



The Kansas Department of Corrections

"a safer Kansas through effective correctional services"

NEWSLETTER

March 2007

SECRETARY'S MESSAGE

Inmates and parolees and, to some extent, their families, are the consumers of Kansas Department of Corrections services. But our customer base is much broader than that. Our mission is to contribute to public safety. Therefore, anyone who has an expectation of public safety has a stake in our performance. As in any business, we do what we can to offer good service so that our customers will be satisfied with our performance.

Quality service is not all the public expects. We can't hope to be understood and respected as a department unless we are willing to engage in the legitimate and open sharing of information with our public. For instance, the public doesn't know, unless we tell them, that we typically screen incoming inmates for certain risk and need factors and develop individual case management plans to address those factors. The public doesn't know, unless we tell them, that inmates in our facilities can't smoke or have access to the internet. The public doesn't know, unless we tell them, that most sex offenders under our jurisdiction receive treatment for their sex offending behavior both inside facilities and on parole supervision.

Unfortunately, there is not always enough time or resources to share with the public everything about corrections that could possibly be of interest or concern to them. We do, however, share that information in the best and most comprehensive ways we can: through our public website, through personal contacts, and through community presentations.

Once all of the information sharing alternatives are exhausted, we are sometimes left with having to respond to the public during a high-profile event. High-profile corrections events make news every day.

As a department, it is not our role to determine what is of interest to the public. We are also bound to comply with laws and regulations establishing what the public has a right to know, as well as what information cannot legally be disclosed.

With several very emphatic exceptions, almost everything we do is open to public scrutiny. It is our obligation as a public entity to honor that precept and to do everything we can to facilitate its end. If we are proud of what we do and we do it to the very best of our ability, we will not hesitate to appropriately and responsibly share our work with others.



WHEN IT COUNTS

“Act as if what you do makes a difference. It does.”

– William James

This section features Kansas Department of Corrections employees who believe everything they do can make a difference.

Early on the morning of January 26, 2007, Kansas Department of Corrections Special Enforcement Officer Jim Galbraith and Shawnee County Sheriff’s Deputy Doug Fehr were in Emporia executing warrants. As the two exited I-35 at Emporia, SEO Galbraith noticed a heavily frost-covered woman’s purse along the shoulder of the exit ramp. He and Deputy Fehr stopped to investigate. Upon examining its contents, the two determined that the purse belonged to a Topeka resident. Inside the purse, Galbraith and Fehr found several credit cards, the owner’s social security card, driver’s license, and some gift cards. Unable to locate a phone number for the owner, SEO Galbraith called the number on an optometrist’s card he found in the purse. Later that day, after contacting the purse’s owner, Galbraith and Deputy Fehr delivered the purse to her in Topeka. They refused a reward that was offered to them, advising the purse’s owner and her husband that it was their pleasure for her to get her purse back. A week later, the officers received a thank-you note in the mail, all the reward they could have wanted for performing a public service for a couple nearing their 80s.

CHINESE CRIMINAL JUSTICE DELEGATION VISITS KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

A group of 20 Chinese delegates came to Kansas in January to learn more about our criminal justice system.

The trip was sponsored by China’s State Administration of Foreign Affairs and hosted by the University of Kansas. The group began its visit with a primer on the U.S. criminal justice system. On Thursday, January 11, they traveled to the state capitol in Topeka where they attended a presentation by U.S. Court of Appeals Judge G. Joseph Pierron.

Following Judge Pierron’s presentation, the delegation visited the Topeka Correctional Facility where they received a facility tour from Warden Richard Koerner and visited with several TCF inmates to discuss such issues as work release.



Chinese delegates visit with Topeka Correctional Facility inmates

On Friday, January 12th, the delegation visited the Lansing Correctional Facility where they were given a tour by Warden David McKune.



Chinese delegates visit correctional industry at Lansing Correctional Facility

KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS SYSTEM MANAGEMENT TEAM MEETS TO DISCUSS AGENCY BUSINESS

On January 11, 2006, the Kansas Department of Corrections System Management Team held its quarterly meeting at the Topeka Correctional Facility. The department’s SMT consists of Secretary of Corrections Roger Werholtz, Deputy Secretaries, Special Assistant to the Secretary, Departmental Legal Counsel, Directors of Human Resources, Fiscal Development, Information Technology, and Victim Services, and the Public Information Officers, as well as Parole Directors from the Northern and Southern Parole Regions, Wardens from each of the eight Kansas Department of Corrections facilities and the Director of Kansas Correctional Industries.

The meeting opened with a presentation by U.S. Army Education Specialist Steve Brown who addressed the group about the Participation in the Partnership for Youth Success (PaYS) program, which includes partnering with businesses to identify specific jobs for which incoming recruits can train during their active service.

Also on the agenda for the day-long meeting:

- Budget Briefing
- JEHT Grant/Reentry Implementation Plan and Schedule
- Legislative Process
- Capacity Expansion Briefing
- Reentry Update
- Pandemic Flu Briefing
- Division Updates
- Sex Offender Policy Board Update
- Staff Development Strategic Planning



Warden David McKune addresses the Kansas Department of Corrections System Management Team at the January meeting.

KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS PIOs MEET TO WELCOME NEW TEAM MEMBERS

February, May and November are media sweeps months, the time when most broadcast rating measurements are made for local television stations. Although media interest in Kansas Department of Corrections activities and programs does increase significantly during those months, departmental events generally garner a great deal of media interest.

The department plays a pivotal role in contributing to public safety so its administration, policymaking and programming keep the community's interest, thereby keeping the interest of the media. KDOC is also charged with responding to public requests for information via the Kansas Open Records Act.

For these reasons, the department in August of 1993 established its Public Information Program through Kansas Department of Corrections Internal Management Policy and Procedure 08-101, a policy that outlines and regulates the means by which information is disseminated to the media and the public.

Pursuant to this policy, wardens and parole directors designate public information officers (PIOs) to represent their respective facilities and regions. In January, 3 new PIO appointments were made for the major metropolitan parole offices of Kansas City, Topeka, and Wichita.

According to Department PIO Frances Breyne, "Our PIO representatives are very valuable to us. They are the department's voice within communities. Citizens need to know there is someone close to home they can call when they have a question about departmental operations and policies."

The newly appointed parole PIOs, Christy Gates (Wichita), Carrie Howell (Topeka), and Joshua Peery (Kansas City) attended their first department-wide PIO meeting on February 16, 2007. Following its morning meeting, the group attended an afternoon emergency communications training sponsored by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment.

To review Kansas Department of Corrections Internal Management Policy and Procedure 08-101 and other Kansas Department of Corrections policies, please visit our website at: http://docnet.dc.state.ks.us/IMPPs/IMPP_list.htm



KDOC Public Information Officers at their February meeting and training.

KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS PARTNERSHIP WITH THE WICHITA INDEPENDENT BUSINESS ASSOCIATION REMAINS FRUITFUL

July, 2006 marked the beginning of a partnership between the Kansas Department of Corrections and the Wichita Independent Business Association that continues to be an ideal means for sharing corrections information with the Wichita business community. It was then that WIBA agreed to allow the Kansas Department of Corrections to submit regular articles for the association's monthly newsletter.

It might not seem that corrections work would readily relate to the business world, but corrections is a business all its own, with similar management, budget, and staffing needs. The Kansas Department of Corrections has submitted articles over the last eight months to help the readers of WIBA's newsletter make that connection.

The articles have ranged in topic from the Offender Workforce Development Specialist program to Work Opportunity Tax Credits and prison industries. They have highlighted the specifics of offender programming and the benefits the returning offender workforce have to offer employers.

The Wichita Independent Business Association is an association of privately owned businesses with a representation of over 1000 business members. It serves Wichita businesses by providing information and services as well as opportunities for networking and policymaking. It also provides access to group-rated discounts on insurance coverage.

"We are happy to provide the Kansas Department of Corrections with a platform to reach the Wichita-area business community with updates regarding the initiatives they have in place to prepare inmates to re-enter the community," said Cliff Sones, WIBA President. "The WIBA newsletter gets the latest information on KDOC programs in the hands of business leaders every month."

For more information on the Wichita Independent Business Association, or to access copies of their newsletter, please visit their website at: <http://www.wiba.org/>

To read copies of WIBA newsletter articles submitted by the Kansas Department of Corrections, please visit the Kansas Department of Corrections website at: <http://docnet.dc.state.ks.us/articles/>

KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS PARTICIPATES IN COMMUNITY FORUMS ON OFFENDER REENTRY AND SEX OFFENDER MANAGEMENT

February 26th and 27th marked a busy travel time for Kansas Department of Corrections representatives. Secretary of Corrections Roger Werholtz and several staff members partnered with legislators to offer Kansas communities informational sessions on two topics of statewide interest: offender reentry and sex offender management.

The first of the sessions, hosted by Representative Charles Roth, was entitled *Kansas Reentry and Risk Reduction*. It was held at the Saline County Sheriff’s Office in Salina, Kansas on February 26th.

At the reentry and risk reduction forum, Secretary Werholtz offered the audience of students, community members and law enforcement officers an overview of the Kansas Department of Corrections. He highlighted an anticipated increase in prison population that, if left unabated, could cost in excess of \$500 million over the next nine years as projected by the Kansas Sentencing Commission. The Secretary also discussed reentry and risk reduction alternatives to increasing incarceration rates and, more importantly, increasing public safety.

The reentry and risk reduction forum concluded with an intense question and answer period after which the presenters visited informally with forum participants.

On February 27th, Secretary Werholtz and several KDOC staff members, victim services representatives, and Sandy Barnett, Executive Director of the Kansas Coalition Against Sexual and Domestic Violence, traveled to Wichita at the request of Representative Nile Dillmore to address Wichita residents and media representatives about the subject of sex offender management.

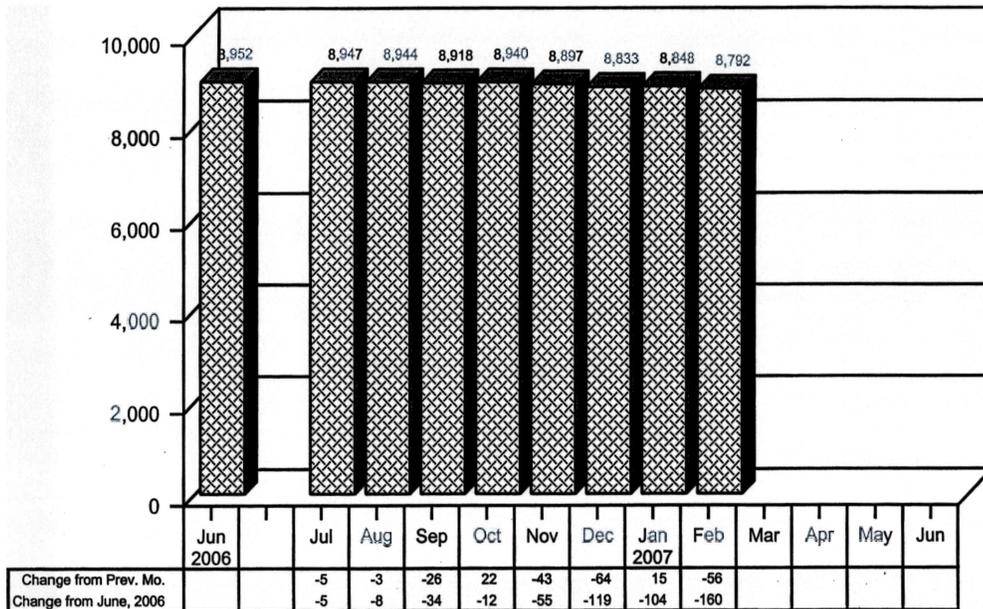
Representative Dillmore opened with an introduction of the participants and an overview of the Kansas Sex Offender Policy Board. Secretary Werholtz discussed the Sex Offender Policy Board’s findings regarding electronic monitoring and sex offender housing restrictions. Sandy Barnett highlighted the Sex Offender Policy Board’s findings regarding public notification of sex offenders and management of juvenile sex offenders. The presenters answered questions from the audience and remained after the presentation for individual discussions.

For additional information regarding reentry and risk reduction, including a copy Secretary Werholtz’s Salina presentation, please visit the Kansas Department of Corrections website at: <http://docnet.dc.state.ks.us/reentry/>

For more information on the Sex Offender Policy Board or to review the report in its entirety, please visit their website at: http://www.governor.ks.gov/grants/kcjjc_sopb.htm

**Kansas Department of Corrections
Graphic Highlights—Monthly Offender Population Report (February 2007)**

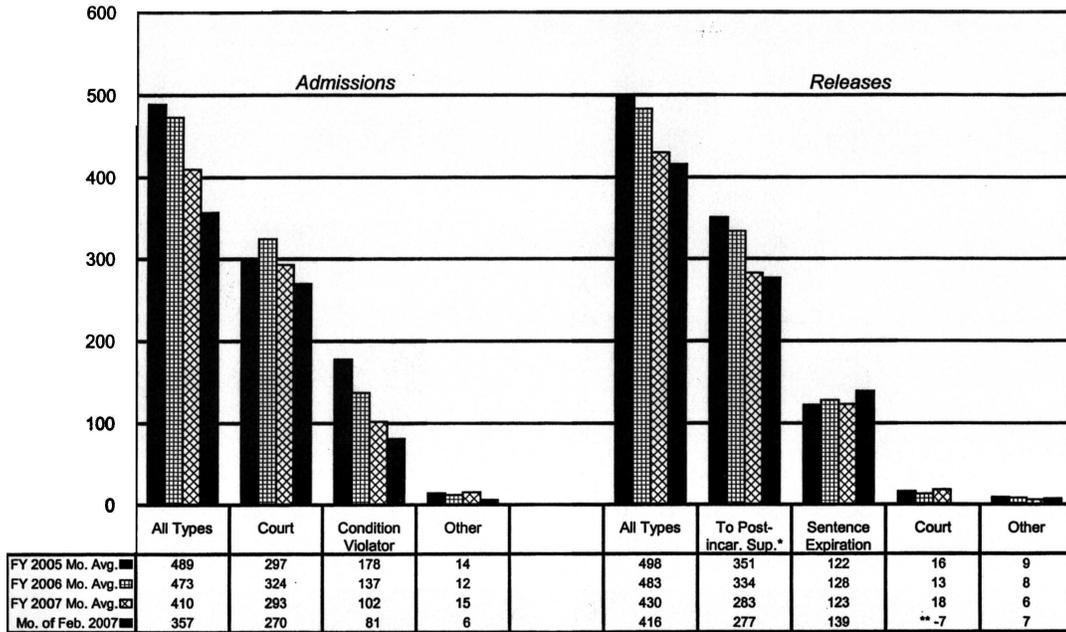
End-of-month Inmate Population: FY 2007 to Date*



*Figures reflect the total inmate population combined DOC and Non-DOC facility populations
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Kansas Department of Corrections
 Graphic Highlights -- Monthly Offender Population Report (February 2007)

Number of Admission and Release Events Per Month (by Major Category): Comparison of FY 2005, FY 2006, and FY 2007 to Date Monthly Averages with Current Month's Totals

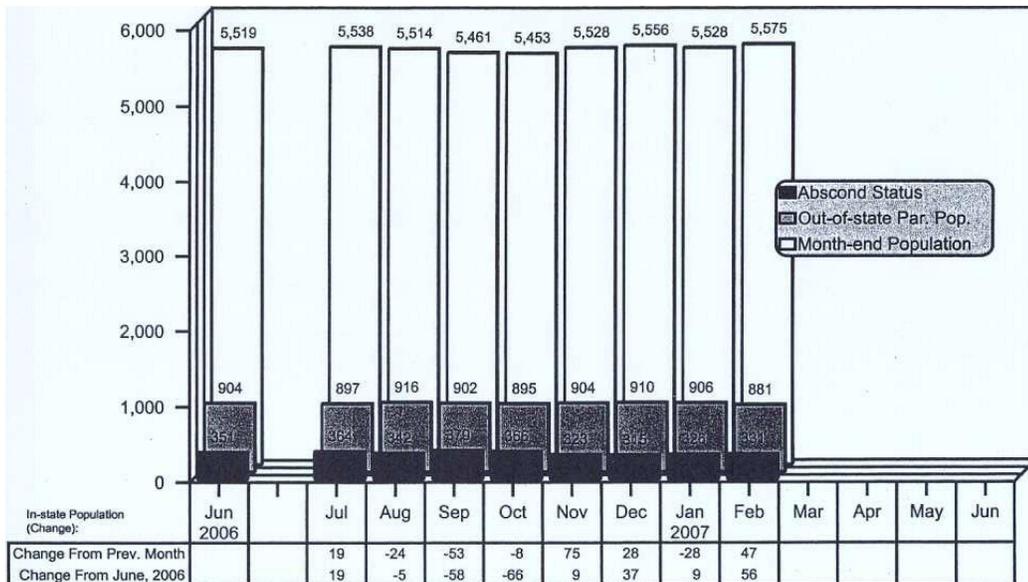


*Includes parole releases by action of the Kansas Parole Board as well as releases to supervision via the provisions of the Kansas Sentencing Guidelines Act of 1993.
 ** Figure can be a negative number for a particular month (since it is based on the total number whose last exit for the period (fiscal year to date) was via "out-to-court" minus the previous month's total, which can be a smaller or greater number).

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Kansas Department of Corrections
 Graphic Highlights -- Monthly Offender Population Report (February 2007)

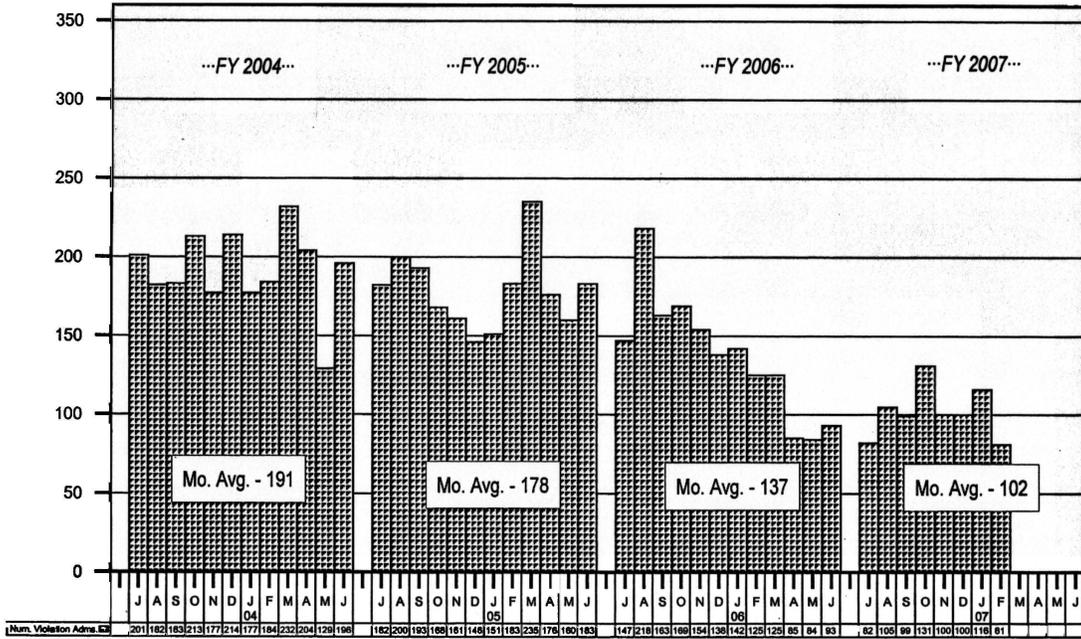
Components of the End-of-month Population Under Post-incarceration Management: FY 2007 to Date



*In-state population comprised of Kansas offenders supervised in Kansas and out-of-state offenders supervised in Kansas. Out-of-state population is comprised of Kansas offenders supervised out-of-state. Those on abscond status have active warrants whereabouts unknown).

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**Number of Return Admissions for Condition Violations by Month:
 FY 2004 - FY 2007 to Date***



*Total number of admissions for violation of the conditions of release (no new sentence).

