



CIC | DC Corrections Information Council

**Testimony of Donald L. Isaac, Executive Director
DC Corrections Information Council
Committee on the Judiciary and Public Safety Budget Hearing
Wednesday, March 23, 2022**

Good day, Chairman Allen and other members of the Committee on the Judiciary and Public Safety. I am Donald L. Isaac, the Executive Director of the DC Corrections Information Council, commonly known as the “CIC.” Board members Charles Thornton, Katharine Huffman, and Nkechi Taifa join me in thanking you for your continued support.

As you know, the CIC is an independent monitoring body initially established under the 1997 Revitalization Act, with its mandate further expanded and detailed in the DC Jail Improvement Act of 2003. The CIC is mandated to inspect, monitor, and report on the conditions of confinement in the prisons, jails, and halfway houses where DC residents are incarcerated. This includes approximately 2,600 residents in 118 Federal Bureau of Prisons’ (BOP) facilities and contract facilities located in 34 states and the District of Columbia, as well as approximately 1,400 residents in the local custody of the DC Department of Corrections (DOC).

For fiscal year 2023, this Committee and Administration agreed to increase the CIC's budget from \$892,575 to \$947, 597, which represents an increase of approximately \$55,000. The budget is comprised entirely of local funds.

Personnel Services

The Personnel Services budget for FY 2023 is \$899,888. It represents a variance increase of \$54,786. Initially, the CIC requested funds to support two new positions and establish a career ladder for existing staff. The agency requested approximately \$240,450 in enhancements, which would consist of an estimated \$76,180 for a Program Analyst, \$124,270 for a Deputy Director, and \$40,000 for internal promotions. The current FY23 budget variance accounts for the \$40,000 to grant the internal promotions and \$14,786 for the 2% COLA increase and fringe benefits.

The agency currently has 10 FTEs. In FY22, the staff filled two existing positions for a Program Analyst and a Communications Specialist. For FY22 and 23, the current number of Program Analysts is six. Program Analysts continue to seek innovative means to increase the turnaround time on inspection reports while balancing multiple day-to-day responsibilities such as performing research, analyzing data, and directly corresponding with members and families of the incarcerated population; however, the agency would greatly benefit from an increase in staff capacity to support its ongoing

inspection responsibilities for the Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP) – and increased oversight at the DOC with more regular and unannounced on-site visits. The CIC staff is eager to exceed expectations based upon feedback during the Performance Oversight Hearing, and the agency appreciates all fiscal support necessary to facilitate our efforts.

Non-Personnel Services

The FY 2023 budget for non-personnel services is \$47,709, which represents an increased variance of \$235 from this year's budget. Since the non-personnel budget is relatively unchanged, the agency will continue to perform the local and domestic travel required to support our research and reporting.

As always, the CIC is extremely grateful for continued support from this Council and this Administration. I am available to answer any questions.

Thank you.

