

January 11, 2018

COPY

Mr. Philip Bryden, Q.C.
Deputy Minister of Justice
and Solicitor General
2nd Floor, Bowker Building
9833 – 109 Street
Edmonton AB T5K 2E8

Dear Mr. Bryden:

**Subject: Travis Lee Halmrast – Public Fatality Inquiry
Response to Recommendations**

Please find enclosed a copy of the Honourable Judge S.L. Oishi's report to the Minister of Justice and Solicitor General. This report will be publicly released on February 1, 2018.

The following recommendations made by His Honour may impact the Correctional Services Division of Alberta Justice and Solicitor General:

1. There should not be structures within a correctional facility cell that would support the weight of a human body such that hanging might occur. This would include "C" shaped handles on the interior side of cell doors. This is particularly the case where the cell is used to house inmates who are suicidal; who have any other serious mental health issues; or those in remand awaiting case outcomes including bail hearings. The latter group may tend to be more emotionally unsettled about their legal status than those who are serving a sentence.
2. Written requests by inmates to speak to health care workers, particularly the psychologist, should be deposited in a single location at the correctional facility where it is certain to be received and addressed in a prompt manner.

I ask that you please advise the following:

1. Whether Justice and Solicitor General accepts, accepts in principle, does not accept, or has a different response to each recommendation;
2. A brief explanation of why that decision was made; and
3. If Justice and Solicitor General intends to accept the recommendation, or to implement different measures, what steps will be taken in that regard.

A response to this enquiry is not mandatory. However, please be advised that any response received will be publicly released and posted on the Open Government Portal:

<https://open.alberta.ca/opendata/responses-to-public-fatality-inquiry-recommendations>.

If a response has not been received by June 1, 2018 (four months from the public release of Judge Oishi's report), that information will also be made publicly available.

Please ensure the response does not include any personal third party information.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Yours truly,

Jennifer Fuchinsky
Fatality Inquiry Coordinator
Enclosure