

Advisory

County of Macomb
Mount Clemens, Mich.
Aug. 5, 2004
REL030



Update on the Macomb County Juvenile Justice Center

A meeting was held on Tuesday, Aug. 3, involving all of the Macomb County officials with responsibility for overseeing operations the Juvenile Justice Center (JJC). The officials attending the meeting included Chief Circuit Judge Peter J. Maceroni, Sheriff Mark Hackel, Board of Commissioners Chair Nancy White and Commissioner Phillip DiMaria, chairman of the County Board's Justice and Public Safety Committee.

Following the meeting, the officials released the following information about ongoing activities at the JJC:

Judge Maceroni, working with the County Board, has made significant progress toward naming an interim superintendent to oversee the JJC while a nationwide search is conducted to find a permanent director. An announcement about the interim superintendent will be made soon. In the meantime, the JJC's experienced supervisors are responsible for day-to-day operations with oversight from the County Board.

"We are excited about the positive progress we've made with the Juvenile Justice Center over the past month and confident that we can make further improvements in short order," said County Board Chair White.

Sheriff Hackel and staff from his office assist with JJC operations on a daily basis. Sheriff's Department staff has participated in JJC personnel meetings and conducted three training sessions for JJC employees in preparation for moving the center to an all-new facility sometime in September. A fourth training session is scheduled for the week of Aug. 8.

"Ongoing training is mandated by the state of Michigan and we are making sure that we meet or exceed all requirements," said Judge Maceroni.

The Sheriff's Department also is identifying logistical and facility issues that must be addressed before the new facility is opened. On Monday, Aug. 9, for example, the County Board's Justice and Public Safety Committee is scheduled to consider the purchase of a walk-through metal detector and four hand-held metal detectors for the new center.

(MORE)

Macomb County JJC Update – 8/5/04
Page 2

“We identified a few structural and procedural items to improve security and efficiency at the new facility that can be addressed before the new Juvenile Justice Center opens,” said Sheriff Hackel. “There seems to be a great cooperative spirit between the JJC staff and our Sheriff’s Department personnel.”

“We are preparing for the move so we can make a seamless transition to the new facility within the near future,” said Commissioner DiMaria.

In a related matter, the officials also announced that the Macomb County Juvenile Justice Center School became the first program in the United States to receive accreditation from the Correctional Education Association (CEA) under the CEA’s new standards for Juvenile Correctional Education Programs.

Vincent Famularo Jr. is director of the school, which is operated under the auspices of the L’Anse Creuse Public Schools.

“The CEA’s Standards Commission voted unanimously to grant accreditation to the Juvenile Justice Center School,” said Board Chair White. “This is great news for the JJC School staff and the JJC residents. Congratulations to the Juvenile Justice Center and the L’Anse Creuse Public Schools.”

The audit report to the CEA Standards Commission indicates that the Macomb County JJC School complies with 100 percent of the CEA standards. The report also commends the professionalism exhibited by the school’s staff.

Founded in 1945, the CEA is a non-profit, professional association serving educators and administrators who provide services to students in correctional settings. The CEA is the largest affiliate of the American Correctional Association and is based in Lanham, Md., a suburb of Washington, D.C.

#

News media contact: Phil Frame, 586-469-7239, phil.frame@macombcountymi.gov.

This document was created with Win2PDF available at <http://www.daneprairie.com>.
The unregistered version of Win2PDF is for evaluation or non-commercial use only.