



Department of
Rehabilitation & Correction

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

03/03/2017

Sheriff Jeff Lawless
Lawrence County Jail
115 South 5th Street
Ironton, OH 45638

RE: 2016 Annual Jail Inspection

Dear Sheriff Jeff Lawless:

In accordance with Section 5120.10 of the Ohio Revised Code and Executive Order 92-03 of the Department of Rehabilitation and Correction, the Lawrence County Jail, a full service jail, was inspected on 09/21/2016. 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 Lawrence County Jail is 52. On the date of the jail inspection, there were 49 inmates incarcerated in the Lawrence County Jail. The Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction recommended housing capacity for the jail is 27, which is based upon total available living space and other requirements. Officials should maintain prisoner counts within the Department's recommended capacity figure.

The Lawrence County Jail (Full Service Jail) is in compliance with 80 standards, 37 "Essential", and 43 "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); -03 (A)(5); -03 (B)(10)(a); -03 (B)(10)(d); -03 (B)(11)(b); -03 (B)(14); -03 (B)(4); -03 (B)(5); -03 (B)(6); -04 (K); -04 (L); -05 (A); -05 (B); -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 (P); -05 (Q); -06 (A); -06 (D); -06 (F); -07 (C); -07 (F); -07 (G); -07 (J); -09 (A); -09 (AA); -09 (B); -09 (C); -09 (E); -09 (F); -09 (G); -09 (H); -09 (I); -09 (J); -09 (K); -09 (L); -09 (M); -09 (N); -09 (O); -09 (Q); -09 (R); -09 (U); -09 (W); -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 (C); -16 (B); -17 (A); -17 (B);

The Lawrence County Jail did not comply with 35 standards, 16 "Essential", and 19 "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: At the time of inspection, jail administration advised the Bureau that due to the age and layout of the jail, the jail is not able to properly house inmates according to their classification(s). Although they try to accommodate classifications, they are not able to adhere to all components specified in standard.

5120:1-8-03 (A) Each full service jail shall maintain the following minimum standards in regard to security of the jail. (1) (Essential) An established security perimeter.

Comments: The Lawrence County Jail does not provide an established security perimeter. This is due to the age and layout of the existing facility.

5120:1-8-03 (A) Each full service jail shall maintain the following minimum standards in regard to security of the jail. (3) (Essential) A secure booking and release area.

Comments: The Lawrence County Jail does not provide a secure booking and release area. This is due to the age and layout of the existing facility.

5120:1-8-03 (A) Each full service jail shall maintain the following minimum standards in regard to security of the jail. (4) (Essential) Temporary weapons storage lockers or other secure storage at each point of entrance to the jail's security perimeter.

Comments: The jail does not provide temporary weapons storage lockers or other storage at each point of entrance (i.e. visitation door on the side of building which enters into the booking and release area).

5120:1-8-03 (A) Each full service jail shall maintain the following minimum standards in regard to security of the jail. (6) (Essential) A two-way communications system between central control, staffed posts and inmate occupied areas.

Comments: The jail does not have a two-way communication system in place in which inmates shall be able to verbally contact jail staff on duty by speaking at a normal conversation level. A staff person shall remain within normal conversational hearing range or a two-way audio communication system shall be established to provide for verbal communication between staff and inmates. Such a system shall permit either party to initiate contact or it shall be continuously monitored by the staff person responsible for the designated inmate area. The responsibility of staff to monitor these systems shall be supported by written policy and procedure or post order.

5120:1-8-03 (A) Each full service jail shall maintain the following minimum standards in regard to security of the jail. (7) (Essential) Equipment necessary to maintain utilities, communications, security and fire protection in an emergency. Documentation supports that such equipment is tested quarterly and repaired or replaced as needed.

Comments: The current jail policy and procedure needs updated to reflect standard and components specified.

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. (1) (Important) Procedures govern availability, control inventory, storage, and use of firearms, less than lethal devices, and related security devices, and specify the level of authority required for their access and use. Chemical agents and electrical disablers are used only with the authorization of the jail administrator or designee. Access to storage areas is restricted to authorized persons and the storage space is located in an area separate and apart from inmate housing or activity areas.

Comments: At the time of inspection, the jail did not provide documentation for this standard and needs to implement policy and procedures that reflect the standard and components specified.

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. (10) In regard to the use of force:

(b) (Essential) Use of force shall be limited to the amount of force necessary to control a given situation and shall include a continuum of escalating force levels. In no event is physical force used as punishment.

Comments: The jail's current policy and procedures need updated to reflect this standard and the components specified.

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. (10) In regard to the use of force:

(c) (Essential) An examination and/or treatment by qualified health care personnel shall be provided to inmates or staff involved in a use of force incident when there is obvious physical injury or there is a complaint of injury or request for medical attention.

Comments: The jail's current policy and procedures need updated to reflect this standard and the components specified.

5120:1-8-03 (B) (11) Procedures guide searches of jails and inmates to control contraband.

(a) (Important) Inmate accessible areas shall be inspected in a manner that ensures all areas are inspected each month.

Comments: The jail's current policy and procedures need updated to reflect this standard and the components specified. Additionally, documentation to support standard is needed in order to show adherence for standard.

5120:1-8-03 (B) (11) Procedures guide searches of jails and inmates to control contraband.

(c) (Essential) The jail administrator or designee shall be notified of any discovered contraband or physical security deficiencies. The appropriate disposition of contraband and the remediation of physical security deficiencies shall be documented.

Comments: The jail's current policy and procedures need updated to reflect this standard and the components specified. Additionally, documentation to support standard is needed in order to show adherence for standard.

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. (13) (Important) The staff supervision and searching of inmate workers.

Comments: The jails current policy, procedure and practices need updated to reflect standard.

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. (3) (Important) Procedures and practices governing strip and body cavity searches following reception shall be developed and implemented in consultation with the county prosecutor, city attorney or law director consistent with section 2933.32 of the Revised Code.

Comments: The current jail policy, procedures and practices need updated to reflect this standard. Additionally, please provide verification from consultation with the county prosecutor/ law director.

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. (7) (Essential) Personal observation checks of inmates shall be

conducted every sixty minutes on an irregular schedule. Observation checks shall be conducted at varying times and shall be documented after completion by the staff person performing the check.

Comments: At the time of inspection, could not differentiate that personal observation checks were being completed every 60 minutes on an irregular schedule as required by standard. Jail log samples provided did not appropriately reflect that an actual personal observation check was being conducted within the 60 minute requirement. Jail log samples indicated that logged times exceeded 60 minute personal observation checks.

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: The jails current policy, procedure and practices need update to reflect standard and components specified. Documentation/ restraint log provided by the jail indicated that the jail is conducting 15 minute restraint checks which exceeds the time requirement for this standard. Inmates being held/housed with physical restraints shall be directly observed by staff in person at least every ten minutes.

5120:1-8-04 (A) (1)Holding Cells: (Important) Sixty square feet for one to three occupants with twenty square feet for each additional occupant up to a maximum of one hundred twenty square feet (six occupants).

Comments: Due to the age and layout of the facility, the Lawrence County Jail does not provide the required space for holding cells. Measurements taken on the day of inspection indicated less than 44.85 square feet. The sizes of holding cells cannot be less than 60 square feet or larger than 120 square feet.

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: Due to the age and layout of the facility, the Lawrence County Jail does not provide the required space for single and/or double occupancy cells. For single occupancy cells, existing jails constructed prior to 1983, there shall be at least 48 square feet of sleeping space per inmate. For double occupancy cells, one hundred square feet with seven feet least dimension for double occupancy and/or stacked bunks.

5120:1-8-04 (A) (2) Housing Cells: (b) (Important) One hundred square feet with seven feet least dimension for double occupancy, stacked bunks, one hundred ten square feet with nine feet least dimension for double occupancy, single bunks.

Comments: Due to the age and layout of the facility, the Lawrence County Jail does not provide the required space for single and/or double occupancy cells. For single occupancy cells, existing jails constructed prior to 1983, there shall be at least 48 square feet of sleeping space per inmate. For double occupancy cells, one hundred square feet with seven feet least dimension for double occupancy and/or stacked bunks.

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: The jail has exceeded the Bureau's recommended capacity and does not provide the necessary dormitory sleeping requirements for this standard.

5120:1-8-04 (l) (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: At the time of inspection, the jail did not provide documentation and/or log to show adherence for this standard. 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.)

5120:1-8-05 (C) (Essential) Monthly sanitation, vermin and safety inspections of all areas shall be done by a designated trained staff person.

Comments: At the time of the inspection, the jail did not provide monthly documentation/logs to show adherence for this 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: At the time of inspection, the jail did not provide documentation and/or logs that would indicate that lighting in inmate sleeping areas that shall be reducible to between two and four foot candles, measured 30 inches from the floor. Periodic inspections shall be conducted to ascertain that in inmate sleeping areas, lighting shall be reducible to between two and four foot-candles of light measured 30 inches from the floor. The reduction may be accomplished by separate lights or using rheostats on existing lighting.

5120:1-8-05 (O) (Essential) Fire drills shall be conducted every three months on each shift.

Comments: At the time of inspection, and after receiving supporting documentation, fire drills had not been completed in accordance to the standard, that states, fire drills shall be conducted every three months on each shift.

5120:1-8-06 (H) (Important) Inmates shall have access to legal counsel of record including telephone contact, written communication, and confidential visits.

Comments: At the time of inspection, per discussion with Jail Administration, it was acknowledged that due to the age and layout of the facility, the Lawrence County Jail isn't adequately equipped to accommodate legal counsel of record for confidential visits.

5120:1-8-07 (B) (Important) The visitation area shall be equipped with seating.

Comments: At the time of inspection, it was observed that the jail is not equipped with seating.

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, a random selection of inmate files were inspected which indicated the health authority had exceeded the 14 day time requirements for this state standard. A physical examination, collection of health history and other health data shall be conducted for inmates whose confinement will exceed ten days, prior to

their fifteenth consecutive day of confinement.

5120:1-8-09 (P) (Essential) Infectious disease control program. The health authority shall have a written infectious disease control program which collaborates with the local health department and shall include, at minimum, an exposure control plan and standard isolation precautions for inmates and staff, which are updated annually. The health authority shall develop written policy and procedure.

Comments: At the time of inspection, the jails current policy and procedures need updated to reflect this standard and components specified.

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 Health Authority advised this inspector that this standard would not evidence compliance during this inspection cycle and will be developed and implemented for future inspections.

5120:1-8-09 (T) (Important) Emergency response plan - The health aspects of the emergency response plan (mass disaster drill & man down drill). Emergency medical care, including first aid and basic life support, is provided by all health care professionals and those health-trained correctional staff specifically designated by the jail administrator. All staff responding to medical emergencies are certified in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) in accordance with the recommendations of certifying health organizations.

Comments: At the time of inspection, the Health Authority advised this inspector that this standard would not evidence compliance during this inspection cycle and will be developed and implemented for future inspections.

5120:1-8-09 (V) (Essential) Special nutritional and medical diets. Inmate diets are modified when ordered by the appropriate licensed individual to meet specific requirements related to clinical conditions.

Comments: At the time of inspection, the jails current policy and procedures need updated to reflect this standard and components specified. Additionally, supporting documentation to support this standard was not made available to evidence compliance.

5120:1-8-09 (X) (Essential) Confidentiality. Information about an inmate's health status is confidential. Non health trained staff only have access to specific medical information on a "need to know" basis in order to preserve the health and safety of the specific inmate, other inmates, volunteers, visitors, criminal justice professionals or correctional staff.

Comments: At the time of inspection, the jails current policy and procedures need updated to reflect this standard and components specified.

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: Due to the age and layout of the facility, the jail is unable to provide an area for programming at the facility.

5120:1-8-15 (A) (Important) Each jail shall have written policies and procedures that govern the administrative segregation of inmates from the general population.

Comments: Due to the age and layout of the facility, the jail is unable to accommodate an inmate that would need to be placed in administrative segregation.

5120:1-8-15 (F) (Important) Inmates in administrative segregation shall receive all privileges and rights unless the inmate poses a threat to the security of the jail or the health and welfare of him/herself or others. Any suspension or modification of privileges and/or rights shall be documented.

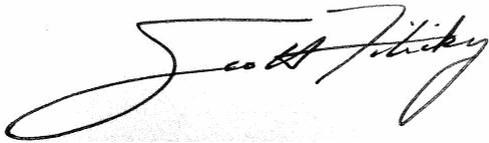
Comments: Due to the age and layout of the facility, the jail is unable to accommodate an inmate that would need to be placed in administrative segregation. At the time of inspection, it was noted and acknowledged with Jail Administration that it is not a true separation from the general population.

5120:1-8-17 (C) (Important) Annual standardized performance reviews of jail employees shall be conducted.

Comments: At the time of inspection, it was acknowledged that due to union contractual issues, the jail does not conduct annual evaluations at this time. There shall be a mechanism and a formal, standardized instrument for conducting written personnel evaluations of the job performance of staff assigned to any jail duties. Staff assigned jail duties in conjunction with other unrelated duties shall be evaluated on their performance of jail duties. Performance evaluations shall be conducted on an annual basis.

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,



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