



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Executive Office of Health and Human Services

Department of Mental Health

25 Staniford Street

Boston, Massachusetts 02114-2575

MAURA T. HEALEY
Governor

KIMBERLEY DRISCOLL
Lieutenant Governor

MARY A. BECKMAN
Acting Secretary

BROOKE DOYLE
Commissioner

(617) 626-8000
www.mass.gov/dmh

February 8, 2023

Steven T. James, Clerk
Clerk of the House of Representatives
State House, Room 142
Boston, MA 02133

Dear Mr. Clerk:

Chapter 47 of the Acts of 2017, in Section 57, amended M.G.L. ch.123 §35 to require the Commissioner of Mental Health to report annually whether a facility other than the Massachusetts Correctional Institution at Bridgewater is being used for treatment of males committed to Massachusetts Alcohol and Substance Abuse Center (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 received the following information from the Department of Correction (DOC):

For calendar year 2022, the DOC reports that 682 men were admitted to MASAC at Plymouth. Of this number, 587 men were admitted under "straight" Section 35 orders and 115 were under both Section 35 and bail orders in connection with criminal matters. Further for calendar year 2022, the DOC reports that 605 men were admitted to the Hampden County House of Correction unit. Of this number, 442 men were admitted under "straight" Section 35 orders and 163 were under both Section 35 and bail orders in connection with criminal matters. Please note further that, as of December 12, 2022, the Memorandum of Understanding between DOC and Hampden County regarding Stonybrook has been terminated, as Stonybrook's substance use disorder treatment program was approved by DPH pursuant to 103 CMR 164 on November 11, 2022. That being said, the 2022 numbers above include the entire month of December 2022.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you need additional information.

Sincerely,

Brooke Doyle, M.Ed., LMHC
Commissioner

Cc: Carol A. Mici, Commissioner, Department of Corrections