



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Health and Human Services
Department of Mental Health
25 Staniford Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02114-2575

CHARLES D. BAKER
Governor

KARYN E. POLITO
Lieutenant Governor

MARYLOU SUDDERS
Secretary

JOAN MIKULA
Commissioner

(617) 626-8000
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February 14, 2019

Michael Hurley, Senate Clerk
Office of the Clerk of the Senate
State House, Room 335
Boston, Massachusetts 02133

Dear Mr. Clerk:

In response to Chapter 47 of the Acts of 2017, in Section 57, amended General Laws Chapter 123 Section 35 the Commissioner of Mental Health is required to report annually whether a facility other than the Massachusetts Correctional Institution at Bridgewater, Massachusetts Alcohol and Substance Abuse Center (MASAC) is being used for the treatment of males committed to MASAC under Section 35, and the number of persons so committed to such a facility in the previous year.

Although the Department of Mental Health does not maintain this information, I have inquired of the Department of Correction, and have received the following information:

- For calendar year 2018, the Department of Correction reports that 1,812 men were admitted to MASAC at Plymouth. Of this number, 1,729 men were admitted under "straight" Section 35 orders and 83 were under both Section 35 and bail orders in connection with criminal matters.
- In July of 2018, the Hampden County House of Correction opened a Section 35 unit. From July 1, 2018 through December, 2018, the Department of Correction reports that 267 men were admitted to the Hampden County House of Correction unit. Of this number, 244 men were admitted under "straight" Section 35 orders and 23 were under both Section 35 and bail orders in connection with criminal matters.

Please do not hesitate to contact the Department of Correction if you need additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joan Mikula".

Joan Mikula
Commissioner

cc: Carol A. Mici, Commissioner, Department of Correction