



Progress of DJJ's Broad River Road Complex (BRRC) Improvements to Date

Juvenile Discipline

Accountability—Five of the juveniles involved in the most recent disturbance have been arrested and charged with adult charges related to the incident. An additional juvenile has been charged related to an earlier incident.

New Disciplinary Policies—New juvenile disciplinary policy measures, focused on accountability and a progressive discipline system for juveniles based on behavior and needs are currently being revised.

Multi-tiered Housing—DJJ is deploying multi-tiered housing using highly secure environments for the most aggressive youth and an honors dorm for the most well behaved youth.

Physical Security

The Crisis Management Unit (CMU)—A new cage has been installed around the CMU control room, along with new cameras to cover “blind-spots;” more secure locks, and Lexan break-resistant windows for the CMU classrooms. CMU is scheduled to reopen on March 28th. “Fencing in” CMU is planned as an extra security measure.

Girls Transition Home—DJJ has begun the contraction of a new security fence around the home, expected to be completed this week. The inner gate to the Willow Lane facility is also now operational and secure. The Girls Transition Home is scheduled to reopen on March 28th.

Dormitories—In the Poplar dormitory, new Lexan break-resistant windows have been installed in the dorm and in the control room. These are also currently being installed in the Cypress dormitory. Dorms are also being equipped with tamper-resistant furniture, electrical and water fixtures. “Fencing in” Holly dorm to increase security as a step up for aggressive youth and a step down from CMU.

General Campus Improvements—Drain covers at the complex have been reinforced.

New Search Policies—The Office of the Inspector General is currently revamping DJJ's search policies for staff and visitors coming onto the BRRC campus. The agency has also already implemented more thorough searches for anyone coming to BRRC.

BRRC Improvements to Date

Staffing and Staff Training

Special Response Team—The DJJ Special Response Team (SRT), created to rapidly deal with major disturbances at BRRC, is now live, with 15 initial members (approved to 25). Additional equipment has been ordered (shields, helmets, and goggles). Training the new team is in progress.

OC Pepper Spray Training—Training has been arranged with the Criminal Justice Academy for all Class 1 police officers beginning March 23rd.

New Inspector General and Police Staff—Freddie Pough from SLED has taken over as the interim Inspector General and the agency has also hired a new police officer. DJJ is actively working to hire a Police Chief.

Recruitment—Human Resources is scheduled to attend several job fair events to recruit teachers and officers; and plans for recruitment advertising are also in development.

New Supervisor Uniforms—White shirts have been issued to all supervising officers - officers began wearing the new uniform last week.

Surveying Staff—In a survey of security staff, 55% of the respondents are satisfied with the current 12 hour shift.

Additional Evening Staffing and Supervision—DJJ has increased the number of security personnel on-duty during the evening shift and also improved on-site supervision during evening hours.

Improved Treatment, Support, Cooperation, and Communication

Cooperation with DMH—Director Murray has met with DMH Director McGill to form a plan to improve treatment for Seriously Mentally Ill (SMI) juveniles at DJJ, with goals to transfer DJJ youth in need of mental health treatment to DMH.

Cooperation with SLED on Anti-Gang Efforts—DJJ has already begun working with the SLED gang intervention expert to help combat gangs at BRRC.

Cooperation with DHHS—A meeting with Director Murray and Mr. Soura, DHHS Director has been scheduled for March 23rd to discuss residential placement for SMI juveniles at DJJ.

Implementation of Aggression Replacement Training (ART)—The Director of Social Work and the BRRC Social Work Manager have met to outline the implementation of ART for agency youth. Treatment staff has also received training to implement this new program. ART is an evidence-based program certified as a model program by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) and recognized by the National Gang Center as an effective gang prevention and intervention program.