

SECURITY ORDINANCE UPDATE

To: Jackson County Commissioners

From: County Attorney, Heather Baker

Date: March 6, 2017

Re: Annual report to the County Commissioners

The Ordinance Governing Jackson County Justice Center Security calls for an annual update on the Ordinance from the Security Committee to the Jackson County Commissioners. The Committee is comprised of the Chief District Court Judge, the Senior Resident Superior Court Judge, District Attorney, Sheriff of Jackson County, Clerk of Superior Court, County Manager and Local Bar President or their designee.

The Committee met on February 23, 2017 to review the Security process and to review the roster of attorneys and non-attorneys with ID access cards to make sure that the County is aware of any change in status that would require revocation of the ID access card.

Jackson County Human Resource Director, Danielle Wittekind, presented to the committee the current roster and shared her process for updating the status of County employees, attorneys and non-attorneys with ID access cards. The Committee was impressed with the records and spread sheets kept by Ms. Wittekind and the detail given to maintain the database. Major Shannon Queen with the JCSO works with Ms. Wittekind on a regular basis to update the list and keep it current. The Committee read over the roster and provided updated information.

The Committee discussed any need for update to the Ordinance. The following items were discussed and will be investigated by the Committee throughout the year but no change to the Ordinance is immediately requested. The updates discussed are as follows:

1. Attorney access in the back hallway area (excluding the Judges Chambers) to allow easier back and forth during court days to see clients in jail.
2. Additional lighting outside the front of the building and the addition of two cameras.
3. Small lockers in the atrium to temporarily keep items not allowed in the Justice Center so citizens do not have to return to their car.
4. County Attorney replacing Local Bar President as Security Committee Member.

The first three items will be further investigated by the Committee and the last item can be addressed when there is a need to change the Ordinance for other purposes.

Overall the Committee thought the security process was running smoothly and there were no additional changes that needed to be addressed at this time.