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Wise County Sheriff's Department

Sheriff Phil Ryan

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To: Whom it may concern

Jeff Heffelfinger and the staff of Southwest Architects along with other jail specialists have spent countless hours developing a plan for expansion for the Wise County Jail. These individuals have developed a long-range plan that utilizes the existing property on which the current facility stands. This design includes a complete law enforcement complex that will carry out the county's needs through the next several years. Numerous options were explored before reaching a plan that would enable us to utilize our current county facility. Our jail will expand from 120 beds to 336 beds, with the option of adding an additional 96 beds when growth demands it.

Mr. Heffelfinger has gone to great lengths to include all Wise County officials, members of the Texas Commission on Jail Standards, City of Decatur Officials, utility representatives, and any other individuals who may have knowledge in this area of construction at every stage of the design planning. Our jail staff has been very pleased with the timely and professional manner in which Jeff and his staff conduct their business.

If you have any questions, or require additional information I may be contacted at the number listed above.

Kenneth E. Steel
Jail Administrator, WCSO

Doug Whitehead
Chief Deputy, WCSO

Cc: file

Crime Does Not Have To Be A Fact Of Life