



# CORRECTIONS FOUNDATION

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July 11, 2019

Secretary Mark Inch  
Florida Department of Corrections  
501 South Calhoun Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2500

Dear Secretary Inch,

During the 2014 Legislative Session, the Legislature passed and former Governor Rick Scott signed into law CS for SB 1194 (1194), an act relating to citizen support (CSOs) and direct-support organizations (DSOs).

This law requires certain disclosures to be made from the CSOs and DSOs to the state agencies to whom the organizations serve by August 1<sup>st</sup> of each year. The state agencies, in our case, the Florida Department of Corrections (FDC) has until August 15<sup>th</sup> of each year to report to the Governor, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the Office of Program Policy and Analysis and Government Accountability the information provided by each CSO and DSO. The report the Department of Corrections must submit must also include a recommendation by the agency, with supporting rationale, to continue, terminate, or modify the agency's association with the Corrections Foundation.

## *Required Disclosures*

### **Section 20.058(1)(a), F.S. – Name, address, telephone number and website of the organization**

Corrections Foundation, Inc  
501 South Calhoun Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2500

Phone number: 850-717-3712

Fax number: 850-410-4411



A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL-FREE (800-435-7352) WITHIN THE STATE. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL, OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE.

Established as the non-profit direct support organization for the Florida Department of Corrections, pursuant to Chapter 944.802 FS. Contributions to the Corrections Foundation, a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation, may be tax-deductible for federal income tax purposes. Tax ID#: 59-3440417.

Website: <https://www.correctionsfoundation.org>

**Section 20.058(1)(b), F.S. – Statutory authority for the organization**

Section 944.802, F.S.

**Section 20.058(1)(c), F.S. – A brief description of the mission of and results obtained by the organization**

*Mission*

The mission of the Corrections Foundation, a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation authorized by State of Florida Statute, is to provide support for the programs, staff, and services of the Department of Corrections through grants, contributions, and community partnerships promoting and supporting public safety in our institutions and the communities in which we serve.

*Results*

*Projects in Support of Department of Corrections Officers and Staff*

**Employee Assistance Program:** The Corrections Foundation supports FDC employees by giving them direct financial assistance in times of fire, critical illness or accident, or other tragic circumstances through the Employee Assistance Program (EAP). Last year, the Corrections Foundation assisted 365 FDC officers and staff through our EAP.

**Disaster Relief Fund:** In March 2018, the Corrections Foundation established a stand-alone Disaster Relief Fund (DRF) to provide assistance to FDC officers, staff, and contractors during times of natural disasters.

The establishment of the DRF was both timely and fortuitous. After Hurricane Michael, the Corrections had sufficient reserves that we were able to assist 841 FDC officers, staff, and contractors who were impacted by Michael, with the vast majority of assistance being provided in less than 60 days after Michael made landfall.

Since 1999, between our EAP and Disaster Relief Programs, we've assisted over 9,300 of FDC's more than 22,300 employees - essentially 41% of FDC employees - a record for which we're proud.

## *Board of Directors Makes Staff Full Time*

In April 2019, the Board of Directors voted to make the Corrections Foundation Executive Director and Administrative Director full-time positions.

## *Support of Department of Corrections Programs*

FDC Office of Intelligence K-9 Support - The Corrections Foundation supports the Office of Intelligence K-9 teams by accepting donations and purchasing much needed supplies and equipment such as K-9 vehicles, K-9 cell phone and drug detection dogs, and equipment for the K-9 officers.

Department of Corrections K-9 Tracking Units - The Department of Corrections has 26 K-9 Tracking Units statewide. These officers and tracking K-9's are used for escapes and are also called out more than 600 times a year to support local law enforcement to locate missing children, missing elders and fugitives. The Foundation has provided GPS tracking collars and other equipment for these K-9 teams statewide.

Dog Obedience Prison Programs- Twenty-four dog training programs receive funding through the Corrections Foundation thanks to sponsors and donations that support these programs. These programs are partnerships between the Department of Corrections, local humane societies and animal shelters and donors who contribute through the Corrections Foundation.

Computers for Florida's Kids - The Computers for Florida's Kids Program operates at Cross City Correctional Institution. Inmates in this program refurbish older computers so they can be donated to organizations and programs serving children throughout the state of Florida. More than 7,000 computers have been donated to organizations since 2001. Inmates, in turn, received meaningful job training in computer diagnostics and repair to help provide them an opportunity for meaningful job placement upon release.

Other Programs - The Corrections Foundation has served as the fiduciary for many different programs within the Department of Corrections by accepting community donations and grants for past and present programs, including:

- Chaplaincy
- Culinary Arts
- Computer Education
- Education and Literacy Support
- Toastmaster Gavel Clubs

- Wellness Programs/sports equipment
- Lawtey Correctional Institution Lawn Equipment Maintenance
- Library Fund
- Ford Motors Automotive Repair Program - Facilitated the Ford Program Grant that provided cars, tools, and construction of an automotive garage at Homestead CI that provided automotive repair training for female inmates.
- Farm Worker Housing Initiative – US Department of Community Affairs grant- Facilitated grant funding for Migrant Farm Worker Housing Program where inmates at Hardee Correctional Institution built cabinets, tables, chairs, and other housing components that were provided to migrant farm workers. Inmates also learned viable carpentry and job skills that would help make them successful on the outside. Partnership with Collier County Housing Authority, Everglades Community Association and Catholic Charities.
- FSP Officer Safety Project - Project ensured officer safety through limiting direct interaction with dangerous inmates. Funding was provided to install openings within cell doors so that an opening at one end could be opened while keeping the opposite closed so that food trays could be passed to an inmate without risk of an officer being grabbed or have objects lodged at officers.
- Reading Family Ties
- Literacy
- Ounce of Prevention – Father program
- Transition Program – Hillsborough CI
- Re-entry Program and Wellness Program Support
- Hardee CI Seminary
- Sumter CI Chapel Roof Repair, Chapel Books and Supplies
- Troop Project – Flags for Freedom – Since 2001 more than 400 Department of Corrections employees have served in our nation’s military. The employees of the Department of Corrections have supported them through their deployment through the Flags for Freedom Project. We provided gift packages and phone cards to soldiers and their families.

#### **Donations Received through the Corrections Foundation for Capital Improvements**

- Lawtey Correctional Institution – AC installation
- Indian River CI - Visiting Park Pavilion
- Homestead CI - Ford Motors Automotive Program

#### **Section 20.058(1)(d), F.S. - Brief description of our three-year plan**

The Corrections Foundation will continue to focus on our core programs – the Employee Assistance Program to support FDC officers and staff, support of FDC programs through donations received, support of the various K9 support and dog obedience training programs, and the Computers for Florida’s Kids Program. In addition, we will continue to assist with special requests by the Department of Corrections.

**Section 20.058(1)(e), F.S.– Code of Ethics**

Our Code of Ethics is attached.

In addition, the Corrections Foundation has previously adopted various disclosures and ethical documents we feel go above and beyond what is required in 2014-096, Laws of Florida.

These documents include:

- Board Conflict of Interest Policy
- Employee Conflict of Interest Policy
- Public Record Inspection Policy
- Whistleblower Protection Policy
- Anti-Harassment Policy
- Equal Opportunity Policy

All of these documents including the Code of Ethics are publicly available on our website at <http://www.correctionsfoundation.org/about/forms-and-publications>. On this same page are copies of all our by-laws, articles of incorporation, past audits, and other documents to provide a firm level of transparency.

**Section 20.058(1)(f), F.S.– most recent IRS Return of Organization Exempt from Income Tax Form (Form 990)**

Our most recent Form 990 is attached. This Form 990 is for the fiscal year ending on June 30, 2018.

Our required annual audit will again be conducted by James Moore and Co, CPA (James Moore) the week of July 15, 2019, for the fiscal year ending on June 30, 2019.

However, as in years past, we do not anticipate a completed 990 until September 2019 at the earliest. Once we have the final version of this Form 990 we will provide it to you and will also post it on our website.

In addition, all past Form 990s dating back to 2004 and audits dating back to 2007 are placed on our website for public inspection at <http://www.correctionsfoundation.org/about/forms-and-publications>.

**Section 20.058(2), F.S.** - requires the Department of Corrections to make the information and attachments included in this letter available to the public on the Department of Corrections' website. This section also requires the Department of Corrections to provide a link to the Corrections Foundation's website, which is already on FDC's webpage.

If you have any questions or need further information, please feel free to ask. We will certainly provide any and all requested information.

Sincerely,



Chris Akins  
Executive Director

Attachments: Code of Ethics  
2017 990 for the fiscal year ending on June 30, 2018

CC: Office of Legislative Affairs  
Office of the General Counsel