

From: [Kierstin Huelsemann](#)
To: [Krohn, Margaret](#)
Subject: OPPOSE Item D-10 on tonight's (10/25/12) P&F agenda
Date: Monday, October 25, 2021 8:17:20 AM

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Stop the Exploitation of people Incarcerated in Dane County! OPPOSE 2021 RES-202

People in jail are there disproportionately because they can't afford their cash bail. The County plans to continue to nickel and dime incarcerated people for "services," including basic care (as ought to be covered by Medicare and Medicaid) and the right to contact one's legal representation. They are charging for mere access to health and justice, which ought to be provided and protected by law.

This contract lists classifications of the items "residents" have to pay for during their time in jail. . These are not merely "treat" items like soda or candy, but everyday necessities. They are items like stamps, letter writing materials, toiletries, sanitary products, medicine, funds for laundry and dietary goods (including purchases for people with dietary restrictions). All are charged at monopolized costs because "residents" are not allowed to access them elsewhere. Because the sheriff's office stipulates they cannot be mailed in.

The money made off of "residents" of the jail while they are incarcerated is ripping them off while they are at their most vulnerable. A few examples:

contact lens solution \$10.08

Ibuprofen \$.31 for two pills

tampons \$3.53

And all three pages of small print items.

According to this contract People in the Dane County jail, many of whom have yet to be even charged of or seen before a court for a crime, also must pay:

\$3.25 for Cash Deposits made to their account;

\$3.25 or 10%, whichever is greater for Credit/Debit Card Deposits,

and \$2.50 a week on their balance.

All of this financial burden ends up falling to families while a loved one sits in a cage.

The exploitation of our incarcerated neighbors is NOT acceptable. You, as Supervisors representing the people of Dane Co. in these decisions (especially those with this effects) need to do better. We need to divest from incarcerating people, which puts money in the pockets of companies like Elior Inc. (doing business as Summit Food Service, LLC). Our County cannot afford to foot this bill: \$ 290,261.52 year 1; \$ 298,969.37 year 2; \$307,938.45 year 3; \$ 317,176.60 year 4; \$326,691.90 year 5 simply for "providing services" in the jail.

Again, you all need to do better! Basic access to medical needs and legal representation should not be cost prohibitive!

Sincerely,

Kierstin Huelsemann
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