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**Kerry Harvey**  
SECRETARY

**TO: Legislative Oversight & Investigations Committee  
Legislative Research Commission**

**FROM: Department of Juvenile Justice & KY Justice & Public Safety Cabinet**

**DATE: July 7, 2023**

**RE: LOIC Member Requests**

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Please find responses to Legislative Oversight & Investigations Committee member requests below.

1. In response to Representative Fleming's question, please provide the geographical distribution of the 37 newly filled detention positions by regional juvenile detention center.

Between 01/01/2023 and 06/14/2023, DJJ hired 121 individuals into detention centers.

- Adair: 30
- Boyd: 12
- Breathitt: 12
- Campbell: 17
- Fayette: 13
- Jefferson: 8
- McCracken: 13
- Warren: 16

2. In response to Representative Bowling's question, please provide geographical distribution of all detention positions from December 2021 (by month).

See attached Excel spreadsheet.

3. In response to Representative Blanton's question, please provide an update on ongoing efforts for intelligence sharing of information between DJJ, DOC and law enforcement in general.

DJJ has designated Security Threat Group (STG) Coordinators in each DJJ detention center, youth development center, and community office. DJJ received initial training from the Kentucky Department of Corrections (DOC) and the Louisville Metro Police Department (LMPD). The coordinators have the ability to monitor all DJJ youth determined to be a security threat, and they utilize a SharePoint site which allows them – and DJJ administrators – to share information about youth. As a result, when a youth is transferred between facilities, the information is accessible by the receiving facility’s STG coordinator and administrator in order to inform decisions about housing and interactions with other youth.

Each STG coordinator has been tasked with developing contact with law enforcement in their area. The contact information is housed on the SharePoint site so all STG coordinators have access. Thus far, STG coordinators have communicated with their law enforcement contacts on various topics, including reports of motorcycle gangs passing through certain areas and Louisville STGs who currently have issues (“beefs”) with each other and how they can affect the behaviors of youth in DJJ facilities. Although this is still a fairly new process for DJJ, communication with law enforcement is encouraged and expected to expand.

4. In response to Representative Sharp’s question, please provide the population of special needs youth (autism, Down syndrome, etc.) in detention centers by count and percentage.

DJJ does not have a system that collects the disability status of youth. However, this information is collected via the youth’s school status through identified special education designation. This information is compiled through the Kentucky Educational Collaborative on State Agency Youth (KECSAC) on a yearly basis.

The information from the 2022 census report includes all DJJ programs – not just detention. It shows that 34% of all youth in DJJ programs have been identified with an educational disability. Of this group, the following identifications have been made:

- 2.3% have autism
- 9.2% have mild mental disability
- 0.9% have functional mental disability
- 0.5% have traumatic brain injury
- 39.9% have emotional/behavioral disorder
- 1.8% have multiple disabilities
- 29.8% have been identified as other health impaired (i.e., ADHD, Tourette’s, diabetes, cancer, heart condition, etc.)

- 33% have a specific learning disability (i.e., brain injury, dyslexia, and others)
- 0.5% are visually impaired