



Department of  
Rehabilitation & Correction

Mike DeWine, Governor  
Annette Chambers-Smith, Director

12/24/2019

Sheriff Fred Abdallah  
Jefferson County Justice Center  
16001 State Route 7  
Steubenville, OH 43952

RE: 2019 Annual Jail Inspection

Dear Sheriff Fred Abdallah:

In accordance with Section 5120.10 of the Ohio Revised Code and Executive Order 92-03 of the Department of Rehabilitation and Correction, the Jefferson County Justice Center, a full service jail, was inspected on 12/04/2019. The inspection was restricted to assessing compliance with a group of standards, selected from the Standards for Jails in Ohio promulgated by the Department of Rehabilitation and Correction. The group of standards being inspected focused on Reception & Release, Classification, Security, Housing, Sanitation and Environmental Conditions, Communication, Visitation, Medical and Mental Health Services, Food Service, Recreation and Programming, Inmate Discipline, Administrative Segregation, Grievance, Staffing, and Staff Training. The inspection consisted of this Inspector receiving and/or reviewing requested documentation and/or materials, touring selected areas of the jail, and having discussions with various jail staff.

The total actual general housing capacity for the Jefferson County Justice Center is 120. On the date of the jail inspection, there were 131 inmates incarcerated in the Jefferson County Justice Center. The Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction recommended housing capacity for the jail is 120, which is based upon total available living space and other requirements. Officials should maintain prisoner counts within the Department's recommended capacity figure.

The Jefferson County Justice Center (Full Service Jail) is in compliance with 108 standards, 50 "Essential", and 58 "Important".

5120:1-8-01 (A)(1); -01 (A)(3); -01 (A)(4); -01 (A)(7); -01 (A)(9); -01 (A)(12); -02 (B)(1); -02 (B)(2); -02 (B)(4); -02 (D); -03 (A)(1); -03 (A)(3); -03 (A)(4); -03 (A)(5); -03 (A)(6); -03 (A)(7); -03 (B)(2); -03 (B)(4); -03 (B)(5); -03 (B)(6); -03 (B)(7); -03 (B)(8); -03 (B)(10)(a); -03 (B)(10)(b); -03 (B)(10)(c); -03 (B)(10)(d); -03 (B)(11)(b); -03 (B)(11)(c); -03 (B)(12); -03 (B)(15); -03 (B)(16); -03 (B)(17); -04 (C); -04 (D); -04 (E); -04 (F); -04 (H); -04 (J); -04 (K); -05 (A); -05 (B); -05 (C); -05 (E); -05 (G)(1); -05 (H)(3); -05 (I); -05 (J); -05 (K); -05 (M); -05 (N); -05 (O); -05 (P); -05 (Q); -06 (B); -06 (C); -06 (G); -07 (A); -07 (D); -07 (E); -07 (H); -07 (I); -09 (A); -09 (B); -09 (C); -09 (E); -09 (F); -09 (G); -09 (H); -09 (J); -09 (K); -09 (M); -09 (N); -09 (P); -09 (Q); -09 (R); -09 (U); -09 (V); -09 (W); -09 (X); -10 (A); -10 (B); -10 (C); -10 (D); -10 (E); -10 (F); -10 (G)(1); -10 (G)(2); -11 (A); -11 (B); -11 (E); -12 (B); -12 (C); -12 (F); -12 (G); -12 (H); -15 (B); -15 (D); -15 (E); -16 (A); -17 (D); -17 (E); -17 (F); -17 (G); -18 (A); -18 (B); -18 (C); -18 (D); -18 (E);

The Jefferson County Justice Center did not comply with 7 standards, 3 "Essential", and 4 "Important". This letter is intended to serve as a basis for developing plans of action for bringing the facility into compliance with the deficiencies noted during the inspection.

5120:1-8-03 (B) Each full service jail shall have written policies and procedures, and practices which evidence, that the following minimum standards are maintained. (9) (Essential) Inmates in physical restraints shall be personally checked by staff every ten minutes. The report of the use of physical restraints shall be reviewed and signed off by a non involved supervisor or higher ranking personnel. The use of physical restraints shall be reviewed for policy compliance by the jail administrator or designee.

Comments: At the time of inspection, jail administration provided documentation that did not evidence compliance for this standard.

5120:1-8-04 (A) (4) Full service jails shall provide inmates with sufficient space. The jail shall maintain documentation regarding square footage and maximum occupancy figures for all housing and holding areas, and shall comply with the following minimum requirements: Dayspace: (Important) Thirty-five square feet per number of occupants occupying the dayspace at one time. Minimum size of one hundred five square feet.

Comments: At the time of inspection, temporary beds (boats) were used to assist with overcrowding in the Jail; affecting several inmate housing units exceeding the minimum square footage requirements for this standard.

5120:1-8-04 (B) (Important) Seating shall be provided in holding areas, holding cells, housing cells, dormitories, dayrooms and eating areas for each inmate.

Comments: At the current capacity of some of the housing units the jail does not provide sufficient seating for the amount of inmates being housed in those areas.

5120:1-8-04 (G) (Important) Shower facilities at a minimum of one operable shower for every twelve occupants. Water temperatures shall be controlled thermostatically in a range from one hundred five to one hundred twenty degrees Fahrenheit.

Comments: At the time of inspection, there were several housing units that did not meet the requirement of one operable shower for every twelve occupants due to overcrowding issues with the jail.

5120:1-8-05 (G) The jails shall maintain documentation that the following standards are met with regard to interior lighting: (2) (Important) At least fifteen foot-candles, measured thirty inches above the floor, in inmate accessible areas.

Comments: At the time of inspection, random light meter readings were conducted in inmate accessible areas that indicated the jail does not meet the required foot candles for this standard. Periodic inspections shall be conducted to ascertain that at least 15 foot candles of light is provided in all inmate accessible areas measured 30 inches from the floor.

5120:1-8-05 (L) (Essential) The jail shall be inspected annually by a certified local or state fire safety inspector applying the applicable jurisdictional and Ohio Fire Code. The jail shall have a written plan to correct any jail-related deficiencies. The jail shall maintain documentation of the inspections and any corrective measures taken.

Comments: At the time of inspection, jail administration advised the Bureau that the local fire safety inspector has not completed the fire inspection report due to a fire panel needing to be replaced. Jail administration did advise the Bureau that the panel was ordered, and will be replaced as soon as possible. Additionally, jail administration advised the Bureau that once the panel is replaced the Fire Safety Officer will conduct the fire inspection for the Jefferson County Justice Center.

5120:1-8-09 (D) (Essential) Health appraisal. Within fourteen days, a licensed nurse, physician, physician's assistant, EMT or paramedic shall complete a health appraisal to determine the medical and mental health condition for each inmate in custody. Such appraisal shall at least include the following:

- (1) Review of receiving screen.
- (2) Collection of additional data to complete the medical, dental and mental health history.
- (3) Laboratory and/or diagnostic tests to detect tuberculosis and other suspected communicable diseases as

designated by the health authority.

(4) Recording the height, weight, pulse, blood pressure and temperature.

(5) Medical examination as determined by the examiner.

(6) Mental health assessment.

(7) Initiation of therapy when determined necessary by the examiner.

(8) Development and implementation of a treatment plan.

(9) Other test and examination as determined by the examiner or health authority.

Comments: At the time of inspection, Jail administration as well as medical notified the Bureau that the Jefferson County Justice Center does not conduct TB laboratory or diagnostics test to detect tuberculosis on offenders being housed in their facility.

Plan of action forms are enclosed. Completed form(s) and/or corrective materials addressing the noted deficiencies must be completed and submitted through the Ohio Jail Management System (OHJMS) at [www.OHJMS.Intelligrants.com](http://www.OHJMS.Intelligrants.com) within 45 days of receipt of this correspondence. Please feel free to contact the Bureau if you need assistance or clarification in this effort. The Bureau remains available to discuss the aspects of this report or to provide reference materials or assistance as desired.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David L. Hicks". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

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