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SunSentinel

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

March 24, 1998

Re jail privatization: "Rent a copy" jailers are not a good idea. Condos, stores and other private business protection is where they excel and are needed. The Broward County Crime Commission has followed for several years the discourse on privatization of parts of Broward's correction system. It is our conclusion that only a professional carer law enforcement agency can administer the operation of a prison in an efficient manner so as to assure the safety of the public as well as that of the corrections staff and prisoners. This can only occur when the system is free of profit-driven constraints.

Quality career corrections personnel depend on benefits of pensions, promotion, training, etc. all of which are kept to a minimum in the private security field. The Wackenhut proposal depends on these minimums to assure and maintain a profit structure.

We would urge the Sun-Sentinel to interview some of the present corrections officers in the Broward County jail system and find out from them what it takes to be a jailer in this day of civil rights and "drug crazies." We think you will find that the tried and true professionalism of Broward Sheriff's Office corrections officers is the only answer in administering our jails and its inmate population.

Let's not water down our law enforcement system because of dubious saving of a few dollars.

FRANK R. PINTER, Chairman

Broward County Crime Commission

Hollywood