

Greetings. I worked for the Hennepin County Sheriff's Office from August, 1993 through mid May, 2017. My first 28 months I was a clerk. In December of 1995 I was promoted to Detention Deputy. I stayed at that position until retirement.

During my years as a Detention Deputy I had to put hands on inmates that I knew or suspected had Aids , Hepatitis, Tuberculosis or other communicable diseases. I did not experience it myself, but some of my coworkers have had inmates urine or feces thrown on them. As a Detention Deputy I had to stop inmates from fighting with each other or staff. During one of these events I received a blow to my jaw and had to have some dental work done. Years of verbally and/or physically fighting inmates takes it's toll on people. Your personality changes a bit.

As a clerk I never had these issues.

I was part of the Coordinated Pension Plan for 6 years.

When my coworkers and I were eligible to be part of the Correctional Plan we were grateful. We had to start our Correctional retirement at the date we were brought into the plan, not our date of hire. I receive two pension checks monthly. One from the Correctional Plan and one from the Coordinated Plan. The Correctional Plan did not go back to my original hire date.

The Correctional Plan did not go back and pick up the Detention Deputies that retired prior to 1999. That would not make sense.

I understand that 911 operators have more stress than the average job. I think that it will be great for them to be able to retire at 55. They should NOT be allowed to receive credit for something they never put aside for.

The County's contribution and my contribution went up when we became part of the Correctional Plan and my retirement benefits reflect that. If 911 operators are allowed the Correctional Plan payments from their date of hire the pension should have to adjust my pension to reflect the Correctional rate for my entire career. That of course will mean I have quite a bit of back pay [coming.In](#) fact, the plan should go back to anyone retired before we became part of the Correctional Plan and make them whole.

Please look at the 911 workers realistically. Yes, it is a shame they can not retire at the higher rate, but from here on out with higher contributions from the county and themselves a good pension at 55 will be available. I dont believe they should be treated better than us. If you bring them in at the higher rate you MUST go back and adjust our pension and send us the back pay that is our due.

Thank you,

Phillip D Miles

Detention Deputy Hennepin County Sheriff's Office, Retired