

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA PENNSYLVANIA COMMISSION ON CRIME AND DELINQUENCY

May 25, 2022

The Honorable Timothy L. Defoor Auditor General Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Harrisburg PA 17120

Dear Auditor General Defoor,

Please accept this correspondence as in response to the recommendations included in the audit report issued by your office pertaining to PCCD's Education and Training program and the First Chance Act program. Restated below are the two recommendations included in the report as well as our description of efforts taken to adopt.

Recommendation #1 - Work with the Pennsylvania General Assembly to identify additional Trust Fund funding sources and amend the Act accordingly to require contributions from those sources.

PCCD Implementation – In acknowledgement of the fact that the current law has not generated significant revenue to implement the program, PCCD has contacted the legislative staff most directly involved in the passage of the legislation and communicated the challenges with the current approach to revenue generation and indicated our support to develop an alternative legislative solution to resolve these challenges. Legislative staff acknowledged the communication and agreed to contact PCCD for assistance in the event the General Assembly seeks to address the issue.

Recommendation #2 - Although not mandated by the Act, consider developing low-cost outreach activities to promote the Trust Fund and potentially generate donations, grants, and gifts from non-governmental entities and individuals, as allowed by law. Examples could include having Trust Fund promotional materials handed out at the Pennsylvania State Farm Show or higher education and career fairs at state-related and state-owned institutions.

PCCD implementation – PCCD has actively considered this recommendation and will be establishing a webpage on the PCCD website to solicit donations to the Fund. PCCD is also in the process of improving its communication outreach (i.e., newsletters, funding solicitations, website upgrades, etc.) to better inform agency stakeholders on this topic along with other relevant agency updates.

We appreciate the collaborative nature of this review and professionalism of your audit staff. If you have and questions on our activities in response to your recommendation you can contact me directly at 717-265-8466.

Sincerely, Derin Myers

Director, Office of Financial Management and Administration

CC: Mike Pennington Kirsten Kenyon Mark Molar Mary Kline Sherri Buckley