

My name is Marsha Briley. I am a former employee of DPSCS and advocate working with the Maryland Alliance for Justice Reform. I was a state employee that held several positions in state government to include leadership with oversight of staff, contracts, MOUS, programs and policy development and implementation. I am in support of independent oversight of DPSCS because of the unscrupulous practices for which I have personally witnessed. I have been subjected to retaliation for being ethical and transparent in the performance of my duties. There were organizations billing for services that were not performed and due to their personal relationships with executive leadership within DPSCS, thousands of dollars were paid to this particular organization. Non-compliance with the Justice Reinvestment Act as it relates to the requirement to implement evidence-based programs, creating invisible barriers to vetted organizations to provide services to the incarcerated population. The internal grievance process is tainted, fraudulent paperwork is produced, lost or disposed of to hide evidence during investigations, and personnel is threatened with termination if you do not support the leadership in the course of wrongdoing. If you go against the culture, you are targeted. It is a closed and incestuous environment. There is no trust between the line staff and executive leadership. There needs to be an avenue for staff, community based organizations, local agencies, inmates, and inmate families to report these activities without fear of retaliation to include losing their careers.

Respectfully submitted,

*Marsha A. Briley*