



Michigan
Office of the Auditor General
REPORT SUMMARY

Performance Audit

Report Number:
47-591-04

Accuracy of Prisoner Release Dates

*Department of Corrections and
Department of Information Technology*

Released:
October 2005

The Department of Corrections (DOC) had approximately 50,900 prisoners housed in prisons and camps as of December 2004. A prisoner's release date is based upon the committed offense, date of offense, and laws enacted at the time of the offense. DOC enters prisoner and sentencing information into the Offender Management Network Information System (OMNI). The sentencing information is transferred electronically to the Corrections Management Information System (CMIS). CMIS performs the computation of the prisoner release date.

Audit Objective:

To assess the effectiveness of DOC's efforts to ensure the accuracy of prisoner release dates.

Audit Conclusion:

DOC was moderately effective in its efforts to ensure the accuracy of prisoner release dates.

Material Condition:

DOC did not ensure that CMIS was programmed to correctly and completely compute prisoner release dates for all types of sentences. As a result, CMIS inaccurately computed some prisoner release dates resulting in the early release of these prisoners. (Finding 1)

Reportable Conditions:

DOC did not ensure that CMIS had sufficient data edits. Inaccurate data in CMIS could adversely affect prisoner release dates and Parole Board decisions. (Finding 2)

DOC did not always accurately input release date adjustments into CMIS and did not verify the completeness and accuracy of sentencing information received from the courts and make necessary corrections as approved by the courts. Consequently, CMIS contained inaccurate and incomplete information, which could result in DOC releasing prisoners before or after the correct release date. (Finding 3)

DOC did not develop complete CMIS audit trails of data used in the recomputations of prisoner release dates and the individual responsible for each recomputation. Without a complete audit trail, DOC cannot identify what information was added or changed and cannot identify who made changes to release dates. (Finding 4)

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Audit Objective:

To assess the effectiveness of CMIS and OMNI access controls in preventing inappropriate access to information affecting release dates.

Audit Conclusion:

CMIS and OMNI access controls were not effective in preventing inappropriate access to information affecting release dates.

Material Condition:

DOC had not established a comprehensive information systems security program and complete access controls over CMIS and OMNI. As a result, DOC cannot ensure the security of CMIS and OMNI data, including confidential personal prisoner and employee data. (Finding 5)

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Agency Response:

Our audit report contains 5 findings and 5 corresponding recommendations. DOC's preliminary response indicated that it agrees with all 5 of the recommendations.

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A copy of the full report can be obtained by calling 517.334.8050 or by visiting our Web site at: <http://audgen.michigan.gov>



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