



JC-KS-001-009

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APR 12 1971

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GWJ:JPT;rb

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D.J. 168-29-2
~~#15-209-32~~

LEAA Assistance With Respect to Pending
Suit Against Wyandotte County, Kansas, Jail

On June 5, 1970, the Department filed suit against Wyandotte County, its Sheriff, Board of Commissioners and other officers alleging a violation of Title III of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and a contract between Wyandotte and the Department's Bureau of Prisons. The complaint alleged racial separation in the facility and failure to provide protection and safety for the inmates.

Since the inception of the lawsuit, the County Attorney, who represents some of the defendants (The Board of Commissioners has undertaken to represent itself), has indicated a willingness on the part of those running the jail to do whatever they can to correct what we see wrong with the situation. Primarily for lack of funds, however, they see their situation as a somewhat impossible one in attempting to set up any program approaching what we have suggested in the form of a proposed consent decree we sent to them (copy attached). However, they indicate a willingness to consent to almost any specific relief if we could assist them by showing how it could be accomplished.

GWJ
4/12/71

Having such willing defendants, it would seem this is an ideal case for using the LEAA Technical Assistance Program and the Bureau of Prisons as consultants for the purpose of establishing a long range plan for improving the jail conditions in Wyandotte County, Kansas. We would therefore like to have someone from LEAA designated to work with us toward that end.

- cc: Records
- Chrono
- Mr. Jones
- Mr. Turner
- Mr. Bourne
- Invest. File (Rm. 920)

A pre-trial conference is scheduled in the case for April 30. Under the local rules we have to have a meeting with defense counsel 10 days before the conference and we plan to set up a meeting during the week of April 19. We would want the LEAA designee along on this trip since that is when much of the settlement discussion will take place.