



## Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services

### Maryland Commission on Correctional Standards

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

May 4, 2014

TO: Managing Officials

RE: Maryland Commission on Correctional Standards – Standards  
Review

The Maryland Commission on Correctional Standards, an administrative agency within the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services, was established by an Act of the 1980 General Assembly. The enabling legislation is codified in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Correctional Services Article, and Sections 8-101 et seq. The Commission is responsible to advise the Secretary of the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services on standards for state and local correctional facilities which the Secretary is authorized to adopt. The Maryland Commission on Correctional Standards is tasked to provide technical assistance to jurisdictions to meet adopted standards; to inspect facilities to determine compliance with applicable standards; to determine schedules for remedial action of a jurisdiction in non-compliance with certain standards; to hold public hearings in accordance with the administrative procedures act in regard to possible closing of a correctional facility or one of its elements for failure to meet certain standards; to issue orders to cease operations of correctional procedures or functions found to be in violation of standards; to review and act on appeals on staff inspection reports; to consult and coordinate with national bodies promulgating correctional standards to ensure a reasonable compatibility with Maryland standards; to consult and cooperate with other state agencies and local jurisdictions concerning standards development and enforcement; and to appoint advisory boards to assist the Commission.

In keeping with its responsibilities and in the normal course of business, the Commission is establishing a time frame for Correctional Standards Review of standards .01 through .08. All interested parties are invited to forward proposed changes to the Adult Detention Centers, Adult Correctional Institutions and Adult Community Correctional Facilities standards. This may come in the form of proposed new standards, modifications to existing standards, audit process changes or suggesting amendments to enabling legislation.

At its March 27, 2014 Commission Meeting, the Commission voted to allow a 60-day period to gather comments from interested parties. Amendments to legislation, proposed standards changes and comments will be catalogued by Commission staff and prepared for Commission review.

Correspondence should be forwarded to the Maryland Commission on Correctional Standards to the following:

- ▶ **Electronic Address:** [mccs@dpscs.state.md.us](mailto:mccs@dpscs.state.md.us).
  
- ▶ **Mail:** Maryland Commission on Correctional Standards  
115 Sudbrook Lane  
Suite 200  
Pikesville, Maryland 21208  
ATTN: Chairman Robert Green  
or  
Executive Director Howard Ray, Jr.

All other inquiries should be directed to Executive Director Howard Ray, Jr. The comment period shall conclude 60 days from the official date of posting. Posting Date: **May 4, 2014**.

Thank you for your continued support for standards compliance.