July 22, 2016

Dear Sheriffs/Wardens:

House Bill 1140 by Representative Celia Israel requires all sheriffs and wardens to report certain information relating to the care of pregnant inmates. Enclosed please find the survey that we are mandated to conduct and will serve as the basis for the HB 1140 report. All sheriffs and wardens are required to complete the survey including counties with a closed jail or those jails that do not house pregnant inmates. Counties that do not house pregnant inmates and choose to house them at another facility should indicate the policies of the facility that will house the majority of their pregnant inmates.

The Commission recognizes that some counties may not have housed or provided care to a pregnant inmate in the recent past. However, at any time, a sheriff may have to provide or authorize care for a pregnant inmate.

House Bill 1140 requires that sheriffs/wardens submit the report no later than September 1, 2016. The survey may be faxed, mailed or emailed to Research Specialist Diana Spiller. The fax number is (512) 463-3185, and her email address is diana.spiller@tcjs.state.tx.us. If you choose to submit by regular mail, please submit to the following address:

Texas Commission on Jail Standards
Attn: Research Specialist Diana Spiller
PO Box 12985
Austin, Texas 78711

If you have any questions, please contact Diana Spiller at (512) 463-2690.

Sincerely,

Brandon Wood
Executive Director

ENCL: HB 1140 Survey