

July 3, 2020

Via FedEx and via Email to: JCoppinger@HamiltonTN.gov

Jim Coppinger, Mayor
Hamilton County Tennessee
625 Georgia Avenue
Chattanooga, TN 37402

**Re: Correctional Facilities Operating Agreement between
Hamilton County and CoreCivic of Tennessee, LLC
Notice of Termination**

Mayor Coppinger:

This letter is a follow-up to the conversation last week where CoreCivic leadership shared with the County our intention to exercise the 180-day termination right and cease management of the Silverdale Detention Center (SDC). With this notification, pursuant to Section 2.03 of the contract, our last day of performance will be December 30, 2020. As was discussed on the call with you, it is our intention to work with the County to ensure that the transition of SDC to management by the Sheriff's office is as seamless as possible. We are very proud of our partnership over the past 36 years, and we will continue to deliver the same high level of professional service as this transition process evolves over the coming months.

While we believe that this transition is the appropriate next step, we understand that the County may wish to extend the transition period beyond what is required in our current contract. However, in order for us to continue to operate the facility through the current contract term of September 6, 2021, we would need to see a number of changes implemented. These changes include increasing the per diem by \$5.63 and making targeted investments in the physical plant that directly impact the safety and security of the facility.

On the adjusted per diem, every dollar would go toward increasing SDC salaries to ensure that we are able to retain staff during the transition. As you know well from operations at the downtown jail, staffing correctional facilities in this area is and has been a challenge. As we have discussed previously, we believe that implementing salary increases to bring SDC more in line with the market will help improve operations and allow for a more stable transition.

Additionally, there continue to be significant safety and security concerns that must be addressed by the County as the owner of the physical plant at SDC. These items include faulty locking controls, broken camera systems, and interior and exterior doors that do not function properly due

to their age, among other items. We have provided a comprehensive list to the Sheriff's office of these items, and they are aware of our concerns from previous discussions.

Please know that we are making this notification after much thought and careful consideration. CoreCivic has operated in Hamilton County since 1984, and thousands of our employees have called this area home. The dedicated men and women who make up the team at SDC today are part of a long legacy that has produced many leaders who have gone on to do great things for our organization. We are very proud of the work they continue to do, and as we work toward transitioning the facility back to the County, CoreCivic once again affirms our commitment to work with you and your staff to make sure the process happens as safely and seamlessly as possible.

Sincerely,



Natasha K. Metcalf

cc: Via FedEx:
Jim Hammond, Hamilton County Sheriff
600 Market Street
Chattanooga, TN 37402

Hamilton County Attorney
Via email: RMTaylor@HamiltonTN.gov
625 Georgia Avenue, Suite 204
Chattanooga, TN 37402

George Keith Martin, Esq.
Via email: gmartin@mcguirewoods.com
McGuire Woods LLP
800 East Canal Street
Richmond, VA 23219

Hugh Moore, Esq.
Via email: hmoore@chamblisslaw.com
Chambliss, Bahner & Stophel, P.C.
Liberty Tower
605 Chestnut Street, Suite 1700
Chattanooga, TN 37450