



Department of
Rehabilitation & Correction

John R. Kasich, Governor
Gary C. Mohr, Director

March 7, 2016

Sheriff Paul Sigsworth
Erie County Jail
2800 Columbus Ave.
Sandusky, Ohio 44870

RE: 2015 – Annual Jail Inspection

Dear Sheriff Sigsworth:

In accordance with Section 5120.10 of the Ohio Revised Code and Executive Order 92-03 of the Department of Rehabilitation and Correction, the Erie County Jail, a Full Service Jail facility, was inspected on September 15th and 16th, 2015. The inspection was restricted to assessing compliance with a group of one hundred and seventeen (117) standards, selected from the Minimum Standards for Jails in Ohio promulgated by the Bureau of Adult Detention. The group of standards being inspected focused on reception and release, classification, security, housing, sanitation and environmental conditions, communication, visitation, medical/mental health, food service, recreation and programming, inmate discipline, administrative segregation, grievance, staffing, and staff training. Please note that this inspection does not reflect a comprehensive evaluation of the overall jail condition. The inspection consisted of this Inspector receiving and/or reviewing requested documentation and/or materials, touring selected areas of the jail, and having a brief interview with Sgt. Hamernik and Lt. Proy, Jail Administrator.

The total actual housing capacity for the Erie County Jail (FSJ) is (109), consisting of (90) adult males and (16) adult females, special housing (3). On the date of the actual jail inspection, there was (147) inmates incarcerated in the Erie County Jail (FSJ). The Bureau of Adult Detention's recommended housing capacity for the jail is (109), which is based upon total available living space and other requirements. Officials should maintain prisoner counts within the Bureau's recommended capacity figure. The Erie County Jail (FSJ) is in compliance with the following standards:

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)(2); -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)(9); -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)(a); -04(C); -04(D); -04(E); -04(F); -04(H); -04(J); -04(A)(4)(K); -05(A); -05(B); -05(C); -05(E); -05(G)(1); -05(G)(2); -05(H)(3); -05(I); -05(J); -05(K); -05(L); -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(D); -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(E).

The Erie County Jail (FSJ) did not comply with (5) of the 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 into compliance with the deficiencies noted during the inspection.

5120: 1-8-04(A)(4)(A)(Important): Each full service jail shall provide inmates with sufficient dayroom space as mandated by the Ohio Jail Standards. All dayroom spaces must provide housed inmates with at least 35 square feet of day space per inmate. The jail has exceeded the Bureau Recommended Capacity for their facility and does not possess enough day space for each inmate.

5120: 1-8-04(B)(Important): Each full service jail shall ensure seating shall be provided in holding area, housing cells, dormitories, dayrooms and eating areas for each inmate. At their current capacity, the jail does not provide sufficient seating for inmates.

5120:1-8-04(G)(Important): Each full service jail shall ensure shower facilities are available, at a minimum of one operable shower for every twelve occupants. There shall be written approval or documentation of appropriate building codes if the ratio is different from 12 inmates per shower. At the time of the inspection, the jail was not in compliance with the ratio of inmates to showers.

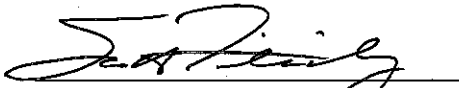
5120:1-8-18(A)(1)(2)(Important): Jail Administration must amend policies and procedures, and practices that address jail support staff with routine contact shall receive training and pertinent agency policies and procedures prior to or in conjunction with assignment to jail duties. (1) During the first year of assignment receive twenty four hours of training including legal aspects of corrections, basic security concepts, emergency preparedness, interpersonal communications, first aid/CPR, unarmed self-defense, and Standards for jails in Ohio. (2) Two hours of in-service training each subsequent year of employment addressing specific job assignments and/or jail related issues. Training records evidencing compliance were not available to evaluate at the time of the inspection.

5120:1-8-18(D)(Important): Jail Administration must amend policies and procedures, and practices that evidence that jail support staff with occasional contact shall receive training in pertinent agency policies and procedures prior to or in conjunction with assignment to jail duties. Training records evidencing compliance were not available to evaluate at the time of the inspection.

The Erie County Jail is in compliance with 100% of the Essential Standards and at least 90% of the Important Standards making it a "**Compliant Jail**". It should be noted however, the jail did not comply with (5) 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 returned to Assistant Bureau Administrator Jon Radebaugh (jon.radebaugh@odrc.state.oh.us). Feel free to contact me if you need assistance or clarification in this effort. The Department remains available to discuss the aspects of this report and to provide reference materials or assistance as desired.

Sincerely,



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cc: John F. Adams, Bureau Administrator
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Captain, Jail Administrator
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