

## **MEMO**

TO: Captain Drew Brosh

CC: Larry Aab, Business Services Director

Lt. Jeffery Wheeler

From: Markley Drake & Wendy Lin-Kelly, Senior Research Analysts

DATE: July 1, 2010

RE: US Marshal Costing

### **INTRODUCTION**

As part of the overall jail bed costing research, the impact of US Marshal Inmates on the system was discussed. The hypothesis proposed was that US Marshal Inmates cost the system more than the revenue being paid and therefore there is a subsidy of US Marshal Inmates by the County General Fund.

The US Marshal contracts with various county jails throughout the United States and the reimbursement calculations are based on a Federal format that is not negotiable. There are some negotiations on the final reimbursement rate, but not the methodology. The agreed upon rate by the Federal government is approved by the Board of County Commissioners. The text box to the right offers a brief explanation of the process to calculate the US Marshal rate.

A comparison of US Marshal Inmates to non-US Marshal Inmates and the use of disciplinary and medical beds were completed. These two types of beds were chosen for this study as these beds are the most expensive beds in the system. Expensive in terms of the number of personnel required to operate the respective housing units.

### **METHODOLOGY**

Following is a description of the methodology used:

- Using the eSWIS data base, all inmates with a release reason of "to the US Marshal (TUSM)" and all other release reasons (Not-TUSM) were complied.
- This study examined inmate movement reason.
- Total time in a special use bed was not calculated.
- The time frame for the comparison look was September 2009. Since the number of TUSM inmates was small (n=116), all TUSM releases were examined for

Calendar Year 2009. This was done to validate the percentage of medical and discipline movement reason cases.

- For September, TUSM n = 116; Not TUSM n= 1,804 for a total of 1,917.
- Calendar Year 2009 for TUSM, n= 884
- All inmates with a total time from booking to release of less than 0.4 day (9.6 hours) were eliminated from the data set. Those with less than 0.4 day admission time were not likely housed and thereby not likely to receive admission to a bed including a specialized bed.

The remaining inmate data was sorted as appropriate and some descriptive statics were calculated along with a number of visual charts were developed to display the data sets.

## **FINDINGS**

In calendar year 2009, TUSM used ten percent of the total bed days . In September 2009, the average number of days in jail was 48.3 for TUSM and 19.8 for not-TUSM respectively. TUSM comprised about 6.05 percent of the total releases. For September, using the total TUSM *inmates*, 6.90 percent of TUSM inmates used discipline beds compared to 4.90 percent of not-TUSM inmates. The same comparison was done for Medical beds showing 0.90 percent of TUSM inmates compared to 2.50 percent of not-TUSM inmates. This demonstrates that a small percentage of US Marshal Inmates use medical beds. The comparisons are illustrated in the chart above. The reasons for the increase in the use of discipline beds were not explored in this study. Subsequently the smaller percentage for use of medical beds was also not explored. However, the US Marshal contract and practice is to move inmates to the hospital to receive medical care. The hospital charges the US Marshal directly and does not charge Corrections Health (Multnomah County). *Not TUSM* inmates if they require hospitalization or hospital service, the hospital charges the County. Therefore the medical cost for TUSM inmates is lower.

Next the two bed types were compared to the inmate population as a whole for that month. Looking at all inmates released within that month 0.05 percent of all inmates were US Marshal *and* used a medical bed. For Discipline 0.42 percent of all inmates were US Marshal *and* used a discipline bed. This is compared to 2.40 percent of non-US Marshal using medical beds and 4.64 percent using discipline beds. The US Marshal inmates represent a very small percentage of the total inmate population for those bed types.

## **Summary**

The most expensive beds in the system are medical beds with the additional cost of medical staff. Disciplinary beds at the Multnomah County Detention Center (MCDC) are the next most expensive beds due to the amount of staff used to supervise a low

number of inmates. Data shows that US Marshal Inmates use a low percentage of both medical beds and disciplinary beds. If the US Marshal inmates were not included in the inmate population, there would be no decrease in both medical and disciplinary services and thereby no significant decrease in costs for those services. Materials and Services represent 6.87 percent of the Corrections' Health care cost for housing. The US Marshal revenue helps to support both the medical care, which includes medical beds, and disciplinary beds.

**Addendum - An explanation of Marshal Revenues and Potential bed closure if revenue was forfeited**

The Table One lists the actual and budgeted US Marshal Revenues for five fiscal years. For Fiscal Year (FY) 2011 the estimated revenue is 6.489 million for an average of 140 inmates per day. The rates are adjusted for inflation in March of each year for the three year contract.

**Table One**

	<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>US Marshal Rate per bed per day</b>	<b>Average number of inmates per day</b>	<b>Average income per day</b>	<b>Annual Income</b>	<b>Average per bed day costs</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Budgeted	2011	\$127.00	140.00	\$17,780.00	\$6,489,700.00	\$127.00	1
Actual	2010	\$127.00	154.00	\$19,558.00	\$7,138,670.00	\$127.00	2,3
Actual	2009	\$125.00	159.42	\$19,927.50	\$7,273,537.50	\$125.00	
Actual	2008	\$115.90	135.92	\$16,161.92	\$5,899,100.80	\$118.91	4
Actual	2007	\$115.90	158.08	\$18,321.47	\$6,687,337.28	\$115.90	

**Notes for Table One**

1. Budget for Fiscal year 2011
2. For the year ending June 30, 2010, final accounting has not been completed for June 2010
3. Rate changed from \$125.00 to \$127.00 in March of 2010
4. Rate changed from \$115.90 to \$125.00 in March of 2008

If the County were to decide to cancel the US Marshal Contract the County would reduce the general fund allocation to the Sheriff's Office by 6.489 million. If that revenue was eliminated, the following housing units may be eliminated at the Inverness jail. Most of the other inmate related services, such as booking, classification, FSOs, are all capacity related programs and therefore the costs would not be reduced. Some programs such as *Inmate Programs* would see some adjustments and loss of personnel. Table Two shows that with the loss of 6.489 million an estimated 354 beds would be cut. If the assumption is the Marshal Inmates are 140 of the 354 beds, than the net loss of local beds is 214. The actual impacts to the system and number of beds cut would have to be determined by a team of corrections command staff.

Table Two								
Section 1 Housing		Cost in Budget						
Program Offer	Jail/Housing	Personnel	Contracts	M & S	ISRs	Capital	Total cost in budget	Beds
60041E	MCIJ Dorms 6 & 7	\$2,086,650	\$5,283	\$126,578	\$49,482	\$0	\$2,267,993	118
60041F	MCIJ Dorms 8 & 9	\$1,168,344	\$2,255	\$54,026	\$21,121	\$0	\$1,245,746	118
60041G	MCIJ Dorm 3	\$1,830,016	\$3,608	\$86,442	\$21,121	\$0	\$1,941,187	59
60041H	MCIJ Dorm 4	\$653,514	\$1,353	\$32,414	\$0	\$0	\$687,281	59
	TOTALS	\$5,738,524	\$12,499	\$299,460	\$91,724	\$0	\$6,142,207	354