



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES
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Nebraska Welcomes Costa Rican Corrections Officials

In March 2011, Nebraska Department of Correctional Services (NDCS) entered into a memorandum of understanding with the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL) for the purpose of exchanging best practices on prisons and corrections management and systems with key foreign officials selected by INL corrections programs. The purpose of these activities is to enhance the capacity of foreign governments relative to international criminal activities and incarceration.

Nebraska will host corrections professionals from various countries through this agreement. NDCS Director Robert P. Houston said, "This is an excellent opportunity for the NDCS to share its nationally accredited facilities and programs for the purpose of influencing ascending levels of correctional professionalism."

A delegation of corrections professionals from Costa Rica arrived in Nebraska on Monday, May 16. The group will tour four (4) of Nebraska's ten (10) correctional facilities during their week-long stay and receive briefings regarding the NDCS' central administration and industries.

A close-out session will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 26, 2011, to review the weeks' activities and to identify any follow-up activities. Media who would like to attend may contact Dawn-Renee Smith at dawnrenee.smith@nebraska.gov.

**For more information regarding the INL corrections programs, contact:
Susan Pittman, Senior Press Advisor, Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement
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