

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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### **Kansas Department of Corrections to Terminate Contract for Day Reporting Centers in Topeka and Wichita**

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Kansas Secretary of Corrections Roger Werholtz today announced the termination of the contract with Behavioral Interventions (BI), Inc. for the operation of Day Reporting Centers (DRCs) located in Topeka and Wichita, effective January 15, 2009.

“As with the decision announced earlier this week to terminate the contract for operation of the Labette Women’s Correctional Conservation Camp, the decision to discontinue funding for the DRCs is the result of the ongoing need to reduce the Department’s budget,” Werholtz said. “Terminating the contract for the operation of the DRCs is projected to save more than \$737,000 during the current fiscal year and \$869,000 in Fiscal Year 2010. However, we know that additional programs and services will need to be cut in order to meet our targeted reductions.”

The Day Reporting Centers are highly structured, nonresidential programs that provide intervention, supervision and services to offenders under post-incarceration supervision who have violated conditions of release but do not demonstrate a risk to public safety that requires them to be revoked and returned to incarceration. Offenders assigned to the DRCs sleep at home, but are required to be at the center during normal hours of operation unless they are at work or another authorized activity. The programs include electronic monitoring, drug and alcohol testing and counseling, cognitive therapy, employment assistance, and other services. The Topeka center opened in May 2001 and has the capacity for 40 offenders. The Wichita center opened in December 2002 and has a capacity for 100 offenders.

“We are terminating the contract for the operation of the centers,” Werholtz continued, “but we are retaining approximately \$1.5 million in our budget for use during the remainder of FY 2009 and 2010 to continue providing a number of the programs and services the offenders had been receiving at the centers. BI, Inc. has been providing us with an improved ability to deliver those services through the quality of their operations of the DRCs, but as a result of the current budget status a reduced level of those programs and services will be made available through the parole offices. Doing this, we can continue to provide for a level of public safety consistent with our responsibilities to the citizens of Kansas.”

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