8, 7:11, 7:17, 12:20, 30:5, 33:3, 37:19, 47:18, 52:24, 53:1, 64:22, 121:3, 122:19, 150:5, 155:11, 157:17, 160:19, 160:20, 165:23
**sort** [4] - 92:23,

95:17, 136:14, 156:17
**souls** [1] - 62:14
**sounds** [1] - 142:25
**south** [1] - 79:17
**space** [1] - 83:21
**span** [3] - 38:7, 38:13, 54:2
**spans** [1] - 71:4
**SPEAKERS** [1] - 3:1
**speaking** [7] - 6:7, 26:16, 55:12, 59:8, 111:4, 177:20, 178:13
**special** [2] - 38:4, 122:9
**specialist** [2] - 89:5, 167:20
**specialists** [1] - 85:17
**specialty** [3] - 91:1, 123:8, 123:10
**specific** [11] - 6:11, 40:15, 86:11, 104:13, 106:12, 107:9, 107:10, 126:1, 129:5, 163:24, 178:15
**specifically** [25] - 10:11, 11:4, 13:8, 16:7, 72:23, 78:6, 88:20, 90:15, 105:24, 114:2, 117:2, 120:1, 120:14, 122:3, 123:5, 124:3, 132:8, 134:11, 137:22, 155:17, 156:15, 156:16, 158:2, 165:8, 165:21
**specifics** [1] - 94:14
**specified** [1] - 178:21
**speed** [1] - 172:13
**spell** [1] - 5:9
**Spencer** [1] - 62:21
**spend** [4] - 45:16, 130:11, 131:12, 131:15
**spending** [1] - 68:18
**spent** [4] - 20:23, 45:21, 59:16, 69:22
**Spisak** [1] - 62:19
**spoken** [2] - 69:21, 76:20
**spokesperson** [1] - 73:8
**spot** [1] - 165:7
**spread** [1] - 25:9
**Sr** [1] - 3:9
**stability** [1] - 87:16
**stabilization** [1] - 85:6
**Staff** [1] - 43:14
**staff** [47] - 5:20, 5:23,

49:22, 51:14, 52:8, 54:7, 54:18, 55:1, 55:15, 55:20, 55:21, 55:23, 56:7, 57:3, 57:7, 57:8, 57:10, 57:13, 57:15, 57:16, 58:4, 58:6, 58:8, 58:12, 58:17, 76:22, 78:9, 86:4, 88:3, 88:14, 90:1, 90:3, 90:4, 90:9, 90:24, 97:10, 104:21, 114:7, 116:4, 120:14, 136:13, 136:16, 158:1, 158:7
**staffing** [7] - 53:16, 78:16, 97:16, 114:15, 135:10, 167:17, 168:14
**stakeholders** [1] - 48:14
**stand** [2] - 62:9, 72:22
**standard** [1] - 135:22
**standards** [1] - 120:18
**stands** [2] - 81:20, 82:8
**start** [13] - 25:6, 50:11, 59:9, 65:3, 71:23, 74:18, 84:18, 89:6, 152:14, 154:21, 168:21, 177:4, 177:18
**started** [5] - 14:11, 73:18, 97:1, 130:6, 176:17
**State** [10] - 30:24, 30:25, 31:4, 31:11, 85:3, 97:3, 97:8, 97:15, 97:22, 158:10
**state** [6] - 5:9, 61:9, 66:22, 70:2, 70:3, 70:11
**statement** [2] - 36:2, 68:16
**statements** [2] - 55:11, 133:3
**States** [2] - 79:11, 83:17
**states** [2] - 65:20, 77:25
**statewide** [1] - 24:14
**stating** [1] - 69:11
**statistic** [1] - 54:16
**statistics** [1] - 180:10
**status** [3] - 65:6, 125:18
**statute** [3] - 159:14, 159:17, 179:10

**stay** [1] - 57:15
**step** [3] - 21:19, 73:19, 83:7
**Step** [1] - 43:2
**stepdad** [3] - 28:1, 28:4
**Stephen** [2] - 3:4, 27:16
**sticking** [3] - 45:12, 45:14, 46:12
**Still** [1] - 62:16
**still** [26] - 15:20, 16:8, 28:13, 29:25, 46:14, 69:20, 88:7, 90:19, 93:1, 93:22, 98:22, 112:13, 112:18, 115:11, 115:12, 119:8, 119:12, 127:24, 134:24, 135:24, 136:5, 138:9, 140:10, 168:13, 170:3
**stitches** [1] - 28:6
**stomach** [4] - 29:10, 45:12, 45:15, 46:13
**stood** [2] - 179:4
**stop** [1] - 132:5
**stopping** [1] - 17:11
**store** [1] - 164:19
**straighten** [1] - 140:21
**strategy** [1] - 54:17
**streamline** [1] - 173:18
**Street** [1] - 1:21
**stress** [2] - 60:3, 61:2
**strictly** [1] - 167:17
**strike** [7] - 28:18, 28:23, 33:6, 46:20, 46:22, 46:24, 125:2
**strikes** [4] - 35:25, 60:8, 72:20, 124:25
**strip** [8] - 155:17, 155:20, 156:5, 156:11, 156:18, 156:23, 156:24, 157:5
**strips** [2] - 58:19, 80:19
**struck** [1] - 28:7
**structure** [3] - 21:25, 87:16, 88:13
**stuck** [1] - 99:5
**students** [6] - 23:11, 83:22, 83:24, 84:2, 84:8, 84:10
**study** [1] - 69:3
**studying** [1] - 20:3
**stuff** [4] - 105:4, 105:7, 135:4, 171:1

179:1
**trauma** [2] - 65:20, 65:21
**traumatic** [1] - 58:19
**tray** [4] - 45:9, 45:10, 45:20, 46:6
**treat** [2] - 23:5, 66:4
**treated** [2] - 84:23, 84:24
**treating** [1] - 117:3
**Treatment** [1] - 5:13
**treatment** [8] - 25:16, 25:23, 26:22, 62:5, 81:10, 84:20, 154:2, 169:17
**trending** [1] - 136:19
**triage** [1] - 168:10
**triaging** [1] - 136:14
**tried** [1] - 41:23
**trigger** [1] - 156:10
**triggers** [1] - 156:5
**Trinity** [1] - 124:21
**trucks** [1] - 10:8
**true** [4] - 16:16, 50:15, 65:13, 182:8
**trust** [7] - 21:3, 55:5, 55:21, 57:7, 58:11, 73:10, 178:9
**try** [6] - 4:8, 6:16, 26:18, 27:12, 120:18
**trying** [14] - 22:20, 36:2, 45:8, 45:16, 71:5, 110:25, 118:19, 140:21, 141:17, 143:2, 145:18, 156:2, 159:2, 160:15
**Tuesday** [3] - 43:2, 72:5, 72:7
**Tuesdays** [1] - 10:12
**turn** [4] - 9:5, 62:8, 78:11, 122:13
**turnover** [2] - 57:17, 58:12
**two** [25] - 28:3, 44:12, 48:25, 55:5, 56:1, 60:22, 61:17, 76:10, 91:14, 93:17, 96:25, 100:12, 100:24, 116:8, 135:10, 135:13, 135:21, 135:23, 136:1, 136:11, 136:15, 136:16, 157:18, 171:7, 173:21
**type** [8] - 26:22, 86:18, 88:13, 117:5, 117:11, 118:14, 162:18, 166:18
**typed** [2] - 132:22, 133:21

**typical** [1] - 55:6

## U

**ulterior** [1] - 137:10
**ultimate** [1] - 52:16
**ultimately** [1] - 86:1
**umbrella** [1] - 16:2
**unable** [4] - 52:3, 59:23, 67:21, 75:25
**unanswered** [1] - 67:20
**under** [19] - 7:8, 15:15, 15:21, 16:1, 43:17, 47:8, 47:9, 48:21, 61:24, 66:5, 66:6, 129:1, 129:9, 129:15, 138:2, 139:16, 140:10, 143:5, 148:5
**understood** [1] - 35:6
**undertake** [1] - 164:2
**undertaking** [1] - 126:14
**underway** [1] - 62:5
**unfortunately** [1] - 63:16
**unhinged** [1] - 29:18
**uniform** [1] - 17:1
**Union** [2] - 43:1, 43:5
**union** [4] - 43:17, 43:19, 47:7
**unit** [7] - 30:19, 33:16, 86:6, 86:10, 87:5, 135:16, 156:21
**Unit** [4] - 33:7, 33:10, 45:2, 45:5
**United** [2] - 79:11, 83:17
**units** [3] - 37:2, 88:12, 123:14
**Units** [1] - 44:21
**unless** [1] - 107:10
**unlike** [2] - 26:6, 117:25
**unnecessary** [1] - 101:20
**unredacted** [2] - 76:18, 178:5
**unsuccessful** [1] - 12:16
**untrue** [1] - 65:7
**up** [74] - 6:1, 6:17, 21:21, 22:8, 22:19, 23:25, 27:17, 28:2, 28:8, 30:4, 30:7, 38:8, 39:19, 41:5, 41:13, 44:9, 45:6, 45:7,

45:10, 46:11, 46:25, 47:5, 48:24, 59:18, 59:21, 60:7, 60:17, 61:3, 63:8, 63:21, 64:23, 64:25, 67:5, 70:15, 72:23, 73:4, 77:17, 92:2, 100:5, 100:15, 104:4, 107:2, 111:5, 111:15, 111:25, 112:19, 115:11, 120:10, 121:10, 124:24, 126:12, 132:18, 132:22, 133:8, 133:21, 134:12, 146:20, 157:22, 162:15, 168:19, 169:1, 171:2, 172:13, 174:3, 175:5, 175:23, 176:5, 176:6, 177:2, 178:19, 179:11, 179:15
**upcoming** [2] - 80:8, 82:19
**update** [8] - 11:25, 13:2, 78:16, 84:15, 98:16, 99:9, 120:16, 122:19
**updated** [1] - 171:13
**Updates** [1] - 85:19
**updates** [5] - 53:7, 54:15, 137:15, 137:19, 172:1
**upload** [1] - 128:2
**UPS** [3] - 83:18, 127:2
**USPS** [1] - 127:2
**utilize** [2] - 69:14, 120:7
**utilized** [1] - 162:11
**utilizes** [1] - 93:1

## V

**valuable** [1] - 179:2
**values** [1] - 82:3
**valuing** [1] - 55:20
**varied** [1] - 34:5
**varies** [1] - 34:6
**variety** [1] - 48:9
**Various** [1] - 9:12
**various** [3] - 9:21, 10:21, 174:4
**vast** [1] - 176:4
**vendetta** [1] - 29:17
**vendor** [10] - 98:22, 123:10, 123:17, 124:4, 124:11, 124:17, 124:19,

127:1, 161:18, 164:4
**vendor's** [1] - 161:8
**vendors** [4] - 83:16, 83:17, 126:23, 126:25
**verbal** [1] - 55:7
**verbalize** [1] - 134:9
**version** [1] - 77:10
**versus** [2] - 119:3, 155:18
**veterans** [1] - 81:1
**via** [3] - 101:13, 127:14, 182:7
**Victims** [1] - 19:24
**Victor** [1] - 62:20
**view** [2] - 75:20, 170:6
**village** [1] - 50:15
**Vinckley** [1] - 62:17
**violate** [2] - 57:10, 146:4
**violated** [2] - 64:1, 76:4
**violates** [1] - 55:13
**violating** [1] - 105:19
**violation** [6] - 51:21, 99:20, 101:4, 102:13, 103:4, 105:14
**virtually** [1] - 167:4
**visit** [2] - 34:12, 170:24
**visiting** [1] - 84:2
**visits** [4] - 28:20, 65:11, 80:25, 81:5
**Visits** [1] - 80:24
**vital** [1] - 26:1
**Vivitrol** [1] - 84:22
**volume** [1] - 88:21
**volunteer** [1] - 23:10
**volunteering** [2] - 72:22, 73:14
**volunteers** [1] - 51:24
**vote** [2] - 49:18, 152:24
**voted** [1] - 53:19
**voter** [1] - 82:21
**vouch** [1] - 45:24

## W

**W-A-T-E-R-S** [1] - 27:22
**wait** [14] - 79:7, 79:9, 85:8, 85:14, 85:15, 85:16, 85:18, 114:21, 117:18, 167:19, 167:21, 167:23, 169:12, 177:16
**waiting** [12] - 23:11,

40:4, 49:8, 49:16, 66:25, 79:3, 126:8, 126:11, 172:16, 172:18, 172:19
**waiver** [1] - 29:13
**walk** [2] - 133:14, 173:12
**walked** [1] - 175:6
**walking** [1] - 177:2
**walks** [2] - 13:1, 63:22
**wants** [3] - 23:2, 28:11, 164:1
**Warden** [25] - 2:12, 2:13, 2:15, 2:16, 42:9, 46:21, 56:5, 59:10, 63:16, 65:16, 65:18, 66:6, 66:15, 80:4, 128:10, 129:15, 129:21, 129:25, 133:4, 152:15, 153:12, 175:10, 179:6
**warden** [6] - 25:21, 66:16, 66:19, 68:6
**WARDEN** [91] - 13:24, 14:3, 14:21, 15:2, 15:11, 15:22, 16:3, 16:18, 16:25, 17:5, 39:5, 39:10, 39:16, 39:23, 74:17, 80:5, 91:10, 95:5, 95:9, 95:15, 95:18, 95:23, 96:1, 96:4, 97:7, 98:19, 98:21, 123:9, 123:18, 123:21, 124:5, 124:10, 124:16, 125:20, 126:5, 126:13, 127:3, 127:6, 127:9, 127:13, 127:17, 127:24, 128:16, 128:24, 129:4, 129:10, 129:14, 129:18, 129:24, 130:5, 130:12, 130:16, 130:20, 130:24, 131:3, 131:6, 131:9, 131:14, 133:7, 133:12, 133:18, 134:2, 141:2, 143:9, 143:15, 143:23, 149:19, 150:5, 150:22, 158:8, 159:11, 159:15, 159:18, 160:6, 160:12, 160:17, 160:22, 161:6, 161:15, 162:5, 162:9, 162:17, 162:24,

163:3, 163:7, 163:13, 163:18, 165:1, 165:17, 166:24, 167:1
**Warden's** [4] - 74:15, 77:7, 78:12, 180:2
**WARDEN'S** [2] - 74:16, 78:13
**wardens** [2] - 42:10, 152:16
**warrants** [1] - 9:16
**Washington** [1] - 62:22
**waste** [1] - 174:2
**watch** [4] - 117:22, 118:9, 118:16, 148:6
**watched** [1] - 20:24
**water** [3] - 29:8, 79:20, 140:22
**Waters** [4] - 3:5, 27:20, 27:22, 35:14
**WATERS** [12] - 27:21, 28:17, 29:22, 30:5, 30:8, 31:13, 31:16, 35:13, 35:17, 35:19, 35:21, 37:12
**Watt** [1] - 78:21
**ways** [2] - 57:23, 78:7
**weather** [1] - 12:25
**website** [2] - 128:2, 137:22
**week** [8] - 54:20, 59:12, 72:4, 89:21, 130:13, 130:17, 130:21, 172:3
**weeks** [5] - 32:19, 32:21, 60:2, 76:9, 116:8
**welcome** [3] - 48:6, 63:6, 75:20
**welcomed** [1] - 84:1
**welcomes** [1] - 56:7
**well-being** [1] - 52:8
**wheels** [1] - 60:19
**whim** [1] - 9:13
**White** [1] - 29:23
**white** [1] - 61:14
**whole** [8] - 21:18, 45:20, 46:8, 51:7, 89:23, 96:5, 115:19, 176:9
**whoops** [1] - 25:15
**wide** [1] - 56:6
**widgets** [1] - 21:14
**William** [1] - 62:21
**willing** [3] - 58:7, 59:10, 76:15
**window** [4] - 79:17, 79:19, 79:20, 79:21
**withdrawal** [3] -

51:19, 87:17, 89:9
**witness** [1] - 45:8
**witnessed** [1] - 60:21
**woken** [4] - 111:15, 111:25, 112:19, 115:11
**Woman** [1] - 66:17
**woman** [2] - 29:17, 120:23
**women** [3] - 8:17, 8:20, 10:22
**women's** [1] - 51:16
**wonder** [1] - 177:5
**wondered** [1] - 96:9
**wonderful** [2] - 180:19, 180:25
**wondering** [5] - 6:23, 103:4, 129:22, 135:4, 137:14
**word** [3] - 56:13, 120:24, 141:23
**words** [5] - 65:12, 100:12, 100:24, 109:14, 142:2
**Work-Release** [2] - 8:16, 9:7
**worker** [1] - 91:18
**workers** [1] - 81:1
**workplace** [1] - 82:2
**world** [1] - 62:12
**worried** [3] - 29:1, 33:22, 92:23
**worse** [2] - 41:10, 67:2
**wound** [1] - 135:19
**write** [1] - 9:18
**writing** [1] - 134:8
**wrongdoing** [1] - 61:1

## X

**Xylazine** [1] - 80:19

## Y

**Y-A-T-S-K-O** [1] - 177:20
**Yatsko** [3] - 3:18, 176:25, 177:20
**YATSKO** [1] - 177:19
**year** [8] - 38:7, 50:12, 59:16, 59:24, 124:15, 136:15, 161:9, 170:3
**Year** [1] - 27:12
**Year's** [1] - 50:13
**yearly** [1] - 120:12

**years** [15] - 19:16, 20:12, 22:18, 23:8, 44:18, 46:17, 53:22, 54:2, 61:5, 63:17, 91:8, 91:14, 91:23, 140:15
**yinz** [4] - 32:14, 120:5, 132:16, 155:5
**yourself** [3] - 7:21, 36:20, 58:15
**youth** [2] - 26:20, 27:1

## Z

**Zachary** [1] - 62:23
**Zak** [2] - 2:22, 8:14
**ZAK** [9] - 8:13, 8:14, 9:12, 10:1, 10:14, 10:21, 11:9, 11:19, 11:22
**Zappala's** [2] - 60:17, 61:4
**zero** [2] - 79:5, 79:6
**Zero** [1] - 85:11
**Zilinek** [1] - 62:20
**zone** [1] - 136:18
**zones** [1] - 136:18

The minutes of Thursday, February 1, 2024's Jail Oversight Board meeting are provided by the County of Allegheny Office of the Controller Corey O'Connor.

Sincerely,

Corey O'Connor
Allegheny County Controller