



## Community Corrections Advisory Board

Reverend Eugene L. Pierce, *Chair*  
Nan Haynes, *Vice-Chair*  
Joseph Sacco, *Secretary*

June 6, 2013

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Charles Culhane  
Brendon Dickman  
Thomas Diina  
David Marciniak  
Michael Ranney  
William Schultz

Thomas J. Diina, Superintendent  
Jail Management Division  
Erie County Sheriff Department  
10 Delaware Avenue  
Buffalo, NY 14202

Re: Prisoners programs and searches of visitors

Dear Superintendent Diina:

Over the last two months the Erie County Community Corrections Advisory Board has focused its attention on prisoner programs at the Erie County Holding Center and the Erie County Correctional Facility. We also discussed the search of visitors to the Holding Center at the May meeting. We write to request information about both of these topics.

Firstly, to further our discussion of how to improve programming at the jails we ask that you provide the Board with a list specifying:

1. Each educational and rehabilitation program provided to prisoners at the Holding Center and each educational and rehabilitation program provided to prisoners at the Correctional Facility;
2. The cost in dollars spent on each program;
3. The source or sources of funds for each program;
4. The number of adult prisoners currently enrolled in the GED program at the Correctional Facility;
5. The number of adult prisoners on a waiting list for the GED program at the Correctional Facility;
6. The number of adult prisoners at the Correctional Facility that have not completed high school or do not have a GED;

Shiana Denise Eve, *Clerk*  
Ph.: 716/858-8853

We would also like to know whether there are specific plans to reinstate the horticulture program at the Correctional Facility. If there are, please let us know what they include and any target date by which jail management intends to reinstate the program.

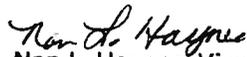
Secondly, at the May meeting of the Erie County Community Corrections Advisory Board, the father of a detainee held in the Erie County Holding Center described visitors subject to searches by drug sniffing dogs. He objected not to the use of drug sniffing dogs, but to the manner in which they searched the visitors. As a follow-up to this visitor's remarks we ask that you provide us with the protocol relating to the use of drug-sniffing dogs to search visitors at both the Erie County Holding Center and the Erie County Correctional Facility, and any other protocol relating to the search of visitors.

We would greatly appreciate it if you come to the July meeting with this information. Alternatively, if you are unable to attend the July meeting we ask that you send us this information in writing by the end of this month.

Many thanks,



Reverend Eugene L. Pierce, Chair



Nan L. Haynes, Vice Chair

Cc: Hon. Betty Jean Grant  
Hon. Timothy R. Hogues