

RESOLUTION NO. 2008-36

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LIVINGSTON
SUPPORTING REQUEST FOR POLICY CHANGES BY THE UNITED STATES
BUREAU OF PRISONS TO PROVIDE SAFER WORKING CONDITIONS
TO CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS**

WHEREAS, the recent murder of Correctional Officer Jose Rivera while working at the United States Penitentiary – Atwater (USP – Atwater) has raised serious concerns about the working conditions and policies at the USP – Atwater; and

WHEREAS, the Correctional Officers working at USP – Atwater are seeking and do deserve support for a safer working environment; and

WHEREAS, local communities surrounding USP – Atwater deserve a reasonable level of protection from inmates confined in USP – Atwater; and

WHEREAS, the working conditions identified by the USP – Atwater Correctional Officers would require the Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP) to change their current policies to better protect Correctional Officers and the local community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Livingston as follows:

Section 1. That the Federal BOP should immediately implement policy changes to better protect Correctional Officers working in United States Penitentiaries and surrounding local communities.

Section 2. That serious and immediate consideration should be given to the issuance of up to date, properly fitted and certified stab resistant vests, as well as other non-lethal equipment, including, but not limited to, such items as tear gas (OC) Asp, baton, or Tasers.

Section 3. That Maximum Security Housing Units at USP – Atwater should be staffed with a minimum of two (2) Correctional Officers in each housing unit (2 in “A” side and 2 in “B” side) at all times.

Section 4. That the lockdown currently in place at USP – Atwater should remain in effect until appropriate policy changes identified above are implemented and should not be ended until all staff with direct inmate contact inside USP – Atwater are, at an absolute minimum, provided with properly fitted stab resistant vests and at least one non-lethal piece of protective equipment.


Section 5. The USP – Atwater and BOP immediately consider implementing a form of location incentive in order to achieve and maintain acceptable staffing levels and reduce overtime costs.

Section 6. That USP – Atwater and BOP should acknowledge that USP – Atwater does, in fact, contain a maximum security level facility and Administration should be more forthcoming with the surrounding communities and the media regarding security issues and criminal acts within the facility.

Section 7. That information regarding the implementation of above noted changes should be given by USP – Atwater or BOP to the City of Livingston City Council in a timely manner, or that body may reconsider the issues and formally request appropriate Federal legislative action be taken.

Passed and adopted this 15th day of July, 2008, by the following vote:

AYES: Mayor Samra and Council Members Espinoza, Ingram, Soria and Vierra
NOES: None
ABSENT: None



Mayor of the City of Livingston

ATTEST:

I, hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was regularly introduced, passed and adopted at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Livingston this 15th day of July, 2008.



Deputy City Clerk of the City of Livingston