

MULTNOMAH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Sheriff Nicole Morrisey O'Donnell

December 21, 2023

The Multnomah County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) has received the volunteer members' 2023 reports in accordance with Measure 26-233. I want to personally thank these members of the public and Multnomah County staff for the hard work that went into facilitating this year's first implementation of an additional visit and review of our Multnomah County correctional facilities.

Measure 26-233 outlined the following, "State law requires the board of county commissioners to visit county operated local correctional facilities at least once each regular term to fully examine the facilities, including health and discipline of people in custody and cleanliness."

Through the Multnomah County Charter Review Committee, a charter amendment was recommended and passed in 2022 to require, "county commissioners to conduct at least one additional inspection of county jails and correctional institutions administered by the Sheriff per calendar year to ensure transparency and oversight."

Further, "Subject to reasonable measures to ensure safety and security, the Sheriff would provide access for county commissioner and volunteer to any part of inspected facilities anytime without prior notice; for confidential interviews with consenting individuals; to records related to facilities. Volunteers would issue public reports with findings, recommendations."

Similar to the existing visit by the board of county commissioners, the coordination for an evaluation to include the public operates on a short timeline and with structured access to facilities in order to ensure safety and security. I want to again acknowledge the public volunteers' role, tremendous time commitment, and interest in understanding a complex system to support public process.

As Sheriff, I value our local, state, and federal audits and inspections that assist our office in operating within compliance of industry standards. Oversight such as this additional inspection provides transparency and accountability into critical jail operations.

Sincerely,

Nicole Morrisey O'Donnell

Nicole Morrisey O'Donnell Multnomah County Sheriff