

STATE OF INDIANA Department of Correction Indiana Government Center—South 302 W. Washington Street • Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-2738 Phone: (317) 232-5711 • Fax: (317) 232-6798 • Website: www.in.gov/idoc/

Robert E. Carter Jr. Commissioner

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE February 21, 2017

Eric J. Holcomb

Governor

Indiana Department of Correction Commissioner Robert Carter Announces Medical Care Contract Wexford of Indiana LLC will provide healthcare services to state's approximately 25,000 incarcerated offenders

INDIANAPOLIS – Indiana Department of Correction Commissioner (IDOC) Robert Carter today announced a new medical care contract has been awarded by the Indiana Department of Administration to Wexford of Indiana LLC. The Indianapolis-based firm will provide complete medical services for incarcerated offenders at Indiana's 19 adult and four juvenile correctional facilities.

Using experience developed over 23 years, Wexford has provided comprehensive medical services to over 97,000 offenders in 120 institutions across the country. The new contract is worth \$309,063,366 over three years and requires emphasis on both drug addiction treatment and mental health services for incarcerated individuals.

"This partnership represents a significant realignment in our approach to delivering comprehensive medical care to Indiana's incarcerated population, said IDOC Commissioner Robert Carter. "Wexford will focus on attacking the drug epidemic through facility-based treatment for incarcerated individuals to assist with successful reentry into society and Indiana's workforce."

Approximately 80 percent of the IDOC's prison population acknowledges substance abuse has been or continues to be an issue for them, according to IDOC officials. Nearly 18,000 offenders are released annually into Indiana's communities and labor force.

Additionally, the IDOC is conducting a nationwide search for a new Chief Medical Officer (CMO) to complement the medical services contract. The CMO will spearhead the IDOC's intensified efforts to attack the drug epidemic in its facilities. In this role, the IDOC anticipates the CMO will implement a plan for medication-assisted addiction treatment and build an integrated care model for addiction recovery, mental health and medical services.

###

Media Contact: Indiana Department of Correction Doug Garrison 302 W. Washington St. Room E-334 Indianapolis, In 46204-2738 <u>dsgarrison@idoc.in.gov</u> Office 317-232-5780

Indiana Department of Administration Benjamin Kenney 302 W. Washington St. Room E-334 Indianapolis, In 46204-2738 <u>BeKenney@idoa.in.gov</u> Office 317-234-9664