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**Lee Noble  
Superintendent**

January 3, 2006

To Whom It May Concern:

In the fall of 2004 the Southwest Virginia Regional Jail Authority issued a Request for Proposal for medical services. The requirements of the RFP were somewhat unusual in that the successful responding physician or company was charged with providing medical, dental and psychiatric services for one price. Our approach was not privatization, but emphasized provider services under contract while the Jail Authority maintained control over nurse staffing and off-site services.

Dr. Kaveh Ofogh and his firm MEDIKO, PC was the only responsible respondent although several companies and physician groups responded with variations on the requirements. Dr. Ofogh understood exactly what we wanted and provided a proposal that not only met but exceeded our requirements. He offered to assist with medical staff selection, pharmacy services, proposal evaluation and medical staff training in addition to providing medical, dental and psychiatric services to four jails serving ten jurisdictions. The driving distance from any one jail to any other is more than one hour in good weather making time another factor in service delivery planning.

Dr. Ofogh has reduced our pharmacy costs by over 50 percent, emergency room trip costs by 80 percent and negotiated lab service contract rates for our Jail Authority, which are approximately 70% less than what most other Jails pay for lab services. Dr. Ofogh has hired, at his expense, a nurse coordinator to support clinical supervision, staff training and monitoring of performance per medical policies, procedures and nurse protocols.

Another particularly noteworthy cost savings is MEDIKO's management of psychiatric services using teleconferencing connections with consulting psychiatrists. The psychiatrists have no travel expense and we have no transportation requirements for this service. The cost savings are enormous since the number of prisoners in jails needing psychiatric consults has grown substantially over the last several years. The psychiatrists are enthusiastic about it because the quality of the teleconferencing equipment provides excellent observation of the patient during the evaluation. Dr. Ofogh is, as far as I know, the

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only jail physician using this innovative method to provide a quality service while reducing expenses. Our MEDIKO service also includes a Qualified Mental Health Professional to work in all four of our Jails, providing on-site teleconferencing support and substantial reductions in the number of pre-screening requests to our Community Service Boards.

Dr. Ofogh understands the importance of merging medical and operational procedures. He developed extensive protocols for medical staff and supervisory security or treatment staff to provide consistency for our medical service delivery. The protocols are part of an extensive medical policy manual that is the best I have ever seen in my 35 years working in prisons and jails.

In summary, Dr. Ofogh responded to a request for proposals with unusual requirements by proposing to exceed those requirements. He has become an important member of the management team by integrating medical, security and treatment procedures. He also has driven cost savings that actually have medical and pharmacy expenses under budget.

Sincerely,



Lee Noble