



February 23, 2022

Senate Judiciary and Public Safety Finance and Policy Committee

Senator Warren Limmer, Chair
3221 Minnesota Senate Bldg.
St. Paul, MN 55155

Senator Ron Latz, DFL Lead
2215 Minnesota Senate Bldg.
St. Paul, MN 55155

House Public Safety and Criminal Justice Reform Finance and Policy Division Committee

Representative Carlos Mariani, Chair
479 State Office Building
St. Paul, MN 55155

Representative, Brian Johnson, Republican Lead
243 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
St Paul, MN 55155

Subject: *UPDATED* 2021 Annual Report on Pregnant Female Restraint Reporting as Required by Minnesota Statutes, Section 241.88, Subdivision 3

Dear Legislators:

Minnesota Statutes, section 241.88, subdivision 3, requires that by February 15 of each year the Department of Corrections (DOC) must submit a report to the legislature on the use of restraints by state and local correctional facilities on women who are pregnant, in labor, or who have given birth in the preceding three days. The use of handcuffs on the front of the body of a pregnant woman is not considered a reportable use of restraints.

This updated letter and attached spreadsheet reflect information received by the DOC after the February 15 deadline. In 2021, there were four reportable uses of restraints in local correctional facilities. The spreadsheet includes information on when the restraints occurred and why, including a revision to the Ramsey County data.

In 2021, there were zero reportable uses of restraints in state correctional facilities.

If you have questions about this report, please contact Emily Lefholz, Legislative Director, Government and External Relations Unit, at 651-341-2385. The total cost of salaries, printing, and supplies incurred in the development and preparation of this report was approximately \$64.00 (reported as required by Minn. Stat. §3.197).

Sincerely,

Paul Schnell
Commissioner

Cc: Emily Lefholz, Legislative Director