Sheriff Ozzie Knezovich

Our Community — Our Safety

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BOCC SHARPEN THE PENCIL

MYTH BUSTER

Check out our Website www.Spokanesheriff.org

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Detention Services

The PM Update

May 2011

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The Board of County Commissioners

The Board of County Commissioners and the Sheriff's team are evaluating the Detention Services Project on a couple of different fronts:

1. Including the West Plains Site in the 10-year comprehensive urban growth amendment process.
2. How much land to include in the Urban Growth Area.
3. Evaluating different construction delivery methods to look for cost savings.
4. Conditional Use Permitting process with City of Spokane for the Community Corrections Center that is to be located on the Spokane County Campus.

Initial hearing was on April 14, 2011

A follow-up hearing is scheduled for Thursday, June 9, 2011@ 9 a.m., Spokane City Hall.

MYTHS and MISCONCEPTIONS

Myth

Jail personnel book an average of five inmates per day for possession of marijuana—only.

Reality

Since the beginning of the year, we have booked 117 inmates on a charge of Controlled Substance—Poss. Misdemeanor Marijuana. Out of those 117 inmates:

Only 18 were booked into the jail for Misdemeanor Marijuana and those individuals were released within 48 hours.

The remaining **99** individuals had a trumping, more serious charge

Myth

There are no dangerous or serious offenders in the Spokane County Jail; they go to prison.

Reality

Everyone that is arrested in Spokane County, whether it be for a violent, serious crime or a gross misdemeanor, is booked into the Spokane County Jail.

The jail houses everyone during the adjudication process. Upon sentencing by the court, most offenders remain in the Sheriff's custody until sentence is served. Only those who are sentenced to 12 months and 1 day will be sent to prison.

Misconception

Racial disproportionality is significant in the jail.

Reality

A snapshot of February 2011 revealed: N=747

- White = 518
  - Average age = 35
  - High school grads = 303
- Native American = 91
  - Average age = 32
  - High school grads = 55
- African American = 122
  - Average age = 34
  - High school grad = 86
- Asian = 12
  - Average age = 30
  - High School grad = 5
- Middle Easterner = 1
  - Average age = 25
  - High school = 1
- Unspecified = 3