



# FRANKLIN COUNTY

## BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

STEPHEN BAUMAN  
DISTRICT 1

ROCKY MULLEN  
DISTRICT 2

CLINT DIDIER  
DISTRICT 3

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**County Administrator Brian Dansel**

Dear Chief Harmon,

The Franklin County Board of Commissioners acknowledges receipt of your recent request to hire four (4) new positions within the Franklin County Jail. We have carefully reviewed your justification for these roles and understand the significant responsibilities and challenges your department manages daily.

As you know, Franklin County is currently operating under a county-wide hiring freeze. This measure was implemented due to significant and unanticipated shortfalls in sales tax revenue, which continue to place considerable strain on the county's budget. The Board remains committed to fiscal prudence during this challenging period.

However, after thorough deliberation and careful consideration of the critical public safety needs and the specific circumstances outlined in your request, the Board has decided to grant a special exception to the current hiring freeze and approve the hiring of these four (4) positions for the Franklin County Jail.

This exception is being made due to the paramount importance of maintaining adequate staffing levels at the correctional facility to ensure the safety and security of both staff and inmates, and to meet state-mandated operational requirements. The current staffing shortages, as detailed in your proposal, present an unacceptable risk to the secure and orderly operation of the jail, which could have severe consequences for public safety in Franklin County. We recognize that these positions are essential to mitigate these risks and uphold our duty to the community.

Please understand that this approval is an exception based on the compelling and urgent public safety needs demonstrated for these specific roles and does not signify a broader lifting of the county-wide hiring freeze. We continue to urge all department heads to exercise extreme caution with any further expenditures.

We trust that you will proceed with the hiring process diligently and select candidates who will bring significant value and dedication to their roles within the Franklin County Jail. We appreciate your department's ongoing efforts to serve and protect our community effectively, especially during these fiscally constrained times.

Thank you for your understanding, your continued leadership, and your department's unwavering commitment.

Sincerely,

The Franklin County Board of Commissioners

Handwritten signature of Clint Didier in blue ink.

Clint Didier, Chair

Handwritten signature of Rocky Mullen in blue ink.

Rocky Mullen, Pro-Tem

Handwritten signature of Stephen Bauman in blue ink.

Stephen Bauman, Member