Barsell, Deb

From: Arnold, Bradley
Sent: Wednesday, December 01, 2010 8:08 AM
To: Hallman, William
Subject: RE: County Operated Misdemeanor Probation Privatization Comparison

Judge Hallman,

Thank you for the email and I will follow your advice by contacting Judge Skidmore again for a meeting.

Bradley

From: Hallman, William [mailto:whallman@circuit5.org]
Sent: Wednesday, December 01, 2010 7:59 AM
To: Arnold, Bradley
Subject: RE: County Operated Misdemeanor Probation Privatization Comparison

Bradley,

Thank you for the communication on this issue. This program will directly effect the efficient administration of Judge Skidmore's Court. We have worked with privately operated services and have concerns due to the enormous failure rate of these private providers. Please discuss these concerns with Judge Skidmore to ensure Sumter County is making the correct decision. It is my sincere hope Sumter County will open communication with the Courts in order to prevent the problems other counties are embroiled in. I look forward to working with you on these crucial issues.

Bud Hallman
(Circuit Judge)

From: Arnold, Bradley [mailto:Bradley.Arnold@sumtercountyfl.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, November 30, 2010 12:39 PM
To: Hallman, William; Skidmore, Thomas; Morley, Michelle
Cc: @County Commissioners
Subject: County Operated Misdemeanor Probation Privatization Comparison
Importance: High

Judges,

In anticipation of your approval of the prior request to meet to review the proposed pilot program, I am attaching the comparison of the private provider to that of the current County misdemeanor probation services to further address any question, concerns, input that you may have.

Bradley

******* Important Notice *******
The Board of Sumter County Commissioners is a public agency subject to Chapter 119 of Florida Statutes concerning public records.

PROBATION SERVICES AND FEE SCHEDULE: PPS AND COUNTY COMPARISON

Services	Profession Probation Services (PPS)	Sumter County Misdemeanor Probation
Basic Probation Supervision	$50.00/month – NO SET UP FEE	$50.00/month – NO SET UP FEE
Intensive Probation Supervision	$60.00/month with weekly field visits – NO SET UP FEE	Do not offer
Voice Verification Supervision	$40.00/month	Do not offer
Pre-Trial Supervision	**LEVEL ONE ($40.00/month)** Defendants are required to ***report to a PPS location once weekly***, submitting to a urinalysis, and breath test. Screens are included in the fee. **LEVEL TWO ($10.00/day)** Defendants are monitored electronically using the PPS anklet monitor which enforces ***house arrest and curfew*** on a set schedule approved by the Court. The in-house monitoring unit also screens the defendant for alcohol use and reports results immediately to the PPS monitoring station. Defendants also must ***report weekly to a PPS office*** location and submit to random urinalysis screenings (included in fee). **LEVEL THREE ($11.00/day)** Defendants are monitored ***24/7 by global positioning satellite*** (GPS) with transdermal alcohol testing. PPS requires a ***face to face visit with each defendant*** at our office location twice monthly and can administer drug screens.	Supervise Pre-Trial Intervention Contracts for the State Attorney with appointments once per month. Cost of supervision is the same as basic probation cases of $50.00 per month with NO SET UP FEE Do not offer different levels of Pre-Trial Supervision. Do not offer GPS and transdermal alcohol testing.
***Now What?* Course (Cognitive Restructuring)**	$25.00/session	Do not offer
Electronic Monitoring	**Anklet Monitoring** with Curfew Enforcement and Voice Verification **($8.00/day)** **Anklet Monitoring** with Curfew Enforcement, Voice Verification,& **Remote Breath Alcohol Testing ($9.25/day)** **Active GPS** Monitoring with Exclusionary Zone and Trans-dermal Alcohol Testing **($11.00/day)**	Do not offer – these services are usually ordered for felony cases

Services	Profession Probation Services (PPS)	Sumter County Misdemeanor Probation
5-Panel Drug Screen	$15.00	Outsourced to local treatment provider
Pre-Sentence Investigation	No Cost	Do not offer – usually for felony cases
Community Service Work Coordination	No Cost	No Cost
Staff Supervised Community Service	$1.00/hour	Do not offer
Community Service Liability Insurance (Optional)	$10.00 - regardless of hours ordered	$2.00 each 50 hours ordered – not optional/required
Restitution Collection - Direct Disbursement to Victim	No Cost	No Cost
Court On-Line Access to Offender Management Computer Program	No Cost for 24/7 Internet Access to all Offender Data and Activity	Do not offer as offender management system is not web-based
Transfer of Supervision	No Cost to any of our more than 40 nationwide locations	No Cost – transfer in and out when there is a change in residence
Domestic Violence Workshop	$25.00/session	Outsourced to local treatment provider
Anger Control Workshop	$25.00/session	Outsourced to local treatment provider
Youthful Offender Workshop	$25.00/session	Do not offer – juveniles go through Department of Juvenile Justice
Job Skills, Resume Course & Placement	No Cost	Do not offer

Barsell, Deb

From: Arnold, Bradley
Sent: Wednesday, December 01, 2010 8:19 AM
To: Skidmore, Thomas
Cc: @County Commissioners
Subject: Privatization of County Misdemeanor Probation
Importance: High

Judge Skidmore,

Judge Hallman advised that I seek your input directly related to the above subject to which I have not received feedback from you or your staff for my prior requested meeting to address your questions, concerns, and input. I would appreciate an opportunity to meet with you prior to December 7, 2010. My desired action is to comply with FS 948.15 while meeting or exceeding the current service provided by our county employees. To that end, the pilot project will utilize our existing employees to carry out the functions while using the private provider software, systems, and management procedures. Hernando County recently contracted with PPS and that is the vendor with whom we desire to pursue this opportunity.

Bradley.

Barsell, Deb

From: Arnold, Bradley
Sent: Wednesday, December 01, 2010 3:25 PM
To: Skidmore, Thomas
Cc: @County Commissioners
Subject: RE: Privatization of the Sumter County Probation Department
Importance: High

Judge Skidmore,

I do not see an available date/time/location in this email for me, "Commission liaison", to meet with you prior to December 7, 2010 which is still prior to the BOCC December 14, 2010 meeting. Please respond with that information so you can divulge your concerns. This is clearly, by Florida Statute, a decision that rests solely with the BOCC; however, my communication with you as well as the BOCC has been not only above board but also unemotional. I most certainly view this as a business opportunity that meets the goals and objectives of the BOCC. Your emotional perspective is incorrect and I respectfully request that you have an open mind to the real possibility of change.

Bradley

From: Skidmore, Thomas [mailto:tskidmore@circuit5.org]
Sent: Wednesday, December 01, 2010 3:14 PM
To: Arnold, Bradley
Cc: Hoffman, Richard; Gilpin, Doug; Breeden, Garry; Mask, Randy; Burgess, Don
Subject: Privatization of the Sumter County Probation Department

Dear Mr. Arnold:

I am in receipt of your email dated November 23, 2010 relative to the above matter. This was the first notice that I was **ever** given on this subject.

It is most regrettable that as a constitutional officer and the Judge whose court the Sumter County probation department has served seamlessly and proficiently for the past twenty-two (22) years, I was completely excluded as to this privatization process with the exception of your last minute email mentioned above. You and I both know that this exclusion was intentional.

Given reasonable notice and proper opportunity we may have been able to engage in a meaningful discussion on this issue of vital importance to the County Court of Sumter County inasmuch as a probation department is a major component of the Court and the Criminal Justice system.

However, considering that I have not been provided appropriate time to address this issue in a businesslike fashion, the manner in which this matter was handled and the fact that apparently you have already made your decision, it is my suggestion that should privatization become ripe for Commission consideration, our Chief Judge, Judges and Court Administrator for the Fifth Judicial Circuit would welcome and strongly encourage a meeting with a Commission liaison prior to any vote on this matter.

I sincerely hope that in the future, even if you do not deem it necessary, that the Commission will ensure that I and my colleagues will be involved in and consulted on matters that profoundly impact the Courts over which we are constitutionally mandated to preside.

Barsell, Deb

From: Arnold, Bradley
Sent: Thursday, December 02, 2010 11:50 AM
To: @County Commissioners
Cc: Skidmore, Thomas
Subject: FW: Timeline of Discussions with Professional Probation Services (PPS)
Importance: High

Gentlemen,

In response to the incorrect perception of purposeful timing of my communication of the opportunity to you and for the Judges input, please see the actual chain of events and the point of comfort to move forward. (11/23/10 following my phone conversation with Ms. Smith regarding her view of this proposal and subsequent email to the judges for input and copy to you).

Bradley

From: Barsell, Deb
Sent: Thursday, December 02, 2010 11:29 AM
To: Arnold, Bradley
Subject: Timeline of Discussions with Professional Probation Services (PPS)

The following represents a timeline of the events and discussions leading to the proposed pilot project for PPS to provide probation services in Sumter County:

10/25/10: I attended an open house held by PPS to celebrate 5 years of service with the Hernando County Court (see attached invitation). At this meeting I had the opportunity to meet with the representatives of PPS including the CEO and his VP of Florida Operations. I reviewed the proprietary software used by PPS for recordkeeping and spoke with a Hernando County Judge, a lawyer in the public defender's office, and members of Hernando Court administration. All parties were extremely positive about the services provided by PPS in Hernando.

11/1: Discussed the PPS program in Hernando County with Mr. Arnold, stating that I planned to meet with PPS re: possible privatization of our probation services.

11/2: Met with Louise Smith, Misdemeanor Probation Coordinator, to discuss possibility of privatization and desire for her to be involved in the process. Shared information received at PPS open house.

11/4: Ms. Smith and I met with Jennifer Cooper, VP Florida Operations for PPS, and Sally Haggard, Director of Marketing, in my office. Discussion of services and performance yielded an offer by PPS of a pilot program in Sumter County.

11/8: I spoke to Clay Cox, PPS CEO, and Ms. Haggard telephonically to discuss the pilot program and negotiated possible timeframe for implementation and cost reductions during the pilot for the County.

11/9: Mr. Cox emailed a draft contract for review, which I sent to Ms. Smith and

Mr. Arnold for review and comment.

11/17: Met with Ms. Smith to obtain her input re: the contract and any clarification she might need.

11/18: Questions for PPS drafted and sent to Mr. Cox.

11/19: Answers to questions received from Mr. Cox and shared with Ms. Smith and Mr. Arnold.

11/23: Revised proposed contract sent to Mr. Arnold for his review and that of the County Attorney.

11/24: Ms. Smith prepared a service comparison between Sumter County and PPS, which I edited and sent to Mr. Arnold as requested.

12/2: Asked PPS CEO to be present at BOCC meeting on 12/14 with affirmative response received.

At this point, I am awaiting the draft contract from the County Attorney via Mr. Arnold for the pilot project to send to PPS for review. Once received an Executive Summary will be developed and transmitted to Mr. Arnold for inclusion on the 12/14 BOCC meeting for action. The pilot project is proposed for 1/1/11-9/30/11 with a cost saving in GF of $143,222 for FY11.

Deb Barsell, MSW, Director
Community Services Division
The Villages-Sumter County Service Center
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Wildwood, FL 34785
(v) 352.689.4490 (f) 352.689.4491
deb.barsell@sumtercountyfl.gov

The Community Services Division includes the following five departments: Animal Control Services, Library Services, Misdemeanor Probation, Transit, and Veteran Services. Please visit our website at www.sumtercountyfl.gov and find us under "Departments."

Professional Probation Services Cordially

Invites You to Attend an

Open House

To Celebrate 5 Years of Service with

The Hernando County Court

Monday, October 25, 2010

11:30am-1:30pm

PPS Brooksville Field Services Office

328 West Jefferson Street

Brooksville 34601

Refreshments will be provided and PPS will display our five year results and latest offender monitoring and tracking technologies.

Please RSVP to Sally Haggard at 678.218.4100 or Shaggard@ppsinfo.net by October 22nd