

THE REAL COSTS OF SB 9

1. Case Preparation and Attorney Representation

A.

Appointed counsel for each of the defendants at approximately \$ 100 per hour. A single petition and hearing will take approximately 150 hours to prepare and argue.

\$ 15,000.00

Investigators to prepare case. Approximately 50 hours to interview percipient witnesses, prison staff, prison counselors. Court appointed rate approx. \$ 60/hr.

\$ 3,000.00

B.

Prosecution preparation costs - Same as above \$ 18,000.00

Total Attorney / Investigator Costs

\$ 36,000.00

2. Appointment of psychiatrists/neuropsychologists and other mental health professionals by defense and prosecution.

Cost to prepare and testify \$ 15,000 each side.

\$ 30,000.00

3. Transport to and from Prison

Estimated **\$ 1,000.00** (or more)

4. Court time (3 day hearing)

Estimated **\$ 15,000.00**

5. Appeal

Whichever side loses will appeal.

Cost of appellate attorneys approximately \$ 15,000 each side.

Appellate court time including staff, preparation, three judge panel, opinion. \$ 15,000

\$ 45,000.00

Total Costs **\$ 127,000** per petition. With three petitions the cost will be **\$ 381,000**.

COSTS UPON RELEASE

Parole Supervision **\$ 20,000 per year.**

New Crime Victims It is undisputed that more than 50% of the people released on parole reoffend.

SAVINGS

\$ 15-20,000 per year

There are fixed costs that don't change regardless of whether we do or do not release 100 or 1000 prisoners.

Building maintenance, heating, cooling, e.g. all the fixed costs. The actual cost of adding prisoners in the relatively small numbers we are dealing with are probably 10-20% of the numbers they use.

Any claim of a per capita savings based upon the total number of prisoners divided by the total cost of the penal system is a deliberately false statistic.

The real cost of adding or subtracting the few hundred people involved is probably about \$ 15-20,000 per year.

This is offset by the costs of parole supervision.

OTHER COSTS

Most of the released individuals lack meaningful job skills. They will live off family earnings and/or welfare or other forms of public assistance. This public draw will reduce any savings from their release.

The cost for police services, victim's loss of income, insurance costs and other costs when some reoffend will far outweigh any so-called savings.

CONCLUSION

The cost per individual simply for the court process is \$ 127,000 to \$ 381,000 per person.

The costs saved upon release are OUTWEIGHED by the supervision costs and the costs of public services which will be provided to the majority of these inmates. Any long term savings will be far outweighed by the costs of recidivism.