



# North Carolina Department of Public Safety

*Prevent. Protect. Prepare.*

Beverly Eaves Perdue, Governor

Reuben F. Young, Secretary

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Senator Phillip E. Berger  
Senator Peter S. Brunsletter  
Senator Neal Hunt  
Representative Jeff Barnhart  
Representative N. Leo Daughtry  
Representative Linda P. Johnson  
Representative Thomas R. Tillis

Senator Harry Brown  
Senator Thom Goolsby  
Senator Richard Stevens  
Representative Harold Brubaker  
Representative Mitch Gillespie  
Representative Shirley B. Randleman

**FROM:** Jennie L. Lancaster, Chief Deputy Secretary

**RE:** Reimburse Counties for Housing and Extraordinary Medical Costs for inmates, Parolees, and Post-Release Supervisees Awaiting Transfer to State Prison System [Section 18.5 - Session Law 2011-145]

**DATE:** January 18, 2012

Pursuant to Section 18.5 - Session Law 2011-145 (House Bill 200) the Department of Public Safety (formerly the Department of Correction) is to report to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations, the Joint Legislative Corrections, Crime Control and Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee, the Chairs of the Senate and House of Representatives Appropriations Committees, and the Chairs of the Senate and House of Representatives Subcommittees on Justice and Public Safety on the expenditure of funds to reimburse counties for prisoners awaiting transfer to the state prison system and on its progress in reducing jail backlog. N.C.G.S. §148-29 authorizes the Department to pay \$40 per day to counties for persons awaiting transfer to the state prison system.

For the second quarter of FY 2011-2012, the Department has incurred no jail backlog expenditures. This second quarter represents the third consecutive quarter in which the Department incurred no jail backlog expenditures. The Department incurred \$5,873,280 for the first three quarters of FY 2010-2011 in backlog expenditures for inmates awaiting transfer to prison.

**MAILING ADDRESS:**  
4201 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-4201  
Telephone: (919) 733-2126



**OFFICE LOCATION:**  
512 N. Salisbury Street  
Raleigh, NC 27604-1159  
Fax: (919) 715-8477

[www.ncdps.gov](http://www.ncdps.gov)

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The Department continues to implement measures to maintain a reduction in jail backlog, including the processing of short term felons at designated diagnostic centers. Also, the Department continues to implement additional transfer runs from each diagnostic center to assure that offenders who complete processing are transferred in a timely manner. These options will continue as required to manage the jail backlog.

The Department anticipates that maintaining the current level of jail backlog reductions may become more difficult. Factors that may affect the backlog include the recent closure of four minimum custody prison facilities, recent reductions in diagnostic center staff, and the proposed reduction in admissions as a result of the Justice Reinvestment Act that will take effect in January, 2012.

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

JLL:BSB:jbk

cc: Meghan Brown  
Melvin Lee  
John Poteat  
Douglas Holbrook  
Kristine Leggett  
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