



News Release

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Commissioners Convene Jail Summit on April 30

FAYETTEVILLE – The Cumberland County Board of Commissioners is convening a summit on Friday, April 30 to look at issues affecting the county’s detention center. The meeting is scheduled from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in Conference Room D at the Department of Social Services.

“In an effort to resolve overcrowding issues regarding jail inmates in Cumberland County, we are scheduling this summit to bring interested parties together for a meaningful conversation on this subject,” said Chairman Billy R. King.

The list of speakers includes District Attorney Ed Grannis; Chief District Court Judge Beth Keever; and Joel Rosch, an expert in North Carolina criminal justice issues and a senior research scientist at Duke University’s Center for Child and Family Policy.

The commissioners have invited representatives from the court system; the legal community; the Cumberland County Sheriff’s Office; police chiefs from Fayetteville, Hope Mills, Spring Lake and Stedman; and commissioners from Hoke, Sampson, Bladen, Robeson, Scotland and Harnett counties. They have also invited Alvin Keller, Secretary for the N.C. Department of Correction.

During the morning-long summit, King said the commissioners want to discuss the following questions:

- What causes the log jam we see in our criminal justice system?
- What are the essential steps in bringing an inmate to trial?
- Are we fully utilizing alternative options to incarceration?
- What is the future of the jail population here in Cumberland County and across the state?
- Can commissioners build enough jail beds fast enough to meet the growing demand?
- Jail construction contract – private vs. public?

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