

Monday, October 14, 2024 at 14:16:55 Central Daylight Time

**Subject:** RE: Request for Documentation Regarding \$90,000 Pay Increase  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 29, 2024 at 1:59:34 PM Central Daylight Time  
**From:** Dedra Blackwell  
**To:** Justin Humphrey  
**CC:** Kevin Stitt, Gentner Drummond, Ajay Pittman, Amanda Swope, Andy Fugate, Annie.Menz, Anthony Moore, Arturo Alonso-Sandoval, Bob Culver, Brad Boles, Brian Hill, Carl Newton, Chad Caldwell, charles.mccall@okhouse.gov, Chris.Banning, chris.kannady@okhouse.gove, Chris Sneed, Clay Staires, Cody Maynard, Collin Duel, Cyndi Munson, Cynthia Roe, Daniel Pae, Danny Sterling, Danny Williams, David Hardin, David Smith, Dean Davis, Dell Kerbs, dick.lowe@okhouse.go, Ellyn Hefner, Eric Roberts, erick.harris@okhouse.gov, Forrest Bennett, Jacob Rosecrants, Jared Deck, Jason Lowe, Jay Steagall, Jeff Boatman, Jim Grego, Jim Olsen, John.George, John Kane, John Pfeiffer, John Talley, John Waldron, jon.echols@okhouse.gov, Josh Cantrell, Josh West, Judd Strom, Ken Luttrell, Kenton Patzkowsky, Kevin McDugle, Kevin Wallace, Kevin West, Kyle Hilbert, Lonnie Sims, Mauree Turner, Max Wolfley, Melissa Provenzano, Meloyde Blancett, Mickey Dollens, Mike Dobrinski, Mike Osburn, Monroe Nichols, Neil Hays, Nick Archer, Nicole Miller, Preston Stinson, Rande Worthen, Randy Randleman, Regina Goodwin, Rhonda Baker, Rick West, Robert Manger, Ronny Johns, Ross Ford, Rusty Cornwell, Scott Fetgatter, Sherrie Conley, Stan May, Steve Bashore, Suzanne Schreiber, Tammy Townley, Tammy West, Terry Odonnell, TJ Marti, Tom Gann, Toni Hasenbeck, Trey Caldwell, Trish Ranson, Ty Burns, Adam Pugh, Ally Seifried, Bill Coleman, Blake Stephens, Brenda Stanley, Brent Howard, Carri Hicks, Casey Murdock, Chuck Hall, Cody Rogers, Dana Prieto, Darcy Jech, Darrell Weaver, Suzanne Schreiber, David Bullard, Dewayne Pemberton, Dusty Deevers, Greg Treat, Jerry Alvord, Joe Newhouse, Jack Stewart, Grant Green, Greg McCortney, Jessica Garvin, Jo Anna Dossett, George Young, Dave Rader, John Haste, Julia Kirt, Julie Daniels, Kay Floyd, Kevin Matthews, Kristen Thompson, Lonnie Paxton, Mary Boren, Michael Brooks, Micheal Bergstrom, Nathan Dahm, Paul Rosino, Rob Standridge, Roger Thompson, Roland Pederson, Shane Jett, Todd Gollihare, Tom Dugger, Tom Woods, Warren Hamilton

**Attachments:** image001.png, image002.png

Representative Humphrey~

This shall serve as the agency's official response to your letter dated May 29, 2024 regarding the salary of Director Harpe.

The Department of Corrections has been open and transparent with you regarding this issue and has told you on multiple occasions the salary is not set by the Director but by the Governor, as per state statute. It was also addressed in [this press release](#).

57 O.S. § 506 (Director - Qualifications - Removal – Compensation) states:

***There is hereby created the position of Director of Corrections. The Director shall be qualified for such position by character, knowledge, skill, ability, education, training and successful administrative experience and shall have five (5) years of professional level work. The Director of Corrections shall be appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate and shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor and may be removed or replaced without cause. Compensation for the Director shall be determined by the Governor. The Director may be removed from office by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members elected to and constituting each chamber of the Legislature.***

A change was made to this statute in 2019 by the legislature, which you voted in favor of ([House Bill 2480](#)). As an elected official overseeing policy changes, one would assume you are familiar with reading state statutes and know that the most recently passed is the controlling statute in any instance.

Once again, your request will need to be addressed by the Governor.

Respectfully ~ Dedra

**Dedra Blackwell | Chief Administrator of Policy Engagement**

Administration | Department of Corrections

p. 405-425-2829 | [REDACTED]

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Corrections**

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**From:** Justin Humphrey <[Justin.Humphrey@okhouse.gov](mailto:Justin.Humphrey@okhouse.gov)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, May 29, 2024 10:43 AM

**To:** Steven Harpe <[steven.harpe@doc.ok.gov](mailto:steven.harpe@doc.ok.gov)>

**Cc:** Representatives <[Representatives@okhouse.gov](mailto:Representatives@okhouse.gov)>; Senators <[Senators@okhouse.gov](mailto:Senators@okhouse.gov)>; Kevin Stitt <[Kevin.Stitt@gov.ok.gov](mailto:Kevin.Stitt@gov.ok.gov)>; Gentner Drummond <[Gentner.Drummond@oag.ok.gov](mailto:Gentner.Drummond@oag.ok.gov)>

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Request for Documentation Regarding \$90,000 Pay Increase

Director Harpe:

Attached, please find a letter regarding the matter of your \$90,000 pay increase. Your prompt attention to this matter is greatly appreciated.

Best regards,



*Chairman Justin JJ Humphrey*

**Criminal Justice & Corrections Committee**

**Oklahoma House of Representative**

**District 19**

**(405) 557-7382**

**2300 N. Lincoln Blvd., Room 301**

**Oklahoma City, OK 73105**

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