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**Lee Noble  
Superintendent**

August 21, 2007

To Whom It May Concern:

The Southwest Virginia Regional Jail Authority received proposals for medical services for three new and one established facility in the fall of 2004. These proposals were for all physician services (medical, dental, and psychiatric). In researching the proposals, Dr. Kevah Ofogh's proposal met the needs and requirements of our facilities. One of the most important aspects of the proposal was Dr. Ofogh's solution to alleviate the problem of travel brought about by the remoteness of our facilities. Dr. Ofogh proposed that the facilities take advantage of their internet capabilities and allow him to provide tele-medicine for psychiatric services.

The Southwest Virginia Regional Jail Authority facilities have dedicated one day per week for inmates to meet with a psychiatrist through tele-medicine. Our officers do not have to leave the facility to take inmates to an outside provider, and a Psychiatrist does not have to travel. The time schedule is fixed every week so that no surprises arise. The Authority has also been fortunate to use tele-medicine services in cases of emergencies.

The ability to have one Psychiatrist to provide services for all facilities is a tremendous benefit. The standard of care for all four facilities is the same. We are able to maintain control of drug costs through the use of a standard formulary developed by Dr. Ofogh and applied by the Psychiatrist. As an example, in May and June 2005, before tele-medicine, the average inmate population was 723 and the cost for psychotropic medicines was \$ 19,407. In May and June 2007, after tele-medicine, the average inmate population was 1550 and the cost for psychotropic medicines was \$15,033.

Dr. Ofogh has been concerned about the overall budget of the facilities from the beginning of his contract. He has not hesitated, to develop and incorporate into operations, procedures that allow us to maintain costs. As previously stated, we believe Dr. Ofogh's program has provided remarkable opportunities to not only maintain/ reduce overall expenditures but provide a standard of care unprecedented throughout all our facilities.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at (276) 739-3529.

Sincerely,

Stephen O. Clear  
Assistant Superintendent

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