

## Appropriations Request

Rep. Ed Redd

### Forensic Competency Restoration Unit

#### TALKING POINTS

February 8, 2016

- The forensic population is growing at a steady rate nationally
- Utah's forensic population is consistent with the national trends (500% growth since 1985)
- Utah has a 100-bed facility that treated 190 individuals in FY2015
- The demand to provide competency restoration treatment exceeds the State Hospital's capacity to provide these services
- FY2015 - Courts ordered 999 evaluations for 382 individuals
- FY2015 – 125 were referred to DHS with forensic commitment
- FY2016 – Already 100 referrals to date
- Utah State Hospital staff presented in 2015 to the Subcommittee of the challenges
- Funding was approved in FY2015 to provide "Outreach Services" to individuals committed to DHS who are in Jail
- Outreach program has been successful at referring 30 individuals back to court without needing to be hospitalized at USH
- Outreach alone is not solving the problem quickly enough and the number of individuals referred for treatment and waiting admission continues to increase
- Multiple states including Utah have been or are being sued for not providing this service in a reasonable time frame, e.g., Washington, Oregon, Texas
- Colorado and California have had significant success providing 'Jail Based' Restoration
- Individuals needing less intensive services are screened and placed in these Jail Based programs
- Colorado recently opened a second jail based program due to the success of their first program
- Jail based programming is more cost effective for individuals who are identified appropriate for this level of service