

Meeting Summary

Following is a summary of issues discussed at the DJS Stat on November 18, 2011. Analysis is provided by StateStat and the Governor's Delivery Unit (GDU).

Follow-Up

- **Southern Maryland Facility.** At the previous Stat, DJS mentioned that they had a productive hearing in reference to the construction of a detention facility in Waldorf, Maryland. The excerpt from a recent article (below), however, states that many citizens are still opposed to the facility but DJS will still speak with officials about the potential site.

Commissioners Weigh In On Waldorf Jail Proposal

Waldorf, MD - 11/11/2011

By Andy Marquis

As opposition continues to grow to the proposed detention center in Waldorf, all of the Charles County Commissioners have weighed in, commending the efforts of residents in Waldorf. Commissioner Vice President Reuben Collins (D) has publicly stated his opposition to the proposal several times.

"I think it's a public process that's current happening that will ultimately decide the fate of where it should be built," Commissioner Ken Robinson (D: 1st) said. "Based on public input, the location chosen by the State is not the right location. Ultimately, this is the decision of the state."

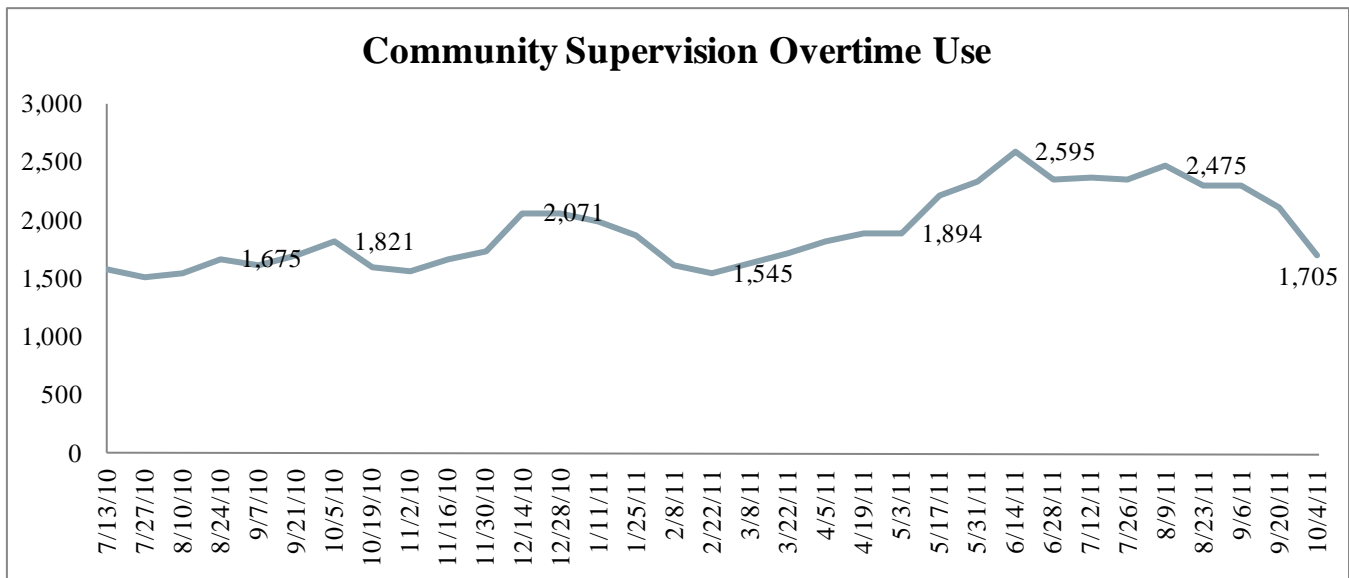
Last week, the Department of Juvenile Services reiterated that they would continue to get feedback on the plan from residents and would talk with the commissioners about it, and the Waldorf Urban Design Plan.

DJS Secretary Sam Abed has stated that the department is looking in to other proposed sites, although Abed has said the Waldorf facility most fits their needs. Despite that, no final decision has been made. Abed says he will continue to work with local representatives, delegates and with the Governor and is continuing to get feedback from them, as well as the community.

Matt Ashurst, who started the StopWaldorfJail.com online petition, has offered support to DJS to find a facility elsewhere but has repeatedly stated that he will not support the current proposal. He also proposed a law to ban the construction of detention centers within 1-3 miles of residential areas or schools during a public hearing held by the commissioners for their 2012 legislative package for the Charles County Delegation on Wednesday evening. The proposed legislation Ashurst submitted says "within 3 miles" but Ashurst and others in attendance said they would be satisfied with a one mile limitation. That proposal would be county-wide.

- **Command Center Hires.** DJS was asked at a previous Stat to discuss the reasons behind the high Overtime rates in Community Supervision. DJS stated that the high rates were due to the fact that there are nine total vacancies in the Community Supervision department; and specifically a few vacancies in the Command Center. DJS stated at the previous Stat that a few hires have been made and DJS was asked to provide a timeline for when they believe that the newly hired staff will begin their employment.

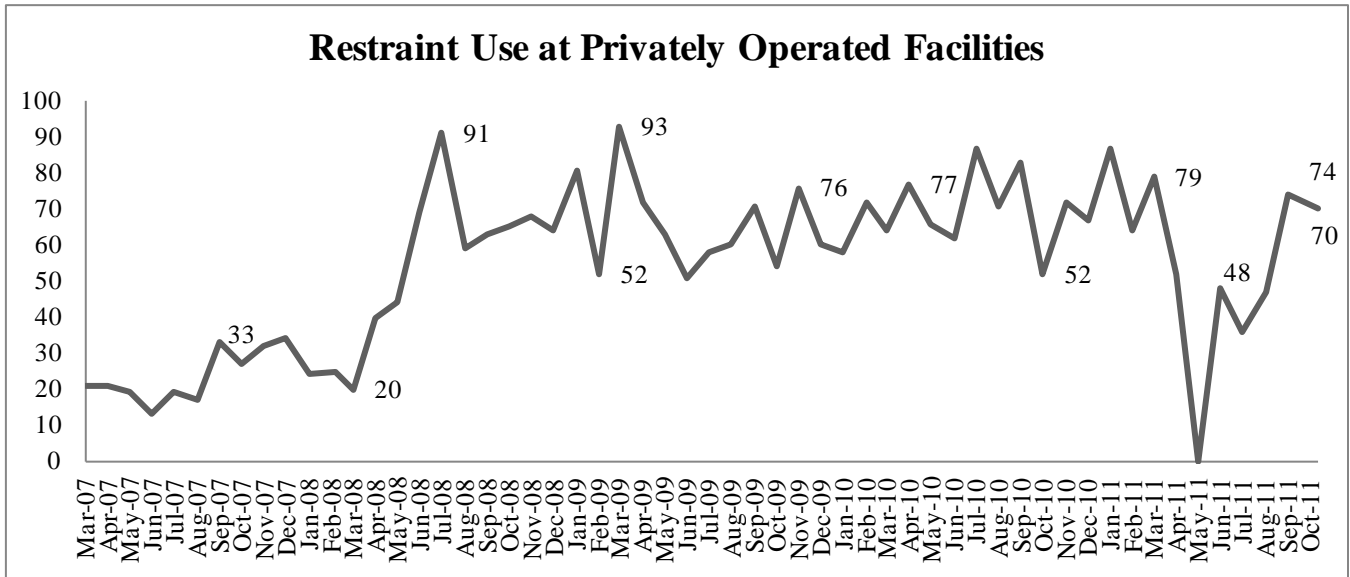
DJS stated in their follow-up that two new hires would begin employment on 11/02/11 and one of those individuals would be assigned to the Command Center. A third staff person will begin employment shortly after MPCTC approval is received and will be assigned to Baltimore City as a Community Detention officer. Three vacancies have been approved for hire posting and three other positions are pending posting approval, which should occur very soon.



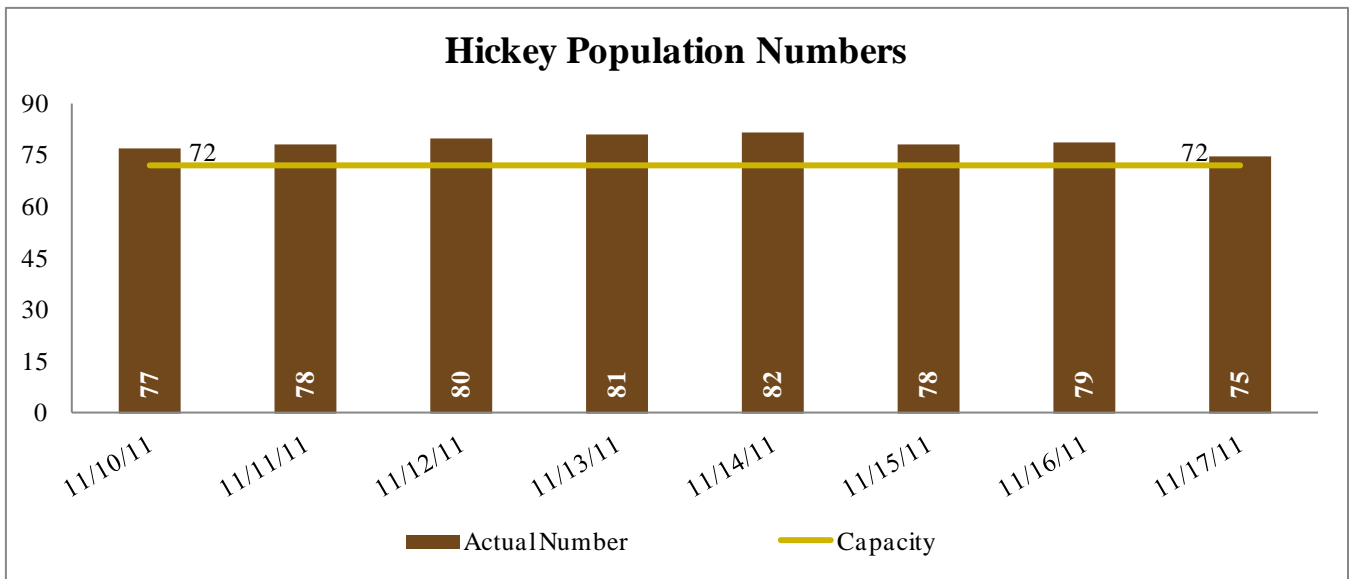
- Seclusion/Restraint Use.** DJS was asked at the previous Stat if there was a way to figure out if there are correlations between seclusion and/or restraint use with other incidents and if this data can be reported in a different manner in the template.

In their follow-up, DJS reports that restraints are used only as a last resort when de-escalation of a crisis has proven unsuccessful or is immediately required to protect staff, youth or property. An increase in restraints indicates an escalation of out of control behavior and is tracked by management as an alert to trigger investigations. Numerous variables can affect restraint data, to include, level of aggression of youth, staff ability to de-escalate crisis situations, gang affiliations, mental health status of youth (e.g. self-injurious behavior). Management monitors each residential setting to determine baseline data and tracks for significant changes to determine appropriate interventions. Seclusion is an intervention which theoretically could have an impact on the use of restraints, youth on youth assaults, youth on staff assaults or other measures; however, it is impossible to predict what incident if any may have been averted because an out of control youth was placed into seclusion. DJS, at this time, is not aware of any causal relationship between restraints or seclusions and any other incident measure.

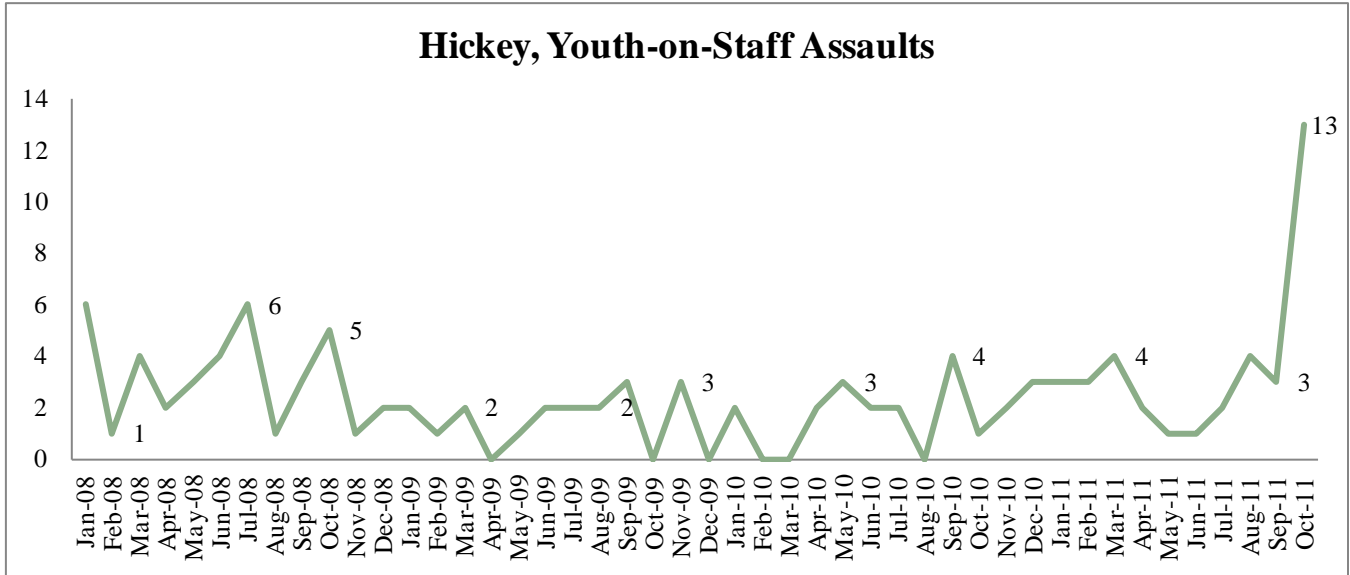
- Private Provider Restraint Use.** As indicated below, restraint use at Privately Operated Facilities increased significantly since March of this year.



- Hickey Population.** Although DJS has been doing a good job in keeping the population down at all of their detention facilities, as indicated below, Hickey has been over capacity for several days. A monthly census review for September showed that Hickey averaged seven below capacity. However, beginning on October 8th, Hickey has been above capacity every day since. DJS stated that re-arrests and technical violations caused the higher population totals.



- Hickey, Youth-on-Staff Assaults.** The chart below highlights youth-on-staff assaults at the Hickey School. DJS staff stated that one youth caused the majority of the incidents however, the youth will be placed in another facility in the coming days.



- Out-of-State Population.** As indicated below, the Out-of-State population seems to be gradually decreasing since July. However, the length-of-stay rate is at its highest point since June 2009. DJS is still working to decrease the length of stay and they have plans in the making.

