



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
WHITTLESEY ROAD
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CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor

KIM GUADAGNO
Lt. Governor

GARY M. LANIGAN
Commissioner

May 8, 2013

David J. Rosen
Legislative Budget and Finance Officer
Office of Legislative Services
State House Annex, P.O. Box 068
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0068

Dear Mr. Rosen,

Please find the Department of Corrections response to the additional question raised by Senator Greenstein of the Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee.

Senator Greenstein:

- 1. Please provide the committee with the number of inmates who have escaped during the past three years from halfway house placements. How many of these escapees committed additional crimes while loose?**

Response: An inmate in a Halfway House program is designated as a walk-away if they leave the program without proper authorization or if they fail to report to, or return from, a specific community appointment (including their approved worksite). The chart below details the number of inmates who have walked away (“escaped”) during the past three fiscal years as well as the number, year-to-date, for FY2013:

	Halfway House Total Walkaways
FY 2010	266
FY 2011	295
FY 2012	260
YTD FY 2013	166

When an inmate walks away from a Residential Community Release Program, he or she is immediately entered in NCIC (National Crime Information Center) in order to insure appropriate notification of all law enforcement personnel. As soon as this notification is made, the

Department of Corrections Special Investigations Division initiates an investigation, in conjunction with other law enforcement authorities for the purpose of apprehending the subject as quickly as possible.

It is difficult to provide a definite answer as to how many of the above referenced inmates have committed additional crimes while at large. Data is not readily available since full adjudication is often a lengthy process and multiple charges are usually filed for a single offense in addition to the escape/walk-away.

2. Please provide the committee with the number of inmates who have escaped from DOC facilities during the past three years. How many of these escapees committed additional crimes while loose?

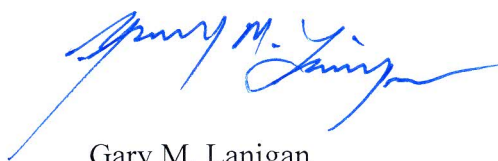
Response: The chart below details the number of inmate who have escaped from DOC Secure Facilities during the past three years as well as the number, year-to-date, for FY 2013:

	DOC Facility Escapes
FY 2010	0
FY 2011	2
FY 2012	4
YTD FY 2013	1

It is difficult to provide a definite answer as to how many of the above referenced inmates have committed additional crimes while at large. Data is not readily available since full adjudication is often a lengthy process and multiple charges are usually filed for a single offense in addition to the escape.

Should you have need for additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at your convenience.

Sincerely,



Gary M. Lanigan
Commissioner

GL/PL:am

- C: Judi Lang, Chief of Staff
- Carmella M. Elmer, Assistant Commissioner
- Beth Schermerhorn, Director of Budget