

Memorandum

Date: March 12, 2012
To: CEO Chandra Wallar
From: Sheriff Bill Brown
Subject: Extraordinary Jail Medical Issue



CEO Wallar,

In February of this year, the Santa Barbara Sheriff's Office arrested and booked into custody a male subject for serious violent criminal charges.

This inmate has a serious medical condition that requires prescribed doses, several times a week, of a very expensive medication. Prior to his arrest, he received this medication free of charge from a federal program. He is no longer eligible to receive the medication from this federal program due to his incarceration. This person is likely to remain in custody for an extended period of time; therefore, the cost of providing this medication will be significant. Due to the seriousness of the criminal charges pending, alternative sentencing is not an appropriate option and it is doubtful he will be able to post bail. We have had discussions with the District Attorney's Office and the defense attorney to advise them of this situation. Keeping the rights of the individual in mind, they will make every attempt to keep his criminal proceedings moving without delay.

The Sheriff's Office is responsible for providing appropriate medical and mental health care to incarcerated individuals. Jail staff has been working with the subject's former primary care physician, Corizon Health Services, Public Health, and with local drug pharmacies to determine the appropriate level of treatment. Our medical staff has changed the medication and secured a reduction in its cost, from \$3,200 per dose to \$2,700 per dose. This is still extraordinarily high. As a projection of future costs, if this individual remains in our custody for one year at this same level of treatment, we are looking at a cost of over \$500,000.

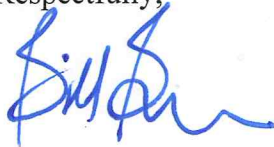
Currently, we are purchasing this medication under an existing purchase order. Since the limitations of this purchase order will soon be exceeded, we are requesting the Board of Supervisors approve a board letter docketed for March 20th in order for us to receive the financial approval to purchase this medication and to use a sole source. We are not requesting a budget revision at this time.

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It should be noted that this inmate is not in our custody as a result of AB 109, i.e., we would have been faced with this problem prior to criminal justice realignment.

I will keep you updated as this situation evolves.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Bill Brown", with a stylized flourish at the end.

BILL BROWN
Sheriff – Coroner