



COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
THE JOHN A. WILSON BUILDING
1350 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, NW
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20004

David Grosso
Councilmember At-Large
Chairperson, Committee on Education

Committee Member
Health
Human Services
Judiciary and Public Safety

November 29, 2018

Quincy Booth, Director
Department of Corrections
2000 14 Street NW
Washington, D.C. 20009

Director Booth:

I am writing to you with regard to the Department's policy and practices for drug and alcohol testing of employees. I am concerned that the Department may not be taking into account the nuance of employees, including those categorized as "high potential risk", who may be participating in the District of Columbia's, or another state's, medical marijuana program. If an employee, for example, is undergoing treatment for cancer and is prescribed medical marijuana by a doctor to help with the side effects of the treatment, it seems unreasonable and inappropriate that the employee would be penalized, or even subject to termination, because of seeking such medical care. Please clarify for me:

- The policy and practices of the Department for testing employees for drugs and alcohol, including why the Department does not follow DPM Instruction No. 4-34;
- How the policy and practices take into account employees who are patients utilizing medical marijuana; and
- What steps the Department has taken to modernize its drug and alcohol testing procedures to ensure that the results reflect inebriation and not simply the consumption of some amount of marijuana in the recent week.

I look forward to receiving your responses to this letter by December 14, 2018. If you have any questions please contact me, or my Senior Legislative Advisor, Darby Hickey, at (202) 724-8061 or dhickey@dccouncil.us.

Sincerely,

David Grosso
Council of the District of Columbia
Chairperson, Committee on Education

Cc: Charles Allen, Chairperson, Committee on the Judiciary

