October 12, 2018

Re: Office of Inspector General (OIG)
Fourth Quarter Fiscal Year (FY) 2018 report

Dear Criminal Justice stakeholder:

Attached to this letter you will find the fourth quarter incident reporting and investigation statistics for the Incident Reporting Center and investigative functions of the OIG. During this final reporting quarter for FY 18, the OIG was heavily engaged in recruiting, hiring, and training a team of security professionals to assume the responsibility of entry searches and gatehouse operations at the five secure facilities. To more successfully manage that organizational growth, OIG initiated a facility by facility process starting with the Evins Regional Juvenile Center in Edinburg. The remaining facilities at Brownwood, Gainesville, Giddings, and Mart have now started hiring staff as well.

Over the past three months, the OIG has collaborated with the leadership of State Programs and Facilities, Executive Administration, Office of the General Counsel, and the Office of the Independent Auditor on standardizing a number of practices and procedures to enhance safety and security at the five state facilities. One area of collaboration included revisions to the prohibited items list that standardized statewide what items would not be allowed inside the secure areas. Another area of collaboration was updating and strengthening the policies and procedures for youth offenders evading staff and escape from high restriction facilities. While other areas of collaboration involved strengthening background checks and exploring ways to improve check in procedures. The newly hired OIG staff will play some significant roles in implementing these changes.

In the August TJJD Executive Board meeting, I was able to brief the Board on the number of arrests, indictments, and convictions. At the end of the 4th quarter, OIG presented a total of 54 cases for prosecution, made 26 arrests, received notice of 15 new indictments, and 21 convictions. I also briefed the board on noticeable decline in the number of worker’s compensation claims from youth aggression. This trend was observable from the beginning of the fiscal year when the agency received from the high of 35 claims in October 2017 down to 23 in August of 2018. During the months of March, April, May, and June, the agency had less than 20 claims from youth aggression, with a record low of 12 in May. There was an increase in both July and August (25, 23 respectively), however these numbers are significantly lower than the beginning of FY18.
Over the entire fiscal year, OIG made 8 arrests of staff for official oppression (generally excessive use of force), and 93 arrests for assaults on public servants, assaults on other youth, and harassment of a person in a secure correctional facility. All of these arrests, the 73 indictments, and 76 convictions, likely improved the overall safety and security of the facilities by removing the most disruptive, harmful, and assaultive persons from the facilities. A more comprehensive analysis of the impact of the persons indicted and convicted will be included in the OIG FY 2018 Annual Report.

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]

Forrest A. Mitchell, FBINA-233, LCC-62
Chief Inspector General
Total number, and type, of suspects involved in OIG-CID criminal sexual allegation investigations.
Q4 FY 18 (6/1/2018 to 8/31/2018): 151

Figure 1 - Sexual Abuse Cases Suspect Types
Total number of arrests made by OIG-CID and stemming from criminal investigations
Q4 FY 18 (6/1/2018 to 8/31/2018): 26

Figure 2 - Arrests by Suspect Type
Total number of arrests of Youth Offenders made by OIG-CID by offense type
Q4 FY 18 (6/1/2018 to 8/31/2018): 26

- Youth Assault
- Youth Assault On A Public Servant
- Youth Harassment By Persons In A Secure Correctional Facility
- Youth Indecency With A Child
- Youth Sexual Assault

Figure 3 - Cases for Arrested Youth