



Department of  
Rehabilitation & Correction

**John R. Kasich**, Governor  
Stuart C. Hudson, Interim Director

10/25/2018

Sheriff Chris Hilton  
Sandusky County Jail  
2323 Countryside Drive  
Fremont, OH 43420

RE: 2018 Annual Jail Inspection

Dear Sheriff Chris Hilton:

In accordance with Section 5120.10 of the Ohio Revised Code and Executive Order 92-03 of the Department of Rehabilitation and Correction, the Sandusky County Jail, a full service jail, was inspected on 09/12/2018. 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 Sandusky County Jail is 88. On the date of the jail inspection, there were 95 inmates incarcerated in the Sandusky County Jail. The Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction recommended housing capacity for the jail is 88, which is based upon total available living space and other requirements. Officials should maintain prisoner counts within the Department's recommended capacity figure .

The Sandusky County Jail (Full Service Jail) is in compliance with 110 standards, 52 "Essential", and 58 "Important".

5120:1-8-01 (A)(2); -01 (A)(5); -01 (A)(6); -01 (A)(8); -01 (A)(10); -01 (A)(11); -01 (A)(13); -01 (A)(14); -01 (A)(15); -02 (A); -02 (B)(3); -02 (B)(5); -02 (B)(6); -03 (A)(1); -03 (A)(3); -03 (A)(4); -03 (A)(5); -03 (A)(6); -03 (A)(7); -03 (B)(1); -03 (B)(3); -03 (B)(4); -03 (B)(5); -03 (B)(6); -03 (B)(7); -03 (B)(9); -03 (B)(10)(a); -03 (B)(10)(b); -03 (B)(10)(c); -03 (B)(10)(d); -03 (B)(11)(a); -03 (B)(11)(b); -03 (B)(11)(c); -03 (B)(13); -03 (B)(14); -04 (A)(1); -04 (A)(2)(a); -04 (K); -04 (L); -05 (A); -05 (B); -05 (C); -05 (D); -05 (E); -05 (F); -05 (H)(1); -05 (H)(2); -05 (H)(4); -05 (H)(5); -05 (H)(6); -05 (L); -05 (M); -05 (O); -05 (P); -05 (Q); -06 (A); -06 (D); -06 (F); -06 (H); -07 (B); -07 (C); -07 (F); -07 (G); -07 (J); -09 (A); -09 (B); -09 (C); -09 (D); -09 (E); -09 (F); -09 (G); -09 (H); -09 (I); -09 (J); -09 (K); -09 (L); -09 (M); -09 (N); -09 (O); -09 (P); -09 (Q); -09 (S); -09 (T); -09 (U); -09 (V); -09 (W); -09 (X); -09 (Y); -09 (Z); -09 (AA); -10 (A); -10 (B); -10 (C); -10 (E); -10 (F); -10 (G)(1); -10 (G)(2); -11 (C); -11 (D); -12 (A); -12 (D); -12 (E); -12 (I); -15 (A); -15 (C); -15 (F); -16 (B); -17 (A); -17 (B); -17 (C);

The Sandusky County Jail did not comply with 3 standards, 0 "Essential", and 3 "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.

5120:1-8-04 (A) (3) Dormitory Sleeping Space: (a) (Important) Fifty square feet per occupant , except forty-eight square

feet in jails constructed prior to 1983, wherein the formula shall be based upon the requirements of paragraph (A)(2)(a) of rule 5120:1-8-04 of the Administrative Code.

Comments: On the day of the inspection the jail was over its BRC and boats were being utilized to manage the overflow reducing the necessary square footage. Jail officials should work to maintain jail population at or below the BRC.

5120:1-8-04 (I) (Important) Noise levels shall not exceed seventy decibels in daytime and forty-five decibels at night. Noise levels shall be documented using a sound level meter set to the A-scale (decibels.)

Comments: On the day of the inspection jail officials did not provide night time decibel readings for verification of compliance. Jail officials should maintain documentation to provide as verification of compliance to the standard .

5120:1-8-05 (G): The jail shall maintain documentation that the following standards are met with regard to interior lighting: G3): (Important) Lighting in inmate sleeping areas shall be reducible to between two and four foot-candles, measured thirty inches above the floor.

Comments: On the day of the inspection no light readings at night were provided to review for compliance. Jail officials should check light readings and maintain documentation as verification to the standard.

The Sandusky County Jail is in compliance with 100% of the Essential Standards and at least 90% of the Important Standards meeting the requirements of a "Compliant Jail". It should be noted however; the jail did not comply with 3 of the Important Standards upon which the facility was inspected. This letter is intended to serve as a basis for developing plans of action for bringing the facility back into compliance with the remaining deficiencies noted during the inspection.

The Bureau of Adult Detention encourages the jail to correct the remaining deficiencies noted in the inspection report prior to the next annual jail inspection. Plan of Action forms are enclosed and can be submitted through the Ohio Jail Management System (OHJMS) at [www.OHJMS.Intelligrants.com](http://www.OHJMS.Intelligrants.com). 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 and to provide reference materials or assistance as desired.

Sincerely,



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