

From: Wall, Edward F - DOC
Sent: Monday, January 28, 2013 8:32 AM
Subject: No Privatization
Good Morning,

It's come to our attention in Madison someone has started some rumors that the DOC is looking (or making plans) to privatize our institutions and is building a new prison. I just wanted to take a moment and say again, we are not going to be privatizing corrections in Wisconsin. Period. Aside from the fact that neither the Governor nor I have any interest in privatization, there is a legal decision that prohibits that from happening. There is no statutory authority for anyone to do state corrections in Wisconsin except the DOC, and the legislature isn't going to change that.

Some of the rumors have said that Corrections Corporation of America (CCA) has offices in Madison and is working behind the scenes to privatize. Simply Google them and see if you find a Madison (or Wisconsin) office. There isn't one. If you want to know if we're in negotiations with them, just ask me. We're not and won't be. People will make up false facts to try and lend credence to rumors.

So, just to be clear, we will not be privatizing corrections or building a new prison, and people who are involved in spreading that rumor should stop immediately. Fair warning to those involved in spreading false or malicious information about our department, it is a work rule violation, and it will be strictly enforced. You leave us no other choice when the false information causes panic and degrades morale like these things do.

Please remember, hitting the "BCC" button on your emails isn't invisible to Central Office. Whenever you send me or others a message (or forward messages) and BCC people, we see the list of people you have copied. If you send it from a private computer to a state account, or someone you sent it to forwards it, we see that also. As soon as you hit "Send" on an email, it's in our system forever, regardless of deleting it on your computer. Improper use of email causes problems and has cost people their jobs. Please don't be one of them. If you wouldn't want your note on the front page of the newspaper or in an employment hearing, then think twice about sending it because that's where it may end up.

My friends, we have enough issues to focus on in our department. Baseless rumors only make it more difficult and hurts morale. Please don't play into the hands of people who have their own agenda and see a benefit in trying to scare people. Privatization of our institutions isn't going to happen. Let's spend our energy on building a better department and not on trying to tear it apart with nonsense. Thanks.

Ed
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