



Department of
Rehabilitation & Correction

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

04/14/2017

Sheriff Fred J. Abdalla
Jefferson County Justice Center
16001 State Route 7
Steubenville, OH 43952

RE: 2016 Annual Jail Inspection

Dear Sheriff Fred J. Abdalla:

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 12/21/2016. 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 80. On the date of the jail inspection, there were 116 inmates incarcerated in the Jefferson County Justice Center. The Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction recommended housing capacity for the jail is 80, 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 109 of standards, 52 of essential, and 61 of important.

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

The Jefferson County Justice Center did not comply with 10 of standards, 2 of essential, and 4 of 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.

5120:1-8-02 (A) (Important) Each full service jail shall have a written inmate classification system that specifies the

criteria and procedures for determining and changing the classification of inmates to determine the level of custody required, special needs, housing assignment and participation in programming. Each minimum security jail, as defined in paragraph (A)(4) of rule 5120:1-7-02 of the Administrative Code, shall have a written inmate classification system that limits inmates housed in the jail to those sentenced or transferred by order of a judge for a traffic offense, misdemeanor or felony of the fourth or fifth degree that are not offenses of violence as defined in division (A)(9) of section 2901.01 of the Revised Code. The classification system shall include the evaluation of each inmate to determine whether the inmate is suitable to be housed in the minimum security jail. Determination to transfer an inmate from the minimum security jail shall be made by the jail administrator or designee based on the best interests of the inmate, staff and/or the safe, secure operation of the jail.

Comments: The jails current policy, procedures and practices need updated to reflect standard and components specified. Jail Administration informed this Inspector there is not resources/funding available to provide programming opportunities to the inmate population.

5120:1-8-04 (A) (2) Housing Cells: (a) (Important) Seventy square feet for single occupancy forty-eight square feet in jails constructed prior to 1983.

Comments: The jail has exceeded the Bureau Recommended Capacity for their facility throughout the Jail; there is not the required amount of cell space for each inmate.

5120:1-8-09 (K) (Essential) Pharmaceuticals. Pharmaceuticals are managed in accordance with policies and procedures approved by the health authority and in compliance with state and federal laws and regulations and include the following:

- (1) The policies require dispensing and administering prescribed medications by health-trained personnel or professionally trained personnel, adequate management of controlled medications, and provisions of medication to inmates in special management units.
- (2) The jail shall develop a policy, approved by the health authority, regarding incoming medications.

Comments: At the time of inspection, the jails current policy and procedures need updated to reflect this standard and components specified. Jail staff was not administering medications in accordance to the jail's policy and procedure, and in accordance to this standard.

5120:1-8-09 (N) (Essential) Suicide prevention program. The health authority shall have a plan for identifying and responding to suicidal and potentially suicidal inmates. The plan components shall include:

- (1) Identification - The receiving screening form contains observation and interview items related to the inmate's potential suicide risk. Circumstances include but are not limited to: profound incidents/issues, court dates, loss of significant others either by accident, natural causes or by suicide, sentencing, divorce, rejection, bad news, after a humiliating issue, etc. may be high risk periods for inmates.
- (2) Training - Staff members who work with inmates are trained to recognize verbal and behavioral cues that indicate potential suicide and how to respond appropriately. The plan includes initial and annual training.
- (3) Assessment - The plan specifies a suicide risk assessment and level system. The assessment needs to be completed every time an inmate is identified as being or potentially being suicidal, or if circumstances change. Only a qualified mental health professional may remove inmates from suicide risk status.
- (4) Housing - The plan must designate the housing beds/units for the suicidal or potentially suicidal inmates.
- (5) Monitoring - The plan specifies the procedures for monitoring an inmate who has been identified as potentially suicidal. A suicidal inmate is checked at varied intervals not to exceed ten minutes. Regular documented supervision is maintained. Inmates are placed in a designated cell, all belongings removed and other prevention precautions initiated, as appropriate.
- (6) Referral - The plan specifies the procedures for referring a potentially suicidal inmate and attempted suicides to a mental health care provider or facility, and includes timeframes.
- (7) Communication - The plan specifies for ongoing communications (oral and written), notifications between health care and correctional personnel regarding the status of suicidal inmates.
- (8) Intervention - The plan addresses how to handle a suicide in progress, including first-aid measures.
- (9) Notification - The plan includes procedures of notifying the jail administrator, outside authorities and family members

of completed suicides. The plan shall consider safety and security issues when it comes to notification.

(10) Reporting - The plan includes procedures for documenting, monitoring and reporting attempted or completed suicides. Completed suicides are immediately reported to the coroner/medical examiner and the division of parole and community services within thirty days of the incident.

(11) Review - The plan specifies procedures for medical and administrative review if a suicide or a serious suicide attempt occurs.

(12) Critical incident debriefing - The plan specifies the procedures for offering critical incident debriefing to affected staff and inmates.

Comments: At the time of inspection, the jail's supporting documentation did not evidence compliance in order to show adherence for this standard. Personal observation checks exceeded 10 minutes regarding inmates on suicide prevention watches.

5120:1-8-09 (S) (Important) Continuous quality improvement program. The health authority shall develop a continuous quality improvement (CPI) system of monitoring and reviewing, at least annually, the fundamental aspects of the jail's health/mental health care system, including but not limited to: access to care; the intake process; emergency care and hospitalizations; and, adverse inmate occurrences, including all deaths. Periodic chart reviews are included to determine the timeliness and appropriateness of the clinical care provided to inmates.

Comments: At the time of inspection, the jail did not provide supporting documentation in order to evidence compliance for this standard. Documentation evidencing the fundamental aspects of the jail's medical/mental health care system must be evaluated by the Jail Physician.

5120:1-8-11 (D) (Important) The jail shall provide the opportunity for alcohol and drug abuse treatment, academic training, psychological and social services and other community services.

Comments: The jails current policy and procedures need updated to reflect this standard and components specified. Additionally, supporting documentation to support this standard was not available to evidence compliance. Jail Administration stated there is not resources/funding to provide programming opportunities to the inmate population.

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 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,



Joel Commins, State Jail Inspector
Bureau of Adult Detention
615 Superior Ave
Cleveland, Ohio 44113
Phone: (216) 787-4902
Email: joel.commins@odrc.state.oh.us