



FLORIDA
DEPARTMENT of
CORRECTIONS

Governor
JEB BUSH

Secretary
James V. Crosby, Jr.

An Equal Opportunity Employer

2601 Blair Stone Road • Tallahassee, FL 32399-2500

<http://www.dc.state.fl.us>

November 17, 2003

The Honorable Gwen Margolis
The Florida Senate
404 South Monroe Street, Room 213 SOB
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100

Dear Senator Margolis:

Secretary Crosby received your letter dated November 4, 2003 regarding kosher meals for inmates who are Jewish and asked me to respond. First, let me thank you for your interest in corrections issues and the consumption of kosher meals for Jewish inmates.

As you are aware, the Settlement Agreement between Allen J. Cotton and the Florida Department of Corrections deals solely with Inmate Cotton. That being noted, the Department has been working with Rabbi Menachem Katz on this issue to help to guide us in this matter. Currently, the Department's policy towards this issue will be as follows: any inmate who is Jewish and requests kosher meals will receive the meals after verification that the inmate is following the guidelines set out by the Kashrut laws.

Secretary Crosby and the Department of Corrections look forward to working with you on this important issue. Should you require anything else, please feel free to contact us at your convenience.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Roxanne M. Siko".

Roxanne M. Siko, Director
Legislative Affairs

Cc: Secretary James V. Crosby, Jr.
Mr. George Denman, Deputy Secretary
Mike Hanna, Chief of Staff
Alex Taylor, Chaplaincy Services Administrator
Lou Vargas, General Counsel