



GIBSON COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Investigative Report
December 1, 2015

Justin P. Wilson, Comptroller





**STATE OF TENNESSEE
COMPTROLLER OF THE TREASURY
FINANCIAL AND COMPLIANCE INVESTIGATIONS**

Justin P. Wilson JAMES K. POLK STATE OFFICE BUILDING, SUITE 1600
Comptroller of the Treasury 505 DEADERICK STREET
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37243-1402
PHONE (615) 401-7907
FAX (615) 741-7667

December 1, 2015

Gibson County Mayor and
Board of County Commissioners
Gibson County, Tennessee

To the County Mayor and Board of County Commissioners:

On September 3, 2014, our office was informed by Sheriff Paul Thomas of missing inventory and other suspected irregularities at the Gibson County Sheriff's Office. Sheriff Thomas had taken office on September 1, 2014, after Sheriff Charles Arnold left office on August 31, 2014. As a result of these allegations, we performed an investigation, in conjunction with the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI) for the period July 1, 2013, through October 16, 2014. The TBI and the comptroller investigator attempted to interview former Sheriff Charles Arnold during the investigation; however, Mr. Arnold refused to meet for an interview.

Background

Gibson County is located in West Tennessee, and its Sheriff's Department is located in Trenton, Tennessee, at the Gibson County Correctional Complex. The complex houses administrative staff, law enforcement personnel, jail correctional staff, and inmates.

Results

Our investigation disclosed the following:

- The Sheriff's Department had a cash shortage of at least \$109,429 on October 16, 2014.
- Questionable payroll expenditures of the chief deputy and administrative assistant totaled \$98,016.
- The contract for the medical services provider was not approved by the County Commission.

- Sheriff Charles Arnold and former employees submitted falsified requests for various benefits to the county for payment totaling \$62,041.
- Deficiencies existed in the Sheriff's Department equipment inventory.
- Sheriff's Department employees and some family members were provided free medical services by the jail medical staff.

Findings and recommendations, as a result of our investigation, are presented below. These findings and recommendations have been reviewed with certain Gibson County management. Also, these findings and recommendations have been reviewed with court appointed District Attorney Pro-Tem Rachel M. Sobrero for the Twenty-eight Judicial District. On November 30, 2015, the Gibson County Grand Jury indicted the following individuals: Sheriff Charles Arnold on four counts of theft over \$10,000, 55 counts of official misconduct, nine counts of theft over \$1,000, one count of forgery, one count of theft of \$500 or more, one count of attempted theft of \$1,000 or more, two counts of attempted theft of \$10,000 or more, one count of conspiracy to obtain controlled substances by fraud, and 39 counts of obtaining controlled substances by fraud; Jeffrey Maitland on one count of attempted theft of \$10,000 or more, 42 counts of official misconduct, one count of conspiracy to obtain controlled substances by fraud, 39 counts of obtaining controlled substances by fraud, one count of theft of \$1,000 or more, and two counts of theft of \$10,000 or more; Eddie Bradford on one count of theft of \$1,000 or more and one count of official misconduct; Darla Crenshaw on one count of attempted theft of \$1,000 or more, two counts of official misconduct, and one count of theft of \$1,000 or more; Joel Hughey on one count of theft of \$1,000 or more and one count of official misconduct; Melissa Hunt on one count of theft of \$1,000 or more and one count of official misconduct; Benjamin Lee on one count of theft of \$10,000 or more and one count of official misconduct; Shaun Phinnessee on one count of theft of \$1,000 or more and one count of official misconduct; Robert Pinkerton on two counts of theft of \$10,000 or more and two counts of official misconduct; Charles Simpson on one count of theft of \$10,000 or more and one count of official misconduct; Teresa Sturdivant on one count of theft of \$1,000 or more and one count of official misconduct; Renea Terrell on one count of conspiracy to obtain controlled substances by fraud, 39 counts of obtaining controlled substances by fraud, 39 counts of official misconduct, and two counts of theft of \$1,000 or more.

INVESTIGATIVE FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

FINDING 1 THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT HAD A CASH SHORTAGE OF AT LEAST \$109,429 ON OCTOBER 16, 2014

A cash shortage of at least \$109,429 existed on October 16, 2014, resulting from the following proprieties in the Sheriff's Department:

- A. Seven department employees falsified their payroll time sheets and received compensation totaling \$88,550 for time not worked.

1. Jail Supervisor Charles Simpson and Jail Supervisor Benjamin Lee submitted falsified payroll time sheets for overtime hours they did not work from July 2013, through August 2014. Mr. Simpson falsified time sheets for 30 pay periods for 770 overtime hours and received compensation from the county totaling \$16,971, while Mr. Lee falsified time sheets for 30 pay periods for 754 overtime hours and received compensation totaling \$16,614. During interviews with the TBI and comptroller investigator, both Mr. Simpson and Mr. Lee admitted to falsifying these time sheets at the direction of Sheriff Charles Arnold.
2. Jailor Melissa Hunt submitted falsified time sheets to the county for her regular salary that totaled \$4,192 for four pay periods from May 28, 2014, through July 21, 2014. Ms. Hunt stated that before she went on maternity leave, Sheriff Charles Arnold instructed her to submit these time sheets to Administrative Assistant Darla Crenshaw for processing. In addition, Ms. Hunt stated that Ms. Crenshaw would contact her each pay period so she could retrieve her pay check.
3. Administrative office employee Teresa Sturdivant admitted to falsifying time sheets for 31 pay periods from July 6, 2013, through August 30, 2014. During this period, Ms. Sturdivant submitted time sheets to the county for 362 hours of overtime that totaled \$7,192 for time not worked. She advised the comptroller investigator that she was instructed by Administrative Assistant Darla Crenshaw, at Sheriff Charles Arnold's direction, to submit these overtime hours for the time not worked. Ms. Sturdivant further admitted that Sheriff Charles Arnold gave her additional overtime hours in July and August 2014 to campaign for him. It should be noted that Sheriff Charles Arnold signed her time sheets for supervisory approval during the month of August 2014.
4. Jailors Eddie Bradford and Joel Hughey admitted to falsifying time sheets to receive pay for overtime hours not worked. From May 2014, through August 2014, Mr. Bradford received \$1,143 for 54 hours of overtime, and Mr. Hughey received \$1,106 for 56 hours of overtime. Both employees advised us that Jail Supervisor Ben Lee was instructed to approve these overtime hours for the time not worked at the direction of Sheriff Charles Arnold.
5. Criminal investigator (CID) and information technology (IT) employee Robert Pinkerton admitted in an interview with the TBI and comptroller investigator that the payroll time sheets with his name and signature attached were not completed or signed by him. These falsified time sheets were for the period July 6, 2013, through June 7, 2014 (25 pay periods), for compensation of \$41,332, which was paid to him by the county. A further examination of these falsified time sheets disclosed that Mr. Pinkerton was paid his regular salary that totaled \$21,694, overtime for \$9,429 (394 hours), and \$10,209 for various annual leave and

compensatory time. These time sheets were approved by Sheriff Charles Arnold or Chief Deputy Jeffrey Maitland.

Mr. Pinkerton informed us that he was employed by the Sheriff's Department, but he was rarely at the department. He stated that Sheriff Charles Arnold or Chief Deputy Jeffrey Maitland would call him at the end of the two-week pay period, and he would give them his regular time and overtime from memory since he did not have any written documentation for the days worked during these pay periods. Mr. Pinkerton stated that he resigned from the Sheriff's Department at the end of February 2014. He stated that he had accrued 640 hours of unpaid leave (504 hours of compensatory time, 120 hours of vacation time, and 16 hours of holiday time), and he and Sheriff Charles Arnold agreed to pay him this accrued time in regular pay checks from March 2014, through June 7, 2014. Mr. Pinkerton informed us that he did not have any documentation to support this accrued time.

Interviews of Sheriff's Department current and former employees within the CID division, the patrol division, and the administrative section confirmed that Mr. Pinkerton was rarely seen at the department. We were advised that Mr. Pinkerton was removed from the CID section in October 2012 by Chief Deputy Jeffrey Maitland, and he would only report to the chief deputy or Sheriff Charles Arnold. All of his leave records were submitted to the chief deputy. Mr. Pinkerton was also working as the department's IT employee. However, during interviews the employees stated that technical issues or computer problems were rarely resolved by Mr. Pinkerton due to his absence from the department. Further investigation concerning Mr. Pinkerton revealed that he had a side business dealing with aeronautical drones. Mr. Pinkerton left the department in February 2014, to work in this personal business.

The following table summarizes the amounts the seven employees received from falsified time sheets:

Part A. Finding	Employee	Cash Shortage
1.	Charles Simpson	\$ 16,971
1.	Ben Lee	16,614
2.	Melissa Hunt	4,192
3.	Teresa Sturdivant	7,192
4.	Eddie Bradford	1,143
4.	Joel Hughey	1,106
5.	Robert Pinkerton	<u>41,332</u>
Total Cash Shortage Part A.		<u>\$ 88,550</u>

- B. Our investigation determined that Patrol Deputy Shaun Phinnessee was obtaining workers' compensation funds at the same time he was receiving his regular salary from the county. Mr. Phinnessee admitted to the TBI and comptroller investigator that he received his regular salary of \$6,541 from July 6, 2014, through September 13, 2014. He also received workers' compensation funds totaling \$23,306 from July 1, 2014, through May 27, 2015, for a job related injury sustained on June 30, 2014. Deputy Phinnessee further admitted to us that on August 7, 2014, while working the polls during Sheriff Charles Arnold's bid for re-election, that he informed the sheriff of the impropriety of the dual payments. Mr. Phinnessee stated that Sheriff Charles Arnold told him to keep it quiet and not tell anyone.
- C. During our investigation, we learned that six employees in the Sheriff's Department worked the polls on behalf of Sheriff Charles Arnold on August 7, 2014. Through interviews with these employees, we learned that the employees were instructed by Administrative Assistant Darla Crenshaw to submit vacation authorization requests to be absent from work on election day. Our examination of these employees' leave records, maintained by the office manager, revealed these employees were not assessed a vacation day for this time off while working the polls. These six employees' payroll records disclosed they were paid an aggregate of \$652 for working at the polls while on county time.
- D. Sheriff Charles Arnold disbursed drug funds totaling \$1,000 to a confidential informant (CI); however, our investigation was unable to verify this disbursement. Our examination noted that the case number used by Sheriff Charles Arnold was not found in any court documents. The TBI and comptroller investigator interviewed the Sheriff Department's employee noted on the drug form who witnessed the transaction. However, he informed us that his signature on the document was forged, and he has never seen the document. He further stated that he could not identify the name of the CI, and the only signature and name on the document he could identify was Sheriff Charles Arnold.
- E. Our investigation related to prescription drugs purchased for inmates revealed that 41 of 59 prescriptions prescribed by the medical services provider, Terrell Consulting Services, LLC (owner Renea Terrell), from August 27, 2013, through July 29, 2014, did not reach the inmates that the prescriptions were written for. These 41 prescriptions totaled \$1,107. Prescription records from the pharmacy noted that 39 of the 41 prescriptions were for controlled substances. Interviews of jail staff, the medical services provider, and other Sheriff's Department employees disclosed that Chief Deputy Jeffrey Maitland required all prescription drugs and pharmacy invoices to be delivered to his office, and the jail medical office staff picked up the inmates' prescription from the chief deputy's office. The chief deputy remitted the pharmacy invoices to the county for payment to the pharmacy.

An examination of the inmates' medical records noted that these drugs were not posted to their medical history records. The pharmacy invoices were

signed by the individual who picked up the prescriptions from the pharmacy. An analysis of the invoices for controlled substances revealed that most of these prescription invoices were signed by the chief deputy or the medical services provider. In a follow up interview with the medical services provider, Renea Terrell stated that Chief Deputy Jeffrey Maitland called her office on numerous occasions on behalf of Sheriff Charles Arnold requesting opioid based pain killers for inmates. Ms. Terrell went on to state that she prescribed 90 percent of these controlled substances without examining the inmate. Furthermore, Ms. Terrell stated she may have prescribed less than ten inmates for this type of drug, and delivered the prescriptions to the chief deputy's office when she picked them up from the pharmacy.

Additional work performed in examining inmates' medical records and interviews with the jail medical staff revealed that it was infrequent that inmates received prescriptions that contained controlled substances.

- F. During an interview with the medical services provider, Terrell Consulting Services, LLC, Renea Terrell admitted to the TBI and comptroller investigator that three of her invoices were inflated a total of \$9,536 for her medical services provided to inmates. Ms. Terrell said that she inflated the following invoices at the direction of Sheriff Charles Arnold:

<u>Invoice Date</u>	<u>Amount Inflated</u>
3-18-14	\$ 2,036
4-14-14	2,500
6-20-14	<u>5,000</u>
 Total Inflated	 <u>\$ 9,536</u>

Ms. Terrell disclosed that Sheriff Charles Arnold requested these funds to purchase "supplies" for the jail.

Ms. Terrell stated that she paid \$7,500 in cash to Sheriff Charles Arnold from the proceeds of the inflated invoices:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Amount Paid</u>
March 2014	\$ 3,000
April 2014	2,500
July 2014	<u>2,000</u>
 Total Paid	 <u>\$ 7,500</u>

Also, Ms. Terrell stated that Sheriff Charles Arnold allowed her to keep \$3,000 of the \$5,000 from the June 2014, inflated invoice for a legal fee reimbursement she incurred in hiring an attorney to represent her in a federal lawsuit involving an inmate. The TBI and the comptroller investigator attempted to interview Sheriff Charles Arnold during the investigation; however, he refused to meet for an interview.

- G. The Sheriff's Department's had a policy allowing a uniform allowance of \$400 per applicable employee. Sheriff Charles Arnold purchased \$1,323 in clothing (\$833 with a Sheriff Department's credit card and \$490 through a payroll reimbursement), which exceeded his uniform allowance for fiscal year 2013-14 by \$923. Investigator Robert Pinkerton received a uniform allowance through a payroll reimbursement of \$541 from the county that exceeded his uniform allowance by \$141.
- H. Sheriff Charles Arnold was assigned an H&K .40 caliber Model USP40 handgun that the current administration and comptroller investigator could not locate. The missing handgun has a value of \$979.

The following table summarizes the cash shortage of at least \$109,429 on October 16, 2014:

<u>Finding</u>	<u>Cash Shortage</u>
A.	\$ 88,550
B.	6,541
C.	652
D.	1,000
E.	1,107
F.	9,536
G.	1,064
H.	<u>979</u>
 Total Cash Shortage	 <u>\$ 109,429</u>

RECOMMENDATION

- A. Officials should take immediate steps to recover the cash shortage of at least \$109,429. Time sheets should record actual work hours performed by employees, be signed by the employee, and be signed by supervisory staff as evidence of review and approval. Pay checks should be generated for actual hours worked. Leave records should be properly documented, approved by supervisory staff, and be retained on file for audit inspection.
- B. Employees receiving workers' compensation should not be paid their regular salary for the same coverage period.

- C. Employees should be assessed the appropriate leave for any time they are absent from work.
- D. Drug funds should be disbursed strictly for drug related investigative operations. Documents should be completed disclosing all factual and appropriate information relative to the drug transaction and should be on file for audit inspection.
- E. Written guidelines should be developed by the department to ensure that prescription drugs are properly delivered to the appropriate inmate. These guidelines should include evidence of supervisory review and approval for each prescription.
- F. The medical services provider should only bill the county the actual cost of services, and the medical provider should not pay kickbacks.
- G. Employees of the Sheriff's Department should comply with the department's uniform allowance policy.
- H. Sheriff Charles Arnold should return the handgun or reimburse the county the value of the handgun.

**FINDING 2 QUESTIONABLE PAYROLL EXPENDITURES OF THE
CHIEF DEPUTY AND ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
TOTALED \$98,016**

Our investigation disclosed questionable payroll expenditures of \$98,016 to the following former employees:

- A. Darla Crenshaw, Sheriff Charles Arnold's administrative assistant, did not have time sheets or other documentation on file to support her regular pay (\$39,761) and overtime pay (\$11,073) totaling \$50,834 for the period July 1, 2013, through August 31, 2014. The department's policy requires time sheets for regular payroll to be approved by a supervisor and an approved department overtime form signed by a supervisor or top management personnel (chief deputy or sheriff).
- B. Chief Deputy Jeffrey Maitland received \$33,799 from January 15, 2014, through August 31, 2014, in regular pay and \$13,382 from July 6, 2013 through January 14, 2014 in overtime pay (456 hours or 57 days within a six month period) without any documentation to support these payments as required by department policy. It should be noted that Mr. Maitland received a pay increase in January 2014, and from that date to August 29, 2014, his last day of employment, he claimed no additional overtime.

RECOMMENDATION

Employees should file time sheets to support all regular work hours and overtime. These forms should be properly approved as required by the department's policies.

FINDING 3 THE CONTRACT FOR THE MEDICAL SERVICES PROVIDER WAS NOT APPROVED BY THE COUNTY COMMISSION

On July 1, 2014, Sheriff Charles Arnold entered into a one-year medical services contract with Terrell Consulting Services, LLC, to provide medical services for inmates at the jail for a fee of \$7,000 per month. Section 7-51-904, *Tennessee Code Annotated*, requires such contracts be approved by resolution of the County Commission. Also, only the county mayor, as fiscal agent for the county, can enter into a contract for the county. It should be noted that Terrell Consulting Services, LLC, has been providing medical services at the jail since 2007, without a contract.

RECOMMENDATION

Contracts for Gibson County should be entered into by the county mayor after approval by the County Commission.

FINDING 4 SHERIFF CHARLES ARNOLD AND FORMER EMPLOYEES SUBMITTED FALSIFIED BENEFIT REQUESTS TO THE COUNTY FOR PAYMENT TOTALING \$62,041

During the conclusion of Sheriff Charles Arnold's term, he presented various payment requests to the county for various leave accruals for himself and other administrative staff. Our examination revealed the following:

- A. Sheriff Charles Arnold drafted a letter to County Mayor Tom Witherspoon, dated August 31, 2014, requesting that 2,000 hours of accrued sick leave be credited toward his Tennessee Consolidated Retirement System (TCRS) retirement account, and he be compensated for 680 hours of accrued compensatory time (\$27,792) that he earned as a chief deputy during former Sheriff Joe Shepard's administration. However, the maximum number of hours of sick leave Mr. Arnold could have accumulated if he never used a sick day during his tenure before being elected sheriff would have been 1,408 hours at eight hours per month (8 hours x 176 months). Mr. Arnold was hired by the county December 19, 1991, as a deputy and was elected sheriff effective September 1, 2006 (no accrual allowed as sheriff). Also, we have no documentation to support his sick leave balance. The maximum balance for compensatory time is 480 hours, and we have no documentation to support this balance at August 31, 2014.

- B. On August 29, 2014, Chief Deputy Jeffery Maitland requested in a letter to County Mayor Tom Witherspoon that the county pay him for his accrued compensatory time of 978 hours (\$24,410), 15 vacation days (\$2,995), and report 2,000 hours of sick leave to his TCRS account. During our investigation, we did not find any documentation to support these balances. Also, the maximum amount of sick leave hours he could have accumulated based on tenure (employment date, October 31, 2000) would be 1,328 hours (8 hours x 166 months) if he never used any of his sick leave.

We received documentation from the workers' compensation claims administrator, disclosing that Mr. Maitland filed a claim for benefits in 2012 on a previous claim in 2003. He was denied any additional lost or settlement benefits but was granted covered medical treatment on February 20, 2012. He was off work for approximately 40 days (320 hours) on sick leave and was paid his regular salary by the county. He returned to work on April 16, 2012. This time off would have further reduced his sick leave balance. He was off work for an undeterminable amount of time in 2003 for a medical procedure, and other possible time off on sick leave reflects that Mr. Maitland's sick leave balance is unrealistic. The maximum amount of compensatory time he can accumulate is 480 hours per department policy, unless approved by Sheriff Charles Arnold. We have no documentation of his approval.

Also, County Mayor Witherspoon advised the TBI and comptroller investigator that Mr. Maitland admitted to him that Sheriff Charles Arnold inflated his balances in his request to the county. In addition, interviews with current Sheriff's Department employees revealed that they were unaware of Chief Jeffrey Maitland working many overtime hours.

- C. Sheriff Charles Arnold and Administrative Assistant Darla Crenshaw signed an agreement on August 29, 2014, detailing that Ms. Crenshaw had accrued 2,000 hours of sick leave, ten vacation days, five holidays, and 300 hours of compensatory time. The letter was submitted to the county for payment for the vacation days, holidays, and compensatory time, and that the sick leave balance be added to her retirement account with TCRS. Our recalculation of her sick leave hours based on her September 8, 2006 hiring date, at eight hours per month, would have been 768 hours (8 hours x 96 months) if the employee never took a day of sick leave. Records maintained by the office manager disclosed Ms. Crenshaw had 493 hours of sick leave hours, zero holidays, two vacation days, and zero compensatory time hours at August 29, 2014. Also, Ms. Crenshaw admitted in an interview with the TBI and comptroller investigator that the sick leave and compensatory time balances were false in the letter to the county. She was asked why she and the sheriff submitted a document demanding compensation for time she had not accrued; however, she offered no explanation. Ms. Crenshaw had no documentation supporting the requested amount of \$6,844 (\$5,082 compensatory time; \$1,084 vacation time; \$678 holiday pay) presented to the county.
- D. Sheriff Charles Arnold and the Sheriff Department's Office Manager signed an agreement on August 29, 2014, detailing the manager had accrued 1,000

hours of sick leave, ten vacation days, five holidays, and 100 hours of compensatory time. The letter was submitted to the county for payment for the vacation days, holidays, and compensatory time, and that the sick leave balance was to be added to her retirement account with TCRS. Our recalculation of her sick leave hours based on her September 5, 2006 hiring date, at eight hours per month would have been 768 hours (8 hours x 96 months) if the employee never took a day of sick leave. Records that she maintained, as office manager, disclosed that she had a negative 12 hours of sick leave, zero holidays, negative one vacation day, and zero compensatory hours at August 29, 2014. During an interview with the TBI and comptroller investigator, she initially stated that the balances were correct in the letter to the county, but changed her mind after we noted that the sick leave balance was incorrect due to her length of tenure in the department. She then stated that she just signed the letter that the sheriff told her to sign without paying attention to what she was signing. The sheriff did not maintain these accrued balances; however, maintaining these records was the responsibility of the office manager. She stated in the interview that she did not know where the file detailing balances for vacation days, holidays, sick leave hours, and compensatory time for administrative and jail employees was located, even though she maintained the file. However, we were able to locate the file.

As of the date of this report, the county has not paid the amounts requested and has not submitted the sick leave balances to TCRS.

RECOMMENDATION

All leave balances of department employees should be accurately maintained to ensure proper accountability for these important benefits for department staff. Employees should account for their leave accruals and usage using the authorized forms signed as evidence of the required approval from supervisory personnel per department policy.

FINDING 5 DEFICIENCIES EXISTED IN THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT EQUIPMENT INVENTORY

Our investigation disclosed the following deficiencies in the department's equipment inventory:

- A. On September 10, 2014, Sheriff Charles Arnold returned numerous weapons, computers, a camera, radios, ballistic vests, ammunition magazines, battery chargers, and other items belonging to the county to neighboring Crockett County Sheriff's Department and requested that these items be delivered to Gibson County. That same day, personnel from Crockett County delivered these items to the Gibson County Sheriff's Department.

- B. During the investigation of the Sheriff's Department, we discovered

documentation of a GPS tracking device that was purchased during the tenure of Sheriff Charles Arnold. On June 28, 2013, CovertTrack Group, Inc., invoiced the Gibson County Sheriff's Department, to the attention of Investigator Robert Pinkerton for \$1,868. The county remitted payment for \$1,868 to this vendor on September 4, 2013. We have been unable to locate this device in the department.

- C. As previously mentioned in this report, Sheriff Charles Arnold's county-owned assigned service handgun valued at \$979 could not be located.

Sheriff Charles Arnold has not provided us any explanation of who removed these items from the Sheriff's Department or why they were in his possession, and the disposition of the tracking device and his assigned service handgun. Due to a lack of inventory records, we could not determine if other items could be missing from the department.

RECOMMENDATION

The Sheriff's Department should review its internal control procedures related to the security of its assets. Management should maintain inventory records for all assets, and personnel independent of maintaining the records should periodically perform an inventory review. Management should continue to review of any discrepancies related to department-owned property.

FINDING 6 SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEES AND SOME FAMILY MEMBERS WERE PROVIDED FREE MEDICAL SERVICES BY THE JAIL MEDICAL STAFF

Sheriff's Department employees and some family members of Sheriff Charles Arnold and Chief Deputy Jeffrey Maitland were provided free medical services by the medical staff at the jail. Renea Terrell of Terrell Consulting Services, LLC, stated that Sheriff Arnold required her to provide medical exams and medication from jail stock for department personnel. Documents found at the jail and provided by the medical services provider substantiated Ms. Terrell's claim that these services were provided to the individuals. Ms. Terrell treated them as part of the fee paid by the county for treating inmates. We were unable to determine a dollar amount for medical exams and medicine provided from the jail stock to department personnel that was incurred by the county.

RECOMMENDATION

The jail medical staff should only provide medical services to inmates as intended by the county. Medical stock should be used exclusively to treat ailments of inmates.

If you have any questions concerning the above, please contact this office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Justin P. Wilson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent vertical stroke at the beginning.

Justin P. Wilson
Comptroller of the Treasury

JPW/kbh