

**OPTION 3:
ALLOW THE LPDC COMMISSION TO OPERATE THE DETENTION
CENTER**

The Commission operated the DC for over 30 years. It should consider returning to this model is qualified and experience management individuals could be hired to operate the DC. The parish benefitted from the efforts and experience of Chuck James in managing the DC for many years. It would be imperative that if the Commission chose to operate the DC they would have to find individuals of similar background, training, and experience.

One of the reasons that the Commission began to have problems was the expansion of beds beginning in 1997. The number of beds was increased from a total of 90 to 176 which was close to doubling the number of inmates at the facility. The Commission had a very difficult time replacing qualified management to operate the DC. As the DC grew in beds so did the problems of managing a facility that was not designed to maintain almost double the amount of inmates.

In addition to losing qualified management the “overcrowding” continued to play a strong role in creating problems at the DC. For these two reasons the Commission entered into a contract with LaSalle because of their experience not only in Louisiana, but other states as well.

This option could be a viable option should the Commission decide they would like to conduct a regional and/or nationwide search for a qualified and experienced warden and assistant wardens who have a record of successfully managing detention centers, jails, etc. while not creating deficits.