

Ohio | Department of Rehabilitation & Correction

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

March 28, 2016

Sheriff Riggerbach
Van Wert County Correctional Facility
204 N. Washington St.
Van Wert, Ohio 45891

RE: 2015 Annual Jail Inspection

Sheriff Riggerbach,

In accordance with Section 5120.10 of the Ohio Revised Code and Executive Order 92-03 of the Department of Rehabilitation and Correction, the Van Wert County Correctional Facility, was inspected on January 26th & 27th, 2016. 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 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, food service, recreation, 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 Jail Administrator Sandra F. Poturica

The total actual housing capacity for the Van Wert County Correctional Facility is (82), consisting of (54) adult males, (12) adult females, (0) mixed (either adults or juveniles), and (16) special housing beds. On the date of the actual jail inspection, there were (28) inmates incarcerated in the Van Wert County Correctional Facility. The Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction recommended housing capacity for the jail is (82), which is based upon total available living space and other requirements. Officials should maintain prisoner counts within the Department's recommended capacity figure. The Van Wert County Correctional Facility is in compliance with the following standards:

5120:1-8-01 (A)(01); -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)(9); -03(B)(10); -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(A)(4)(A); -04(B); -04(C); -04(D); -04(E); -04(F); -04(G); -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(E); -17(F); -17(G); -18(A); -18(E).

The Van Wert County Correctional Facility did not comply with (3) of the standards upon which the facility was inspected. The non-compliant standards are as follows:

5120:1-8-17(D); (Important): Each full-service jail shall have a written, implemented staffing plan that includes jail personnel assignments, days of the week and hours of the day that assignments are covered and any deviations from the plan with the respect to weekends, holidays or other atypical situations. Information obtained on the date of the jail inspection led to the conclusion that no staffing plan is in place to address the needs of the facility at this time.

5120:1-8-18(B); (Important): Each full-service jail shall ensure that: (1) Correctional officers shall receive training in jail policies within sixty days of employment; (2) During the first year of assignment, training consistent with Chapter 109:2-9 of the Administrative code; and (3) Eight hours of in-service training each subsequent year of employment addressing specific job assignments and/or jail related issues. These training hours are in addition to training mandated by other standards. On the day of the inspection, training records indicated that some staff was outside training timelines.

5120:1-8-18(D); (Important): Each full-service jail shall ensure jail support staff with occasional contact 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 Van Wert County Correctional Facility 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 (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 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

Van Wert County Commissioners

Sandra Poturica – Jail Administrator

File