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BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
EL DORADO COUNTY

February 21, 2007

TO: El Dorado County Board of Supervisors

FROM: Lynda L. Frost, Field Representative  
Corrections Standards Authority

SUBJECT: Mentally Ill Offender Crime Reduction (MIOCR) Grant

As the Field Representative assigned to El Dorado County's MIOCR grant, I would like to take this opportunity to share some information and personal observations about the Behavioral Health Court Expansion Program.

As you may already know, El Dorado County fared extremely well in the highly competitive Request Proposals process for the MIOCR funds, ranking 7<sup>th</sup> out of the 39 proposals submitted to the Corrections Standards Authority for projects targeting adult mentally ill offenders. This outcome is all the more impressive considering that the top six proposals were large and medium counties and they all received up to 15 additional points for having participated in the previous MIOCR demonstration grant program. In addition, the six subject matter experts who evaluated and scored the 39 proposals ranked El Dorado County's Behavioral Health Court Expansion Program 1<sup>st</sup> for Project Design. Everyone involved in the development of the proposal for this project deserves kudos!

On February 15<sup>th</sup>, I had an opportunity to participate in a Stakeholders Meeting for this project. I was impressed and energized by the enthusiasm, knowledge and genuine commitment of all the partners involved in this collaborative effort, from the judges and district attorney to representatives of the Sheriff's Department, Probation Department, Mental Health Department and National Alliance for the Mentally Ill. I left this session, which was extremely informative and well-organized, feeling confident that the Behavioral Health Court Expansion Program will be successful in reducing recidivism among offenders with a mental illness.

Finally, I would like the Board of Supervisors to know that, from my perspective, the management of this project is in very capable hands. Co-Project Directors John Bachman and Lt. Randy Peshon and Mary Pierce, the designated Financial Officer, have demonstrated a strong commitment to managing this grant in an effective, efficient manner – and it will truly be a pleasure working with them in the months ahead.