JUNE 12, 2012

DIRECTOR'S
NEWS UPDATE

PROTECTING THE PUBLIC PROTECTING THE EMPLOYEES PROTECTING THE OFFE PROTECTING THE EMPLOYEES PRO

CHANGES AT OKLAHOMA STATE PENITENTIARY

Many of you may be aware that included in the Department of Corrections' Fiscal Year 2013 appropriations and described in Senate Bill 1988 are $2.9 million for security enhancements, population reduction and renovations at the Oklahoma State Penitentiary (OSP). So, what does this mean?

For several years, the department has sought funding to close "F" cell house and to pursue security upgrades due to employee safety issues, staffing issues and an aging infrastructure. The funding associated with Senate Bill 1988 enables the department to make necessary changes to OSP that will enhance our mission with major emphasis on employee safety. There will be other offender population reductions in addition to "F" cell house as we pursue the safest, most efficient and effective maximum security facility reconfiguration within our available resources. It is important that you know that no employees will lose their employment as a result of these changes at OSP. Updates will be forthcoming as plans are finalized.