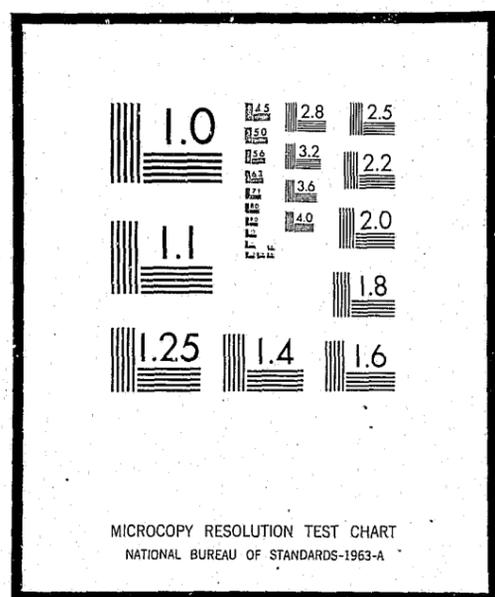


# NCJRS

This microfiche was produced from documents received for inclusion in the NCJRS data base. Since NCJRS cannot exercise control over the physical condition of the documents submitted, the individual frame quality will vary. The resolution chart on this frame may be used to evaluate the document quality.



Microfilming procedures used to create this fiche comply with the standards set forth in 41CFR 101-11.504

Points of view or opinions stated in this document are those of the author(s) and do not represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE ADMINISTRATION  
NATIONAL CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFERENCE SERVICE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20531

Date filmed

2/11/76

REPORT TO

GRAND JURY

MAY TERM 1974

BY

SHERIFF FATE THOMAS

24 JULY 1974

19048  
Dup.

## INTRODUCTION

Since taking office September 1, 1972, Sheriff Fate Thomas and his staff have endeavored to keep the citizens of Metropolitan Nashville informed of the activities and the plans of this office.

The purpose of this report is to advise the members of the May term of the Grand Jury of the disposition of plans for improvement and to relate current plans, as well as past accomplishments of our department. It also affords us an opportunity to solicit your help and guidance in the improvement of the Sheriff's Office.

## THE METRO JAIL

Anyone who visits the Metro Jail quickly remarks about the physical improvements in the facility over the past year. But much of what they see in the way of improvements is purely on the surface.

Security has further been tightened through the use of two trained guard dogs from K-9 Patrol on a contractual basis. The dogs accompany guards on a constant patrol of the cellblock areas on night shifts. They also are used as a precautionary measure when meals are delivered, laundry is changed, during shakedowns for inmate weapons or other contraband, when inmates are taken from their cells for visiting calls or for other reasons.

We have experienced four attempted escapes from the jail in the past year but none have been successful because of our security efforts. We have had two trustees walk off their jobs and listed as escapees, but both were captured within a few hours. One inmate was erroneously released by a jail employee because of a name mix-up. He actually appeared in another man's place in Traffic Court, was fined by the judge, and taken back to the jail to sign for the other man's belongings. The person responsible for his release has been relieved of responsibilities. The fourth attempted escape is presently being investigated.

Command of personnel forces has been vastly improved through the Metro Council's help. At present there are 35 guards, five supervisory guards, four lieutenants, one principal clerk, an assistant superintendent and a superintendent. With an increase in personnel we were able to get employees from a 48-hour week to a 40 hour week.

During the year, jail guards and fieldmen spent more than 6,000 man hours at the General Hospital with prisoners undergoing treatment. This occurred in 2,000 separate trips. Our efforts to secure a lock-up facility at the hospital have proved successful, and we have now secured a federal grant to provide the necessary equipment and personnel to fund a new lock-up ward at General Hospital to be used by both the Sheriff's Department and the State Corrections Department. Funds for this new facility are expected to be appropriated by September 1974.

Through September, the jail population had increased dramatically over the previous year. We recorded a total of 26,560 inmates for the year, which more than doubled the committals of the previous year, September, 1971 to September, 1972. This also represented 2 1/2 times the number of inmates housed in Shelby County. For fiscal year 1974, from July 1, 1973 through June 30, 1974, our total committals again exceeded 25,000, with 25,144 persons committed to our jail this year.

We have continued our efforts to solve the drug problem which plagues many institutions. During the year, numerous attempts to smuggle contraband drugs into the facility have been thwarted and the drugs confiscated. In some cases, arrests were made.

We have recently acquired our first marijuana smelling dog from K-9 Patrol. We believe that the addition of this dog will greatly improve our efforts to control contraband.

## THE METRO JAIL

Page two (2)

Inmates have been permitted to make outside calls to families and attorneys through use of a portable coin telephone. More than 19,000 calls were placed during the year just ended and an additional 1,200 calls were placed on behalf of inmates by counselors.

This office issued more than six thousand permits for visitation of inmates at the jail for regular scheduled visits. Additionally, well over 2 ½ thousand permits were authorized for special visits outside of the normal schedule. Two visiting days have now been provided in lieu of only one day during the past administration. Four religious groups conduct services for inmates on Sundays and another service is held on Tuesday evenings.

In cooperation with the Nashville Bar Association, we have also begun providing legal assistance to all inmates of the Jail who confront legal problems of a civil nature. With the help of the Nashville Bar Association inmates and their families may now be able to survive the catastrophes of civil law suits instituted against them while they are in carcerated.

The number of meals fed to inmates per day was increased from two to three during the final six months of our first year in office. Over 273,000 meals were served, an average of 22,000 per month. Spiraling food costs remain a major concern for the food program. (See Tables 1 & 2).

Our programs to prevent homosexual attacks and drug abuse in the institution are preceeding satisfactorily.

Our Department has just been connected via four outlets with the central computer system utilized by the criminal justice agencies in Nashville, and we now have one outlet each for the jail, workhouse, Sheriff's office and Pre-Trial Release center. This new facility will vastly improve our communications systems with other law enforcement agencies, as we have become the last criminal justice agency in Nashville to be plugged into the computer.

Last Christmas the women's section of the jail was improved by the addition of a lounge and television room, to help provide the female inmates with a combination reading and entertainment room and to help improve on their generally drab environment.

While a modern jail would cost an estimated \$12,000,000 it would contain basic security functions heretofore unavailable. It would provide inmates an area where correctional programs could be implemented. Federal participation in the funding of such a project would be available, and some state participation under the regional jail concept might be available. Finally this community is rapidly approaching the time when it will have no choice but to provide a new jail facility. Procrastination in meeting this challenge could only mean increased costs for construction and a loss of the facilities usefulness

## THE METRO JAIL

Page three (3)

during the period preceeding its construction. It is also expected that complete rehabilitation facilities and Nashville's first Detoxification Center for the treatment of alcoholics might be included in this new central corrections building.

There should also be a psychiatric holding facility. It takes an average of three days to get a mentally disturbed patient to Central State Hospital for attention. These inmates should not be placed in the isolation cells, or mixed with the general inmate population. This would take additional funding for capital outlay.

There is a need for better visiting facilities. Present areas available for families and attorneys to visit inmates are totally inadequate. This would require capital outlay funds.

The jail at present has no facilities for recreational activities. Provision of some reasonable space for physical activities should be provided in the interest of inmate health and attitude.

We have put a fan in each cell but immediate attention should be given to provision of a better ventilation and air conditioning system for the jail. Like the above suggestion for recreational space, this would require capital outlay funding.

In the personnel area, this office has instituted a Federal Bureau of Jails class to train employees, and has enrolled qualified personnel in the Tennessee State Correctional courses.

The drug screening program we are now using is a first for the State of Tennessee. This is part of a \$400,000 grant in conjunction with the State Mental Health Department. It not only helps us identify drug users coming into the jail, but it gives us a check on inmates coming back from furloughs or work-release for both drugs and alcohol.

There is also a definite need for two capias officers to work in handling criminal court capias matters in the future.

METRO JAIL  
Page four (4)

PRE-TRIAL RELEASE

The Pre-Trial Release Program and a refinement of our bail-bond procedure should soon accomplish a two fold purpose. 1. Lighten the load on our jail, and 2. Enable first time offenders to be released without the financial disaster which often produces more crime.

This chart shows the activities of the Pre-Trial Release Program for the first year of operation.

Total Interviewed -----	1,611
Number Rejected -----	793
Number Released Without Bond -----	818
Forfeits -----	19
Estimated Savings to Metro Government -----	<u>\$1,712,088.00</u>

METRO JAIL - WEEKLY MENU

Page five (5)

BREAKFAST

LUNCH

SUPPER

MONDAY

Fried potatoes, syrup, toast  
butter, bacon, oatmeal, coffee,  
sugar.

Sandwiches, fruit &  
Kool-ade.

Weiners, kraut, creamed  
potatoes, green beans,  
corn cakes, coffee, peaches.

TUESDAY

Boiled rice, gravy, toast,  
sliced apples, coffee, sugar  
lunch meat.

Sandwiches, potatoe  
salad & tea.

Liver & onion gravy, creamed  
potatoes, whole kernel corn,  
corn bread, mixed fruit,  
chocolate milk.

WEDNESDAY

1 boiled egg, grits, 2  
slices of baloney, coffee  
sugar, jelly, butter.

Sandwiches, fruit  
& kool-ade.

Pork steak, pinto beans,  
creamd potatoes, corn  
bread, buttermilk, pineapple  
slices.

THURSDAY

Beef hash, creamed wheat,  
apple sauce, coffee, sugar.

Sandwiches, fruit  
salad, tea.

Bar-b-q, creamed potatoes,  
lima beans, bread, fruit,  
chocolate milk.

FRIDAY

Bacon, rice & mixed  
fruit, stewed prunes,  
biscuits, coffee, sugar,  
jelly.

Sandwiches, fruit  
tea.

Fried fish, cole slaw, creamed  
potatoes, green beans, corn  
bread, peach halves, coffee  
bread.

SATURDAY

Fried potatoes, bacon,  
creamd wheat, jelly,  
bread, coffee, sugar.

Sandwiches, potatoe  
salad, slaw, kool-ade.

Fried chicken, sweet potatoe  
Chocolate mile, white bread,  
white beans.

THE METRO JAIL - SECTION 1 - TABLE II

Page Six (6)

WEEKLY MENU -----METRO JAIL

BREAKFAST

LUNCH

SUPPER

SUNDAY

1 boiled egg, 2 slices of  
lunch meat, biscuits, butter  
apple sauce, coffee, sugar.

Roast beef, creamed potatoes,  
slaw, crowder peas, deviled  
cakes, coffee, white bread.

THE METRO JAIL - SECTION 1 - TABLE III

Page seven (7)

REPAIRS NEEDED IMMEDIATELY AT PRESENT JAIL

4th Floor - Women

1. Replace broken commode.
2. Wiring very bad in visitor's room.
3. Needs new lights and the fixtures replaced in both visitor's rooms.
4. Replace commode in Drunk Tank.
5. Replace all lights and fixtures in the inclosed area.
6. Repair shower and drain in inclosed area.
7. Check drainage in both shower and commodes, replace shower head and commode in both 3 & 4.
8. Replace lights and fixtures in cells 2 & 3.
9. Replace four shower screens.

4th Floor - Men

1. Replace all shower heads in cells.
2. Replace all seals on commodes.
3. Replace all commodes, all showers, all lavatories in all cells.
4. Unstop all floor drains.
5. Replace all torn screens on windows.
6. Replace broken windows.

3rd Floor

1. Replace all lights and fixtures in third floor.
2. Replace all mattresses in entire jail - partial replacement made.
3. Check and repair all drains in entire jail.
4. Replace all locks in jail.
5. When wiring is repaired in jail, we need bigger panel box for more current.

The Department of General Services requisitioned the plumbing materials one year ago from the 5% reserve fund. The money has been appropriated but because of plumbing fixture shortages we still haven't received any of the items.

OVERVIEW

This office has made considerable progress in improving the present jail facility and its operation, yet, much remains to be done.

We have started the second year of this term with the addition of a chaplain on the staff to assist in meeting the spiritual needs of the inmates. We are confident this will contribute greatly to improved morale and a more humane outlook.

The Metropolitan Workhouse on South Fifth Street, houses short-term inmates sentenced on a variety of State and Metro charges. It incorporates in the operation a correctional rehabilitation program and it supplies to the local government a work pool contributing in services each year, an estimated \$647,500. For the first year, this involved 350,000 manhours of labor.

In addition, the work release program at the institution has sent back to the government's general fund more than \$11,700 in payments realized from the training program.

The Workhouse population generally stands at a level of about 185 inmates. During the first year 194,000 meals were fed to inmates at the Workhouse and an additional 1,680 meals were fed to personnel during shifts which include the meal hour. The cost of these meals averaged \$1.57 each.

The Correctional Rehabilitation Program is operated by the Sheriff's Department at the Workhouse facilities.

**CLASSIFICATION** - The program involves classification of all inmates resident in the Metropolitan Workhouse. Classification is accomplished through interviews testing and through the use of Court and F.B.I. records. An average of 33 men are classified a week.

**COUNSELING** - Personal counseling is conducted daily by various members of the staff. The counseling program provides help for the inmate in adjusting to his current situation, pre-release jobs and residence assistance, counseling family members of inmates and post-release follow-up counseling and occupational and educational guidance. At the present time one hundred and five (105) plus men are receiving individual counseling.

**WORK RELEASE** - Work Release is a program which allows profitable outside employment to certain carefully selected Workhouse inmates. Through Work Release, men are enabled to contribute financial support to their families and help pay cost of their incarceration. They are residents in the Workhouse, except during working and traveling time. Presently there are fifteen (15) inmates participating in the Work Release Program. Currently 23 men have completed applications pending final approval by the Work Release Commission.

**GENERAL EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT** - General Education Development Program includes: 1. C.E.D. 2. Adult Basic Education 3. Private tutoring 4. Creative writing 5. Foreign language 6. Business math 7. College prep 8. Remedial adult education. These classes are held both in the day and evening hours. At the present time there are 103 inmates enrolled in these classes, and over 75 inmates will receive diplomas during the next year.

**MUSIC**- Music for recreation and enrichment is available to the inmates at the Metro Workhouse. There are a number of aspects of this that are currently being pursued. Inmates are working individually, learning to play guitar, piano, drums and autoharp.

**OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY** - Art Mediums are the vehicles used in this program, and counseling takes place simultaneous with each man participating in the program. Presently there are fifteen (15) men enrolled in Art.

**RECREATION** - Recreational facilities inside the building are constantly available to various inmates. (ping pong, weight lifting, two pool tables, and general recreational activity) This past season the Workhouse basketball team won the city championship with a team made up entirely of inmates (14 participating). This spring there is a baseball team consisting of sixteen (16) inmates. These men are working as a team which has a positive theraputic value for each member. This winter the Workhouse fielded its first boxing team ever. Eight inmates participated in the various classes of the Golden Gloves.

**VOLUNTEER SERVICE** - Included at present are Alcoholic's Anonymous, 7-Step Drug Abuse Program, Guides for Better Living and Spiritual Emphasis Development. These programs are conducted by volunteers from outside the institution. There are over 65 men participating in these programs.

**DRUG ABUSE** - All inmates in the Workhouse who have a history of drug related crimes are encouraged to participate in this program. Not only is there a program inside the institution but also at the local schools. Three (3) inmates from the Workhouse are presently going to Jr. & Sr. high schools to discuss drug abuse and drug related problems with the students.

**SPIRITUAL EMPHASIS DEVELOPMENT** - Religious Services are conducted in the Workhouse four nights a week. (3 on Sunday, 2 on Tuesday, 1 on Wednesday and 1 on Friday). Once a month there is a special religious program for the entire Workhouse. Spiritual Counseling and Bible Class are also a part of the program. The amount of inmates participating in the program varies. A chaplain has been added to the staff. He maintains an office in the Workhouse.

**JOB PLACEMENT** - Through the services of individual counseling more than 60 men have been placed in a job upon release.

**VOCATIONAL EDUCATIONAL RELEASE** - This program was initiated July 1, 1973. Currently 6 men are in the process of completing applications. Approval will be through the work release commission.

**SOCIAL SERVICES** - Social Services for inmates and their families are provided to the men at the Workhouse and to the women at the Metro Jail. This program includes counseling for inmates and families; crisis intervention and referral to appropriate community resources, liason activities with the various social and legal agencies which may be serving the inmates, pre-release planning for employment and residence and some post release follow up.

WEEKLY MENU - METRO WORKHOUSE

Page nine.

	<u>BREAKFAST</u>	<u>DINNER</u>	<u>SUPPER</u>
MONDAY	Hot cakes w/syrup, oatmeal 2 slices baloney, butter coffee, sugar	Meat Loaf w/gravy sweet potatoes, green beans, peach cobbler, cornbread, koolaid	Roast Beef, natural gravy, mashed potatoes, buttered peas, cornbread, chilled peaches, koolaid
TUESDAY	Fried eggs, grits, spiced apples, hot biscuits, coffee, sugar, milk	Fried pork steak, w/ tomato gravy, fried potatoes, whole kernel corn, cornbread, apple sauce, koolaid	Salisbury steak, w/onion gravy, pinto beans, es- calloped tomatoes, corn- bread, cherry cobbler, koolaid
WEDNESDAY	Creamed beef on toast, fried potatoes, hot oatmeal, prunes, sugar, coffee	Toasted cheese sand- wich, w/potatoe salad, Boston baked beans, Blackberry cobbler, koolaid	Pork cutlets, w/brown gravy, fluffed rice, buttered green beans, cornbread, chilled pears, buttermilk
THURSDAY	Beef gravy, w/rice, 2 slices baloney, chilled plums, butter, jelly coffee, sugar, milk	Beef stew, w/macaroni, creamed style corn, apple crisp, cornbread, milk	Creole liver, baked potatoe, great nothern beans, turnip greens, chilled fruit cock- tail, white bread, koolaid
FRIDAY	Scrambled eggs, pan fried bacon, cream of wheat, applesauce, jelly, coffee, sugar	Cold cuts w/macaroni salad, pinto beans, cole- slaw, chilled fruit, white bread, koolaid	Sauteed fish w/tarter sauce seasoned lima beans, spinac w/eggs, cornbread, chilled fruit, koolaid
SATURDAY	Beef hash, hot cereal, apple rings, hot biscuits, butter, jelly, coffee, sugar	Bar BQ, on rice, FF potatoes, crowder peas, cornbread, peaches, koolaid	Vegetable beef stew, w/ fluffed rice, buttered hominy, seasoned greens, cornbread, koolaid

METRO WORKHOUSE - WEEKLY MENU

BREAKFAST

DINNER

SUPPER

Sunday

Hot cakes w/syrup, 2  
sausages, hot oatmeal,  
butter, coffee, sugar,  
milk

Assorted cold cuts,  
pork & beans, buttered  
corn, assorted fruit,  
white bread, koolaid  
pears, koolaid

Southern fried chicken,  
w/giblet gravy, mashed  
potatoes, buttered peas,  
white bread, cinnamon

**END**