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Kane County Government Center

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KANE LEADERS DEDICATE JUSTICE CENTER & SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Under-budget projects return \$2 million to County

GENEVA – Kane County leaders opened the doors Friday to a new Adult Justice Center & Sheriff's Office that will relieve jail overcrowding and result in a local criminal justice system that is safer, more efficient and cost-effective than at any time in the county's history.

Completed on-time and under-budget, the Adult Justice Center & Sheriff's Office is located next to the County Courthouse, creating a central criminal justice campus and eliminating the daily transport of inmates across the county for Court appearances. The new complex also puts all Sheriff's Office operations in a single location, improving efficiency and saving taxpayer dollars.

"Through bringing together the Sheriff's Office, Jail and Courts, we were able to not only address the immediate challenge of jail overcrowding, but also position the county to meet its criminal justice needs for years to come," said Karen McConnaughay, County Board Chairman. "And taxpayers will want to know that the projects came in under budget. In fact, more than \$2 million will be returned to the County – that does not happen with many government projects."

The existing Kane County Jail was built in 1975 to house 102 prisoners, though it regularly holds more than 500 inmates. The 30-year-old structure also suffered from outdated security equipment and was in need of regular utility and infrastructure repairs. Just as important, the facility was designed for a different time and did not provide the necessary safety for staff and inmates.

The new 640-bed Adult Justice Center can be expanded to 768 positions and will save Kane County dollars currently spent to house inmates elsewhere. The Justice Center also is at the forefront of technology, and is designed to allow Corrections Officers to interact with and monitor prisoners at all times – delivering a new level of safety for staff, inmates and the community

Both the Justice Center and Sheriff's Office will be open for public tours from Noon-6 p.m. on Saturday, August 2, and again from 6 to 8:30 p.m. on Tuesday, August 5 as part of the Sheriff's Office National Night Out activities.

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