

Testimony to

Joint Committee on State Building Construction

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June 1, 2012

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee:

Good afternoon and thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today on behalf of the Kansas Highway Patrol (KHP).

Recently, Mr. Dave Brownback, President of Citizens State Bank and Trust in Ellsworth, Kansas, has offered to donate the bank office building to the KHP. The building was constructed in 1970 and is located in downtown Ellsworth at 301 N. Douglas Avenue. Mr. Brownback has constructed a new bank facility and has plans to vacate the current bank building in June, 2012. The KHP plans to assume ownership in June, 2012.

The Citizens bank building will be a significant improvement from the current KHP location which is located in the Ellsworth County Sheriff's Office. Currently, there are (6) Troopers assigned to the Ellsworth area and share approximately 168 square feet of office space. Additionally, the current space is not adequate to store all evidence lockers or to have space to conduct interviews or accept visitors.

The Citizens bank building has approximately 607 square feet, which will accommodate all storage lockers and provide adequate storage and office space. The facility could be moved into with only minimal preparation, as all existing work stations and built-in cabinets are to remain with the building. The bank location is desirable and is within walking distance to the Ellsworth Elementary School, Sheriff's Office, Courthouse and Police Department.

A building inspection was completed by the Office of Facilities and Property Management on May 6, 2012. The property is in move-in ready condition and requires no major repairs.

In the future, if the decision is made to dispose of the bank property, Mr. Brownback has prohibited the KHP from selling the property to a competing financial institution and should the KHP vacate the property, the property must be well maintained.

Again, thank you for your time and attention. I will stand for any questions the Committee may have.