



North Carolina Department of Correction

214 West Jones Street • 4201 MSC • Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-4201

(919) 716-3700 • (919) 716-3794 (fax)

Michael F. Easley
Governor

Theodis Beck
Secretary

MEMORANDUM

TO: Senator Marc Basnight
Representative James B. Black

FROM: *Tracy A. Little*
Tracy A. Little, Deputy Secretary

RE: Identity Theft Act of 2005 (N.C. G. S. §120-61)

DATE: January 8, 2007

N.C.G.S. §120-61 requires state agencies to report annually by January 1 to the General Assembly on efforts to reduce the dissemination of personal identifying information as defined in G.S. 14-113.20(b).

Pursuant to the statute, the Department of Correction surveyed all of its divisions in 2005 to determine what personal identifying information the Department collected, how the information was used and how the information was safeguarded. Upon receipt of the survey responses, the Department eliminated the use of such identifying information where possible and improved the methods used to maintain and safeguard such information.

During 2007, the Department will survey all of its divisions again to determine under what circumstances personal identifying information still is being collected. Upon receipt of the surveys, the Department will determine whether collection of such personal information is warranted, identify possible alternatives to the use and/or collection of such information and implement additional safeguards to ensure the confidentiality of the information. As required by the statute, the Department will give special attention to the use, collection and dissemination of Social Security numbers. The Department also continues to work with the State Controller's Office in the implementation of the BEACON HR/Payroll project, which the Department expects will provide a mechanism for the elimination of the use of the Social Security number as a personal identifier regarding many employment issues.

Department of Correction staff members are available if further information is requested.

TL/jk

cc: Jim Mills
Sheryl Stephens