



Sheriff Clovis Watson, Jr.

Post Office Box 5489 • Gainesville, FL 32627

November 7, 2022

Chair Marihelen Wheeler  
Alachua County Board of County Commissioners  
12 Southeast 1<sup>st</sup> Street  
Gainesville, FL 32602

Dear Chair Wheeler:


Our Interlocal Agreement with the County for the operation of the Jail requires us to meet certain obligations. Some of these obligations are contractual in nature and include services such as but not necessarily limited to inmate medical care, food, other forms of subsistence, and the personnel that report to duty stations on a daily basis.

Contained within that Agreement is one passage of many that states the Sheriff has total responsibility for the care, custody, and control of inmates detained at the Jail. During the last year, it has become more challenging to manage inmate services when some providers at the Jail are governed by contracts with the County which are then imposed upon us. A primary example may be found with telephone services. Therefore, we are requesting that the contract for telephone services be placed under the auspices of the Sheriff.

Further, on occasion, we have been asked to explain and justify the various inmate fees that have been mandated for collection, when the reality is that the fees themselves were enacted and adopted by the County, not the Sheriff. All of these revenues are then remitted to the County.

This has become an untenable position. A distraction. One which detracts from our mission to meet obligations and responsibilities, to not only inmates, but all the personnel that admirably serve this facility.

Sincerely,



Clovis Watson, Jr.  
Sheriff

(352) 367-4000