

The Florida Senate
COMMITTEE MEETING EXPANDED AGENDA

CRIMINAL JUSTICE
Senator Martin, Chair
Senator Bradley, Vice Chair

MEETING DATE: Tuesday, January 17, 2023
TIME: 11:00 a.m.—12:30 p.m.
PLACE: *Mallory Horne Committee Room*, 37 Senate Building

MEMBERS: Senator Martin, Chair; Senator Bradley, Vice Chair; Senators Ingoglia, Perry, Pizzo, Polsky, Powell, and Yarborough

		BILL DESCRIPTION and SENATE COMMITTEE ACTIONS	COMMITTEE ACTION
TAB	BILL NO. and INTRODUCER		
1	Presentation by the Department of Corrections - "Overview of the Department of Corrections and Status Update."		Presented
Other Related Meeting Documents			

Florida Department of Corrections



FDC Overview

January 17, 2023

FDC at a Glance

Mission

Provide a continuum of services to meet the needs of those entrusted to our care, creating a safe and professional environment with the outcome of reduced victimization, safer communities, and an emphasis on the premium of life.

Purpose of Corrections

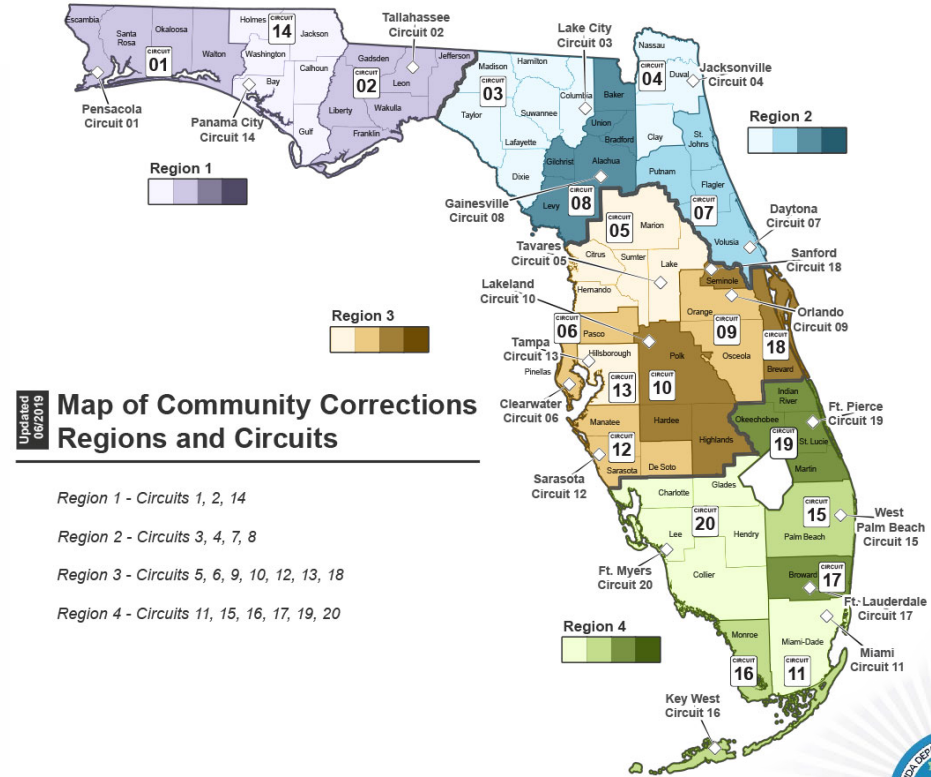
- Retribution
- Incapacitation
- Deterrence
- Rehabilitation
- Restoration

- Third largest state corrections system in the country
- Largest state agency in Florida
- 23,375 total authorized positions (4,687 vacant)
- 17,095 authorized security positions (3,852 vacant)



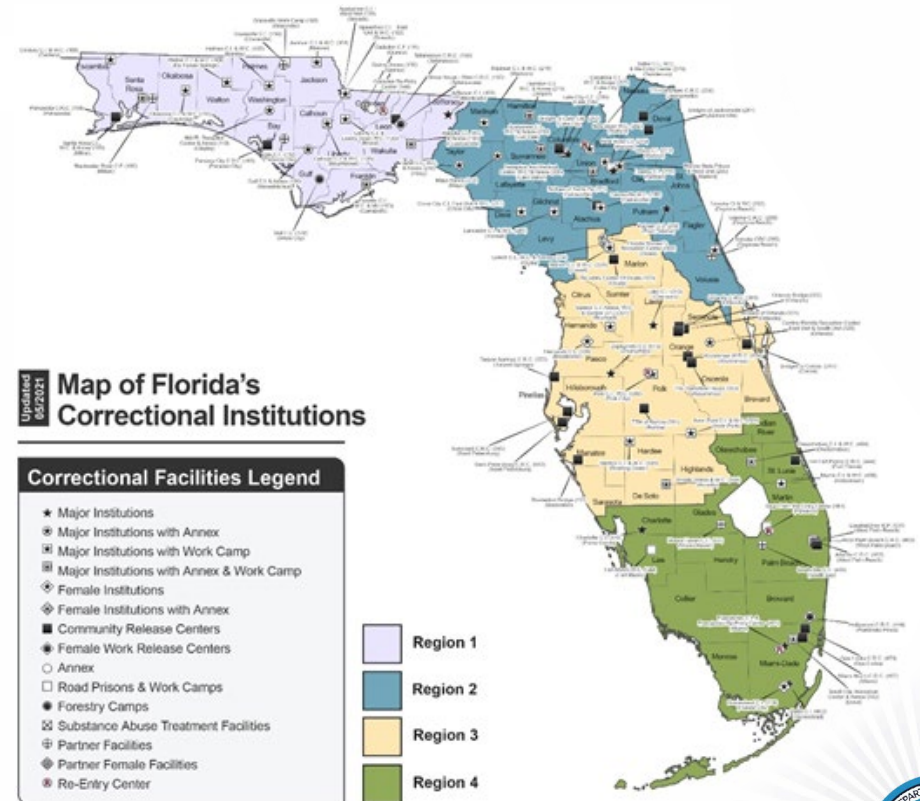
Two Sides of the House – Community Corrections

- 145,000 Offenders Supervised
- 140 Probation Offices
- 2,800 Community Corrections Staff
- 2,200 Certified Probation Officers



Two Sides of the House – Institutions

- 83,000 Inmates
- 49 FDC Prison Complexes
- 1 State Prison Hospital
- 5 Reception Centers (Intake Prisons)
- 7 Privately-Operated Prison Complexes
- 15,610 Institutions Staff
- 11,351 Certified Correctional Officers

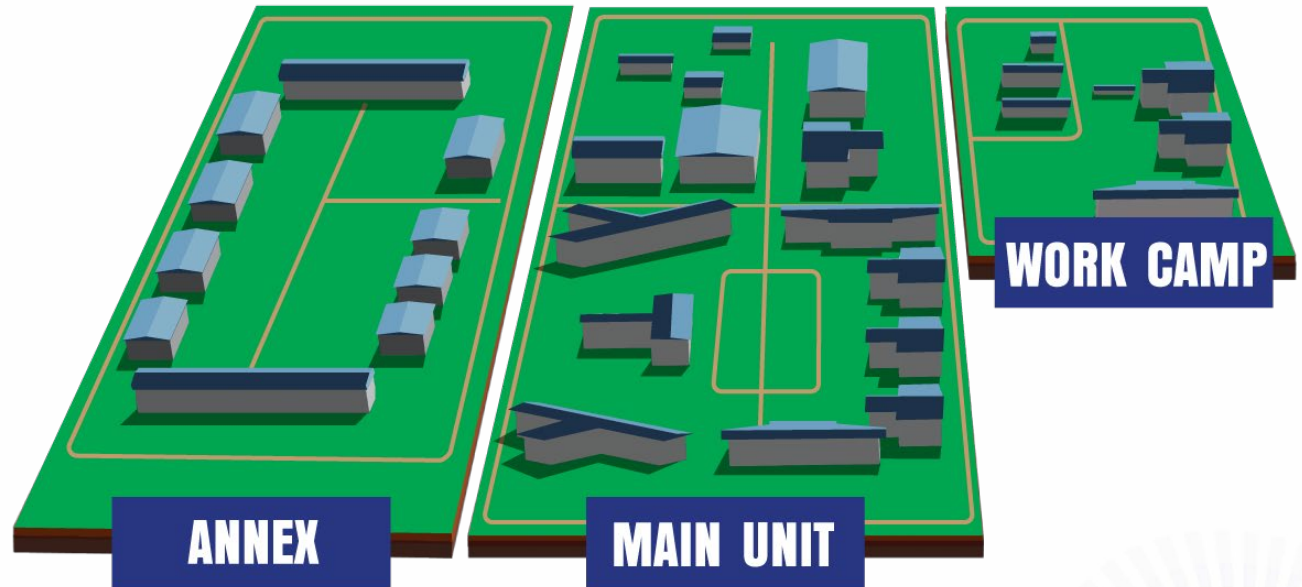


Correctional Institution (CI) Diagram

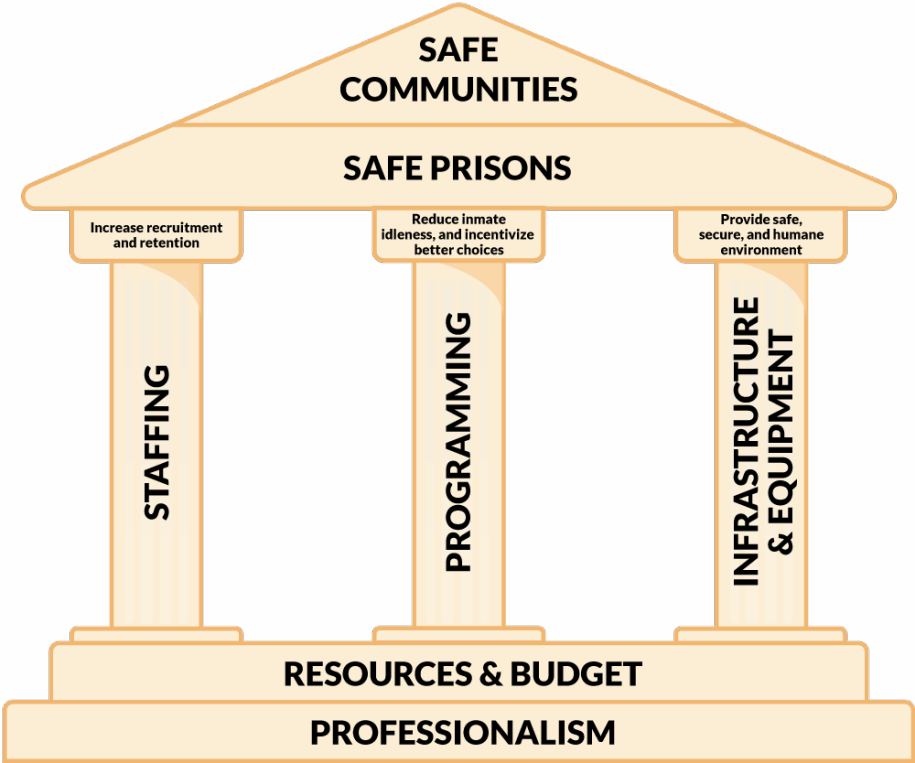
CIs are self-contained and include:

- Healthcare
- Education
- Self-betterment Programs
- Vocational Programs
- Religious Services / Chapel
- Food Service
- Laundry Facility
- Recreational Areas
- General and Law Libraries

- Main units and annexes each contain up to eight dorms and house up to 1,500 inmates
- Work camps consist of three or four dorms and house up to 430 inmates



Architecture of Florida's Corrections System



Staffing

Correctional Officers

- 11,351 state employees providing care, custody, and control to 71,000 inmates*
- 12 weeks of basic training and 51 hours a year of required continuing education

*10,000 Florida inmates supervised in private prisons. 2,000 inmates supervised in contract work-release centers.

Certified Probation Officers

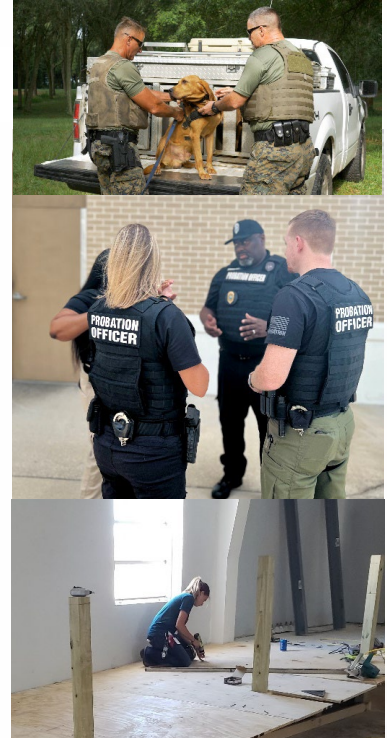
- 2,200 state employees supervising 145,000 offenders
- 14 weeks of initial training and 40 hours of annual continuing education

Classification Officers

- 573 state employees tracking and supervising the needs, custody, and risks of each inmate

Administrative and Logistical Support

- 6,676 employees and contractors supporting the state prison system including
 - 3,159 healthcare contract professionals for a population the size of a small city
 - 382 tradesmen keeping 22 million sq. feet of aging infrastructure working
 - 3,135 employees completing the administrative requirements according to law and policy



Programming Benefits

- Reduces inmate idleness, resulting in:
 - Reduced violence
 - Reduced contraband introduction and use
 - Reduced gang activity and coordination
- Treats recidivism factors by providing:
 - Literacy and basic education
 - Tangible vocational and technical skills
 - Substance abuse prevention
 - Anger management training
 - Parenting skills



Programming Offered

Higher Education

- Associate of Arts and Associate of Science
- Bachelor's Degree (Second Chance Pell College and Private College Funded)

Academic and Special Education

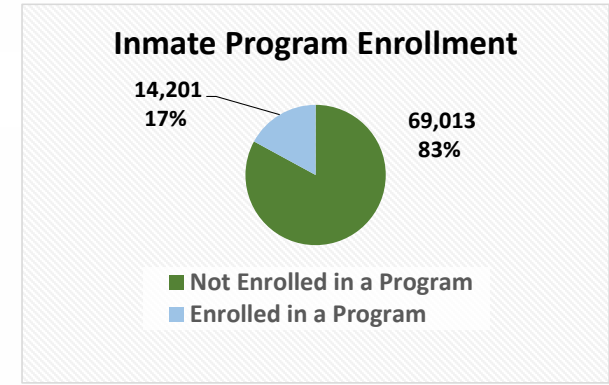
- GEDs, Anger Management, Substance Abuse Prevention and Counseling

Career & Technical Education

- Certifications, Accreditations, and Licenses: CDL, Cosmetology, Culinary Arts & Hospitality, Advanced Manufacturing, Masonry, Brick and Block, HVAC, Electrical, Logistics, Heavy Equipment Operations Technician, Tiny House Construction, Landscape and Turf Management, Food Safety Management, Web Development, Carpentry, Water and Wastewater Treatment Technologies, etc.

Voluntary Programming

- Religious Services, Bible and Torah Study Courses
- Family Life and Parenting Courses
- Financial Literacy Courses



Infrastructure and Equipment

Prison Facilities

- 134 prisons and prison complexes
- 22 million square feet under roof on 20,038 acres of property
- Oldest was built in 1913, newest in 2012
- 4,263 buildings, housing areas, water and sewage, and prime power

Leased Office Space

- 981,878 sq. feet of office space

Fleet

- 2,891 vehicles
- 66% Over the DMS life cycle replacement standard

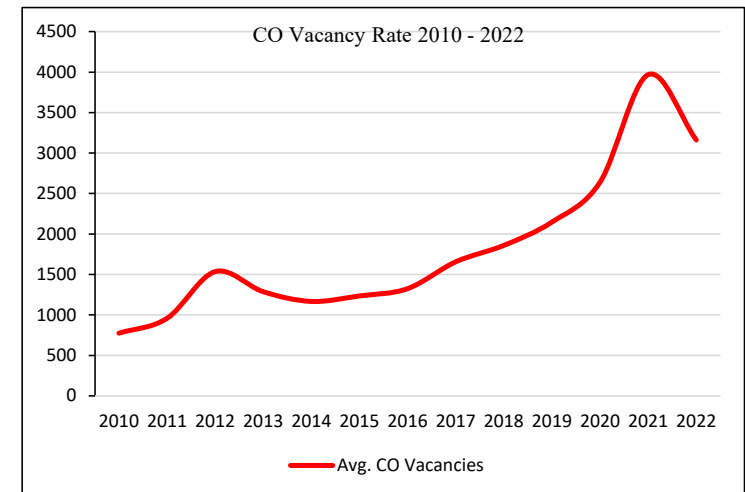
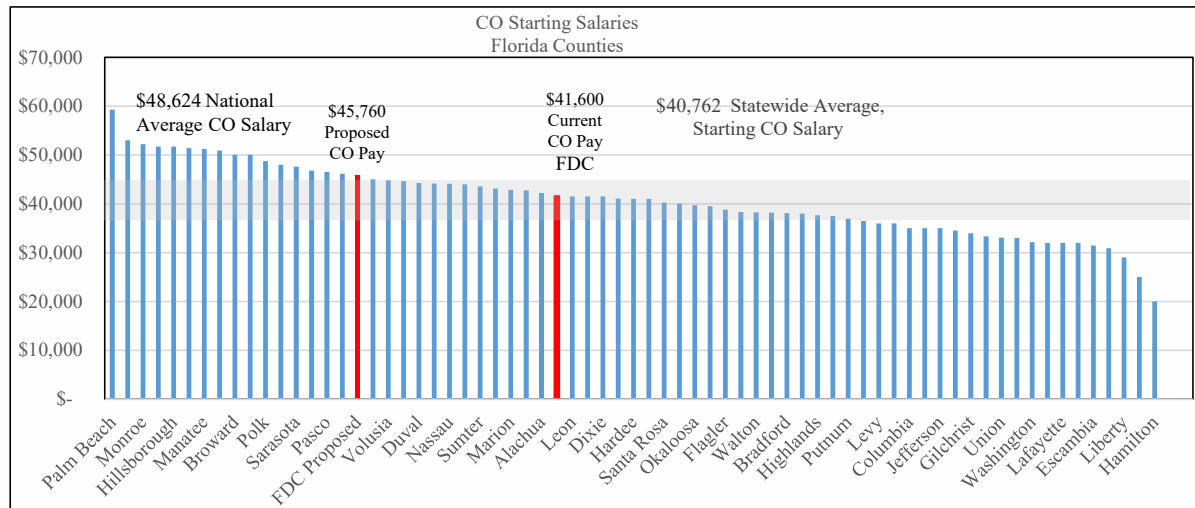
Security Equipment

- Fixed camera systems, DFIED, body-worn cameras, keys, locks, data bases, computers



Key Legislative Actions in 2022

- Increased Officer Pay
- Officer Retention Pay
- 8.5 Hour Shift Transition



Actions Taken – January Last Year vs. Now

Dorms Closed	
Then	Now
203	159

FDC Supervised Work Squads Suspended	
Then	Now
431	424

Work Camps Closed	
Then	Now
28	21

Community Release Centers Closed	
Then	Now
5	0

Institutions Closed	
2	

Institutions with Florida National Guard Augmentation	
9	



Florida National Guard Impact

Institutions augmented by Florida National Guard:

- Calhoun CI
- Franklin CI
- Hamilton CI
- Jackson CI
- Mayo CI
- NWFRC
- RMC
- Santa Rosa CI
- Union CI

Non-Contact duties performed by Florida National Guard personnel:

- Control Room Officer
- Perimeter Officer
- Additional Support



Results:

- Seamless integration
- Increases in morale
- Reduction in effective vacancy rates
- Interest from service members to sign up for FDC upon mission completion

CO Series Vacancy Rates

Institution	With Florida National Guard	Without Florida National Guard
Calhoun	21.78%	29.70%
Franklin	29.05%	40.78%
Hamilton	22.36%	33.53%
Jackson	2.96%	10.74%
Mayo	0.00%	17.22%
NWFRC	13.00%	27.50%
RMC	9.91%	16.41%
Santa Rosa	16.34%	19.27%
Union	13.67%	18.17%

12/1/2022



Major Initiatives

- Prison system modernization study
- Health service procurement
- Lake Mental Health Hospital



Priorities This Year

- ***Further pay initiatives*** to continue to address the staffing shortfalls
- ***Programming resources*** to reduce inmate idleness and incentivize cooperative behavior
- ***Funding for infrastructure and equipment*** to improve the living and working conditions for both staff and inmates

Florida Department of Corrections



Thank You

Richard Comerford, Deputy Secretary

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

Deliver both copies of this form to
Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

Bill Number or Topic

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Meeting Date

1/17/2023

Criminal Justice Committee
Committee

Name Deputy Secretary Richard Comerford Phone 850-717-3030

Address 501 S. Calhoun Street Email Richard.Comerford@fdc.myflorida.com
Street

Tallahassee Florida 32399
City State Zip

Speaking: ☐ For ☐ Against ☒ Information **OR** Waive Speaking: ☐ In Support ☐ Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

☒ I am appearing without
compensation or sponsorship.

☐ I am a registered lobbyist,
representing:

☐ I am not a lobbyist, but received
something of value for my appearance
(travel, meals, lodging, etc.),
sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022 Joint Rules.pdf \(flsenate.gov\)](#)

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

Deliver both copies of this form to
Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

1/17/2022

Meeting Date

Bill Number or Topic

Committee

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name

HILDA Alexander

Phone

561-252-7649

Address

ROB 2022

Email

hildaalexander
@yahoo.com

Street

Maryland (Greenbelt) 20768

City

State

Zip

Speaking:

☐

For

☐

Against

☒

Information

OR

Waive Speaking:

☐

In Support

☐

Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

☐

I am appearing without
compensation or sponsorship.

☐

I am a registered lobbyist,
representing:

☒

I am not a lobbyist, but received
something of value for my appearance
(travel, meals, lodging, etc.),
sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022 Joint Rules.pdf \(flsenate.gov\)](#)

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

Deliver both copies of this form to
Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

Bill Number or Topic

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Meeting Date

Committee

Name

Phone

Address

Email

Street

City

State

Zip

Speaking:

☒

For

☐

Against

☐

Information

OR

Waive Speaking:

☐

In Support

☐

Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

☒

I am appearing without
compensation or sponsorship.

☐

I am a registered lobbyist,
representing:

☐

I am not a lobbyist, but received
something of value for my appearance
(travel, meals, lodging, etc.),
sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022 Joint Rules.pdf \(flsenate.gov\)](#)

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

1-17-22

Meeting Date

Deliver both copies of this form to
Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

Bill Number or Topic

Criminal Justice

Committee

Midkiff

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name

Richard Midkiff

Phone

352-815-6137

Address

403 Alcazar Ave

Email

Richard.S.midkiff@gmail.com

Street

Altamonte Springs FL 32714

City

State

Zip

Speaking:

☒

For

☐

Against

☐

Information

OR

Waive Speaking:

☐

In Support

☐

Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

☐

I am appearing without
compensation or sponsorship.

☐

I am a registered lobbyist,
representing:

☒

I am not a lobbyist, but received
something of value for my appearance
(travel, meals, lodging, etc.),
sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022 Joint Rules.pdf \(flsenate.gov\)](#)

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (08/10/2021)

01/17/2023

Meeting Date

The Florida Senate
APPEARANCE RECORD

Deliver both copies of this form to
Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

EOS / RETURNING
CITIZEN

Bill Number or Topic

Committee

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name

TRACY ZULWAGA

Phone

305-753-5755

Address

POST-CONVICTION & RETURNING CITIZENS ALLIANCE

Street

1463 OAKFIELD DR SUITE 129

Email

tracy@postconvictionalliance.org

BRANDON

City

FL

State

33511

Zip

Speaking:

☐

For

☐

Against

☒

Information

OR

Waive Speaking:

☐

In Support

☐

Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

☒

I am appearing without
compensation or sponsorship.

☐

I am a registered lobbyist,
representing:

☐

I am not a lobbyist, but received
something of value for my appearance
(travel, meals, lodging, etc.),
sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022 Joint Rules.pdf \(flsenate.gov\)](#)

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (08/10/2021)

APPEARANCE RECORDLife Sentences

Meeting Date

Bill Number or Topic

Deliver both copies of this form to
Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

Committee

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name

Phone

Address

Email

Street

City

State

Zip

Speaking:

☐

For

☐

Against



Information

OR

Waive Speaking:

☐

In Support

☐

Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:I am appearing without
compensation or sponsorship.I am a registered lobbyist,
representing:I am not a lobbyist, but received
something of value for my appearance
(travel, meals, lodging, etc.),
sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022 Joint Rules.pdf \(flsenate.gov\)](#)

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (08/10/2021)



THE FLORIDA SENATE

Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100

SENATOR BLAISE INGOGLIA

11th District

COMMITTEES:

Finance and Tax, *Chair*
Appropriations
Appropriations Committee on Criminal
and Civil Justice
Banking and Insurance
Children, Families, and Elder Affairs
Criminal Justice
Ethics and Elections

SELECT COMMITTEE:

Select Committee on Resiliency

JOINT COMMITTEE:

Joint Administrative Procedures Committee, *Alternating
Chair*

January 10th, 2022

The Honorable Jonathan Martin, Chairman
Suite 311, Senate Office Building
404 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100

Chairman Martin,

I respectfully asked to be excused from the Committee on Criminal Justice meeting that will be held on Tuesday, January 17th at 11:00 am.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Blaise Ingoglia".

Blaise Ingoglia
State Senator, District 11

*CC: Amanda Stokes
Sue Arnold*

□ 312 Senate Building, 404 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100 (850) 487-5011

KATHLEEN PASSIDOMO
President of the Senate

DENNIS BAXLEY
President Pro Tempore

CourtSmart Tag Report

Room: SB 37

Case No.:

Type:

Caption: Senate Criminal Justice Committee

Judge:

Started: 1/17/2023 11:02:25 AM

Ends: 1/17/2023 12:03:51 PM

Length: 01:01:27

11:02:25 AM	Chair Martin opens meeting
11:02:32 AM	Roll Call
11:04:40 AM	Chair recognizes Senators for introductions
11:04:47 AM	Vice Chair Bradley introduction
11:05:14 AM	Sen Perry introduction
11:06:57 AM	Sen. Pizzo introduction
11:07:43 AM	Sen. Polsky introduction
11:08:17 AM	Sen. Powell introduction
11:09:13 AM	Sen. Yarborough introduction
11:09:59 AM	Chair recognizes DOC for presentation
11:10:19 AM	Richard Comerford, Deputy Secretary, DOC presents an Overview of DOC and Status Update
11:23:28 AM	Chair recognizes Sen. Pizzo for question
11:23:55 AM	Deputy Secretary Comerford responds
11:24:03 AM	Sen. Pizzo question
11:24:29 AM	Deputy Secretary Comerford responds
11:24:36 AM	Sen. Bradley questions
11:25:20 AM	Deputy Secretary Comerford responds
11:25:30 AM	Sen. Bradley follow up question
11:26:00 AM	Deputy Secretary Comerford responds
11:27:16 AM	Sen. Bradley follow up question
11:27:36 AM	Comerford responds
11:28:47 AM	Sen. Powell question
11:29:19 AM	Deputy Secretary Comerford responds
11:29:31 AM	Sen. Powell follow up question
11:30:05 AM	Deputy Secretary Comerford responds
11:30:43 AM	Sen. Yarborough question
11:30:58 AM	Deputy Secretary Comerford responds
11:31:17 AM	Sen. Yarborough follow up question
11:32:20 AM	Deputy Secretary Comerford responds
11:32:38 AM	Sen. Yarborough follow up question
11:33:02 AM	Deputy Secretary Comerford responds
11:33:56 AM	Sen. Yarborough follow up question
11:34:15 AM	Deputy Secretary Comerford responds
11:35:29 AM	Sen. Polsky question
11:35:45 AM	Deputy Secretary Comerford responds
11:36:09 AM	Sen. Polsky question
11:36:25 AM	Deputy Secretary Comerford responds
11:36:35 AM	Sen. Perry question
11:37:15 AM	Deputy Secretary Comerford responds
11:37:45 AM	Sen. Perry for a series of questions
11:38:41 AM	Deputy Secretary Comerford responds
11:38:55 AM	Sen. Perry question
11:39:33 AM	Deputy Secretary Comerford responds
11:39:53 AM	Sen. Perry question
11:40:12 AM	Sen. Pizzo question
11:41:16 AM	Deputy Secretary Comerford responds
11:41:25 AM	Sen. Pizzo question
11:41:34 AM	Deputy Secretary Comerford responds
11:41:59 AM	Chair asks if there is discussion/public testimony
11:42:25 AM	Marsia O'Ferral public testimony
11:45:44 AM	Tracy Zuluaga, Post Conviction Citizens Alliance - public testimony
11:47:57 AM	Richard Midkiff public testimony

11:49:30 AM	Sen. Powell questions of Richard Midkiff
11:49:50 AM	Richard Midkiff responds
11:50:48 AM	Sen. Powell questions Richard Midkiff
11:51:31 AM	Richard Midkiff responds
11:52:00 AM	Teresa Ventura public testimony
11:53:42 AM	Hilda Alexander public testimony
11:57:26 AM	Sen. Pizzo question of Deputy Secretary Comerford
11:57:47 AM	Deputy Secretary Comerford responds off mic
11:57:50 AM	Sen. Pizzo follow up question
11:58:10 AM	Deputy Secretary Comerford responds
11:58:18 AM	Sen. Pizzo comments
12:00:28 PM	Sen. Powell comments
12:03:29 PM	Chair recognizes Sen. Perry to adjourn
12:03:42 PM	Adjourned