



**To: Multnomah County Charter Review Committee**

**From: Sheriff Reese**

**Date: June 28, 2022**

**RE: Recommendation on Jail Inspections**

**Addressing the Safety & Justice Subcommittee Recommendation: County Jail Inspections by Board of Commissioners**

*The subcommittee recommends requiring that each member of the county's board of commissioners inspect county jail facilities a minimum of four times a year. Each commissioner's office would be charged with convening a group of at least 3 constituents to join these visits. The constituents would document their observations on the conditions of the jail after each visit and write a year-end report on the conditions to be shared with their commissioner and published for the public. Constituents would be reasonably compensated for their time.*

The Multnomah County Sheriff's Office is committed to transparency and continual growth through systems of accountability and within professional industry associations. The Sheriff's Office is interested in exploring more in depth both the outcome goals and the impacts, positive and adverse, of this recommendation. Specifically, possible affects to the adults in custody as a result of facilitating multiple tour groups to include the public within the corrections settings.

Impacts to evaluate:

- Maintaining dignity and respect for those in our custody,
- Ensuring access to programming,
- Reducing operational issues, to include possible post closures
- Required safety and security measures, such as a Criminal Records Check and Facility Entry Agreement for each attendee.

We participate fully in annual oversight models provided by the Board of County Commissioners visit and review as well as the Auditor's Office report and Corrections Grand Jury process, which is facilitated by the District Attorney's Office and conducted independently by Multnomah County residents. Additionally, other organizations have oversight authority such as Disability Rights Oregon and the Oregon Jail Standards that guide our policies and practices.

Finally, other county department and outside organizational staff, as well as volunteers, provide services within our corrections facilities specific to the adults in custody, allowing for diverse external access and participation in oversight.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael Reese".

SHERIFF