



# Hidalgo County Department of Budget and Management

100 East Cano, 2nd Floor Admin. Bldg.

Edinburg, Tx 78539

Ph:(956) 292-7025 Fax:(956) 292-7034



## MEMORANDUM

**COPY**

To: Valde Guerra, Executive Officer  
From: Noe H. Cavazos, Management – DBM  
Date: October 31, 2007

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Noe H. Cavazos".

**Subj: Buildings & Grounds; Juvenile Detention Facility kitchen electrical re-wiring.**

A review has been conducted on the recommendation to Commissioners Court by Buildings & Grounds on the above referenced matter. While it is the intent of Mr. Daniel Flores, B&G Director, to prioritize cost-efficiency by utilizing in-house personnel, there remains a couple of liability issues that need to be addressed.

It was found through our inquiry that our in-house personnel are journeyman electricians and most definitely qualified to do the work. However, Buildings & Grounds does not have a Master Electrician to certify their work in case of a mishap or re-wiring error. In addition, the county must request that the Power Company shuts down the power for the whole building while conducting this work. Incidentally, whoever makes the request for the power shut-down must be a Master Electrician. Although, the power company may allow the county to proceed with journeyman licensure, an insurance liability issue still remains.

We need to be aware of the severity of the County's liability in the event that something was to go wrong. The journeyman's work not being certified by a licensed Master Electrician will cause questionable insurance issues. Considering that this is not merely a repair job but rather a reconstruction/renovation job order, it is recommended that the County contracts an electrician with the proper licensure.

Thank you for your attention on this matter. Please let me know if you have any questions in this regard.

Cc: Mr. Raul Silguero, Chief Administrator- DBM