

STATE OF FLORIDA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 15-134

WHEREAS, the Governor is vested with the supreme executive power and must take care that the laws be faithfully executed, pursuant to Article IV, Section 1 of the Florida Constitution; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Corrections (“Department”) is an executive department of the State of Florida, created by Section 20.315, Florida Statutes, the administration of which is placed under the direct supervision of the Governor, pursuant to Article IV, Section 6 of the Florida Constitution; and

WHEREAS, the Department is charged with protecting the public through the incarceration, supervision, and rehabilitation of offenders, pursuant to Section 20.315(1), Florida Statutes; and

WHEREAS, the head of the Department is the Secretary of Corrections (“Secretary”), who is appointed by and serves at the pleasure of the Governor, pursuant to Section 20.315(3), Florida Statutes; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RICK SCOTT, Governor of Florida, by virtue of the authority vested in me by Article IV of the Florida Constitution, and all other applicable laws, hereby promulgate the following Executive Order, to take immediate effect:

Section 1. In the interests of improved institutional oversight and reform, I hereby direct the Secretary to engage the National Institute of Corrections and the Association of State Correctional Administrators to perform an external, independent audit and analysis of Department policies, practices, processes, needs, and performance related to staffing levels and organization.

The audit and analysis shall contemplate how changing Department staffing can positively affect safety, security, and inmate rehabilitation.

Section 2. I hereby direct that the Secretary develop and implement two (2) prototype correctional institutions to evaluate the impact of enhanced operational elements related to modern and innovative security techniques, technology, productivity, environmental factors, staffing levels and functions, climate control, institutional organization, shift scheduling, training and certification, and other additional facility improvements, with an emphasis on enhancing the safety, health, and well-being of staff and inmates. Specifically:

1. One prototype institution shall be created at the existing Lake Correctional Institution. That institution shall explore the impact of enhanced operational elements while specializing in housing, treating, and rehabilitating the mentally ill inmate population.
2. One prototype institution shall be created at the existing Liberty Correctional Institution. That institution shall explore the impact of enhanced operational elements while specializing in housing and reforming the conduct of the general inmate population.
3. Develop metrics or other quantifiable sets of standards to compare the Department's existing facilities with the operations of the two prototype institutions contemplated herein. The metrics or standards shall evaluate the effectiveness and efficiency of implementing the enhanced operational elements on a larger scale to include other Department facilities.

Section 3. I hereby direct the Secretary to consult with the Secretary of the Department of Children and Families and the Secretary of the Department of Juvenile Justice to explore

collaboration between the three agencies in order to develop and implement best management practices to positively impact mental health services. Specifically:

1. In Broward County, ensure consideration is given to the areas that potentially involve the agencies, including, but not limited to: addressing the needs of inmates with mental health issues who have been recently released back into the community; measures that may be employed to positively impact recidivism rates; and, providing support for individuals with mental health needs before those individuals are committed to the custody or supervision of the agencies.
2. Develop metrics or other quantifiable sets of standards to measure the results of the collaboration and shared resources of the agencies. The metrics or standards shall provide adequate data to evaluate the effectiveness and efficiency of implementing the collaborative strategies on a larger scale.

BEING FULLY ADVISED in the premise, and in accordance with the Florida Constitution and the laws of the State of Florida, this Executive Order is issued.



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Florida to be affixed, at Tallahassee, this 9th day of July, 2015.



RICK SCOTT, GOVERNOR

ATTEST:



SECRETARY OF STATE

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