



W. BRAD STEUBE
Sheriff
MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA



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November 2nd, 2016

Mr. Ed Hunzeker
County Administrator
Manatee County Government
1112 Manatee Avenue West
Bradenton, FL 34205

RE: Manatee County Judicial Center -Condominium Building Project

Dear Mr. Hunzeker:

This letter is written on behalf of the Manatee County Sheriff's Office and the Manatee County Clerk of the Circuit Court to address security concerns in reference to the proposed condominium building project at the Manatee County Judicial Center (Judicial Center). The following are specific matters that must be taken into consideration to ensure the safety and wellbeing of the public and ensure operational safety of the Manatee County Judicial Center:

- Secured Detention Area: The Manatee County Sheriff's Office transports inmates on a consistent basis to the Judicial Center for court appearances utilizing a secured sally port entryway. The condominium building project plans indicate that access to the apartments would be on the first floor, near the current access to the sally port. Placing apartment access in close proximity to the secure sally port entryway creates substantial security concerns for Manatee County Sheriff's Office personnel, court staff, surrounding county offices and the public.
- Rooftop Access: The Judicial Center houses various offices to include the Public Defender's Offices, Court Reporter Offices, and Manatee County Judges' Offices. The condominium project plans propose adding a rooftop lounge area for apartment occupants to use. Unlimited access to the Judicial Center's rooftop space for condominium occupants would undermine building security measures. In addition, a recommendation has been made to place propane tanks on rooftop. Placing propane

tanks on the roof not only creates a safety hazard but also could interfere with the Judicial Center heating and cooling functions.

- Background Checks for Renters: Current Developer/Builder documentation states that background checks will be conducted for each potential tenant before occupying the established condominiums. For the security and well-being of the staff already working at the Judicial Center, in-depth background checks are paramount. The Developer/Builder cannot assure that the occupants will not receive visitors. In addition, unlisted renters can possibly occupy the domicile without a background check. The inability to accurately monitor who will be entering and exiting the Judicial Center from the attached condominiums creates added risks for the existing working personnel and the visiting citizens to the Judicial Center. Such risks include but are not limited to concealed weapons entry and/or potential explosives carried into the building without a proper security check point.
- Law Enforcement Presence: Currently, the Manatee County Sheriff's Office does not provide a law enforcement presence at the Judicial Center after operating hours. If condominiums are put in place, the Manatee County Sheriff's Office will need to hire/assign additional deputies to the Judicial Security Unit to cover the Judicial Center outside of business hours due to possible risks of tenants and visitors gaining access to restricted areas of the Judicial Center. The estimated cost for additional personnel at the Judicial Center for all day security is calculated to be at \$213,974 for five new part-time deputies and \$91,897 for five new part-time civilian positions. These positions would be assigned to security camera operation and protection of the building.
- Alarm System: The condominiums will be equipped with an alarm system. If the alarm system is activated for any of the apartments, the entire building will need to be evacuated for security concerns. This undoubtedly will interfere with any scheduled hearings, trials and other scheduled court proceedings.
- Noise/Sound Control: In accordance with the Developer/Builder's current proposal, condominium occupants will have access to their individual apartments as well as designated common areas which tenants can use for shared activities. There are no regulations established as to the acceptable noise levels within the common grounds and/or individual condominiums. The sound levels could impede or interrupt courtroom proceedings.
- Manatee Clerk's Office: The Manatee County Clerk's Office is located directly to the west of the Judicial Center, in the Historical Courthouse, and includes the same common grounds that may be used by condominium occupants /visitors for recreational and other

activities. The Developer/Builder's plans for future apartments and tenants could adversely affect the security of the Historical Courthouse, the safety of the Clerk's Office personnel and citizens visiting the public offices.

- Data Center: The Judicial Center houses the recently completed data center for the Manatee County Clerk's Office. The servers found in the data center store the live-data for all records at the Clerk's Office before the records are redacted in compliance with confidentiality rules. This existing location was chosen in particular for the safekeeping of those records. The cost of recent updates and server maintenance for the data room totaled \$686,000. These improvements were made for the express purpose of providing higher levels of security to the data center.
- Evidence Storage: Presently, the Manatee County Clerk's Office is required to store evidence items as established by record retention schedules. The Clerk's office utilizes the Judicial Center for secure evidence storage. These items include and are not limited to weapons, ammunition, narcotics and United States currency. The proposed condominiums and access granted to future tenants throughout the building could pose a security breach for these secured areas of the Judicial Center.
- Memorial Walkway/Landscape: The Memorial Walkway is located between the Judicial Center and the Manatee County Clerk's Office. The Memorial Walkway features the Citizen of the Year footprints, Distinguished Citizens plaques (including memorial plaques) and landscape. It is the proposal of the Developer/Builder to have the main entrance of the condominiums adjacent to this particular area and in consequence affecting the structural design and aesthetics of the Memorial Walkway by displacing a portion of the work. The Memorial Walkway area would have to be completely redesigned and renovated at further costs.

The Judicial Center is considered to be a local government facility and was reported under the State and Local Automated Critical Asset Management System in 2008. Our concerns are well founded on vulnerability assessments that have been conducted on a number of government structures in our County. Guidance on these security issues is derived from the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and the Florida Department of Law Enforcement. Please find attached a document titled National Infrastructure Protection Plan which can be found on the DHS website; outlining the concerns.

The Manatee County Sheriff's Office and the Manatee County Clerk of the Circuit Court do not support the proposed condominium building project at the Manatee County Judicial Center based on the reasons stated in this letter. In addition, please find the attached supplementary letter signed by Manatee County Judges in support of this document.

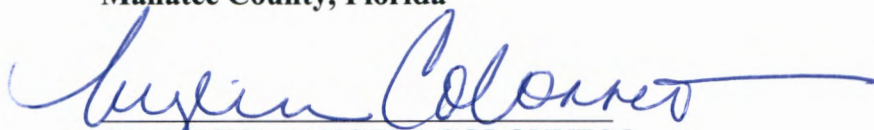
In a time where the public demands a safe environment to conduct their business related to the function of the Courts; the liability that this project exposes us all to is undeniable.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me at 941-747-3011, Extension 2222.

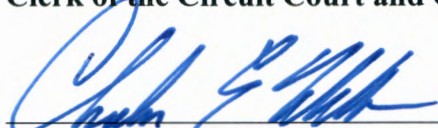
Sincerely,



W. BRAD STEUBE, Sheriff
Manatee County, Florida



ANGELINA "ANGEL" COLONNESO
Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller



CHIEF JUDGE CHARLES E. WILLIAMS
Twelfth Judicial Circuit Court, Florida

WBS/CRW/AC/CEW/tpp

cc: Colonel Charles R. Wells
Angel Colonneso, Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller
Vanessa Baugh, Commissioner Chairman
Walt Smith, Court Administration
Kim Miller, Court Administration
Joy Leggett-Murphy, Property Acquisition

Attachments



National Infrastructure Protection Plan

Government Facilities Sector

Homeland Security Presidential Directive 7 (HSPD-7) identified 17 critical infrastructure and key resources (CI/KR) sectors and designated Federal Government Sector-Specific Agencies (SSAs) for each of the sectors. Each sector is responsible for developing and submitting Sector-Specific Plans and sector-level performance feedback to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to enable national cross-sector CI/KR protection program gap assessments. SSAs are responsible for collaborating with security partners and encouraging the development of appropriate information-sharing and analysis mechanisms within the sector.

Sector Overview

U.S. citizens regularly interact with government at all levels and depend on the provision of various government services, all of which are supported by an array of facilities owned, leased, or operated by government entities. Ensuring the continuity of these functions and services through protection of their associated government assets is vital to homeland security.

The Government Facilities Sector includes a wide variety of buildings, owned or leased by Federal, State, Territorial, local, or tribal governments, located domestically and overseas. Many government facilities are open to the public for business activities, commercial transactions, or recreational activities. Others not open to the public contain highly sensitive information, materials, processes, and equipment. This includes general-use office buildings and special-use military installations, embassies, courthouses, national laboratories, and structures that may house critical equipment and systems, networks, and functions.

In addition to physical structures, the sector considers cyber elements that contribute to the protection of sector assets (e.g., access control systems and closed-circuit television systems) as well as the protection of individuals who possess tactical, operational, or strategic knowledge or perform essential functions.

Sector Partnerships

The DHS Federal Protective Service (FPS), as part of Immigration and Customs Enforcement, is the SSA for the Government Facilities Sector. Building on its traditional role as protector of facilities owned and leased by the General Services Administration, FPS coordinates efforts among government at all levels to identify, assess, and enhance the protection of government facilities determined to be nationally critical.

A Government Coordinating Council, chaired by FPS, is the primary coordination point with representatives from government entities with the responsibility for the protection of government facilities. Because of its

inherently governmental focus, security partners are limited to representatives from Federal, State, local, or tribal government entities involved in the protection of owned or leased facilities. However, FPS works in close coordination with the Commercial Facilities Sector with regard to commercially leased facilities. FPS also represents the sector on the NIPP Federal Senior Leadership Council and through similar coordinating mechanisms established by other CI/KR sectors.

CI/KR Protection Issues

The sheer size and scope of the Government Facilities Sector poses a challenge in providing for infrastructure protection efforts. The Federal Government alone manages more than 3 billion square feet of space and more than 650 million acres of land. The sector also covers the assets owned and operated by the more than 87,000 municipal governments across the Nation, as well as U.S. embassies, consulates, and military installations located all over the world.

Government facilities represent attractive and strategically important targets for both domestic and international terrorist groups, as well as criminals. These assets are often targeted because they provide unique services, often perform sensitive functions, and have significant symbolic value. Because of the high-profile nature of the sector, government facilities operate within a very dynamic risk environment requiring a variety of well-coordinated protective measures to ensure the safety and security of citizens and the continued availability of essential government functions.

In an all-hazards environment, protective measures must also consider the natural hazards that may be likely based on the geographic location of assets. Earthquakes in the Western United States, hurricanes in the South, tornadoes in the Midwest, and blizzards in the Northeast are all natural hazards that affect the risk to a government facility. Preparing for a pandemic influenza is equally important to ensure that government functions and services continue.

Priority Programs

Because of the historical attacks on the Government Facilities Sector, many infrastructure protection programs have long been in place for many security partners. In most cases, these programs are robust and address risk in the most appropriate manner to the particular asset(s) that they are designed to protect.

To build on these successes and provide for additional cooperation and commonality, the Government Facilities Sector examines assets on a functional level to identify best practices that can apply to similar assets owned or operated by Federal, State, Territorial, local, or tribal governments. This allows for more uniformity across all levels of government when planning, implementing, and executing protective programs.

The primary initiatives currently underway within the Government Facilities Sector include the following:

- Continue to broaden interaction with sector security partners to strengthen information sharing and coordination and leverage security expertise, relationships, and resources within the sector;
- Facilitate the collection and protection of accurate information on sector assets;
- Assist sector security partners in their efforts to organize and conduct infrastructure protection and continuity-of-operations planning; and
- Facilitate and conduct research and development activities that provide innovative solutions to common operational challenges and capitalize on new applications of existing technology.



For questions or more information, please contact NIPP@dhs.gov or visit www.dhs.gov/nipp. For more information on the Government Facilities Sector, please contact NIPP_GFS@dhs.gov.



November 1, 2016

The Manatee County Circuit Court and County Court Judges below support the attached letter addressed to County Administrator Hunzeker and Manatee County Commission Chairperson Vanessa Baugh and signed by Sheriff Steube, Clerk of Court Colonnese and Chief Judge Williams, which opposes Old Jail ITN 16-01 due to the safety and security concerns noted.

Sincerely,

Scott M. Brownell
Circuit Court Judge

Doug Henderson
County Court Judge

Gilbert A. Smith, Jr.
Circuit Court Judge

Hunter W. Carroll
Circuit Court Judge

Susan B. Maulucci
Circuit Court Judge

Charles P. Sniffen
County Court Judge

Janette Dunnigan
Circuit Court Judge

Diana L. Moreland
Circuit Court Judge

Deno G. Economou
Circuit Court Judge

Robert A. Farrance
County Court Judge

Mark D. Singer
County Court Judge