



**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

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July 9, 1999

**TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:**

In January 1998 the Douglas County Board of Commissioners contracted with the Institute for Law & Policy Planning to provide a planning assessment of the criminal justice system for the county. ILPP was to provide recommendations for improvement of the system that would produce efficiencies that could reduce the escalating jail population.

The growth and demand on each segment of the system from arrest to adjudication was so burdensome that officials had no time to communicate with each other or to view the system as a whole. The ILPP initiative facilitated self-examination as well as reflection on how each entity related and inter-related with each other. The study identified inefficiencies and duplication.

In its final report, ILPP listed over 30 recommendations to correct inefficiencies, streamline and consolidate city, county and state operations and provided an action plan for the implementation of these initiatives.

The creation of the Douglas County Criminal Justice Management Council, top officials representing city & county law enforcement, city & county attorneys, judiciary, public defender, the City, the County, court administration and corrections, has facilitated the implementation of the recommendations. This group has been meeting monthly since the ILPP's initial visit.

Thanks to this enhanced communication and the ILPP road map, the Corrections population has stabilized and efficiencies are continually being realized.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Carole Woods Harris".

**Carole Woods Harris**  
**Douglas County Commissioner**