

**TEXAS COMMISSION ON JAIL STANDARDS
JAIL INSPECTION REPORT**

Facility Name: Duval Co. Jail

Date:

April 10, 2017

| Item | Section | Paragraph | Comments |
|------|---------|--------------|---|
| 1 | 259 | .137 (1) | <p>Separation cells shall include the following features and equipment.</p> <p>(1) Furnishings. Each cell shall be provided with one bunk, mirror, table, and seat separate from the bunk. A shelf and clothes hook may be provided. Convenient electrical receptacles circuited with ground fault protection shall be provided. Power to receptacles shall be individually controlled outside of the cell.</p> <p>While conducting the walk-through of the facility, it was discovered that the electrical receptacles had been completely removed and exposed wiring was present in Separation Cells 248, 249 and 253.</p> |
| 2 | 263 | .41 | <p>Training of staff for emergency situations shall be provided immediately upon employment and no less than each calendar quarter for all jail personnel to include fire, emergency, evacuation drills, and location and use of equipment.</p> <p>During the review of quarterly fire drill training, it was discovered that Jailer O. Martinez did not have any documented training for multiple calendar quarters in 2016 and none documented in 2017. Jailer C. Castillo did not have documented training for the first quarter of 2017. Jailer H. Jaramillo was transferred from dispatch into the jail where he worked for a couple of weeks before receiving his initial training. He had been a jailer previously but had been out of the jail for over a year and needed the training upon his return.</p> |
| 3 | 263 | .42 | <p>Each facility, after consultation with the local fire department or Texas Commission on Fire Protection, shall have and implement a written plan, approved by the Commission, for fire prevention and a fire hazard inspection checklist which shall be evaluated no less than each calendar quarter. The facility shall be inspected annually by a local fire official.</p> <p>The facility had not completed a Quarterly Fire Prevention Checklist for 2017. The last one completed was in November of 2016. This was listed as an area of technical assistance in last year's annual inspection.</p> |
| 4 | 265 | .13(a)(b)(c) | <p>(a) Each sheriff/operator shall investigate and verify the veteran status of each prisoner by using data made available from the Veterans Reentry Search Service (VRSS) operated by the United States Department of Veteran Affairs or similar service.</p> <p>(b) Each sheriff/ operator shall provide assistance to prisoners identified as veterans, identified through either self-report or the VRSS, in applying for federal benefits or compensation for which the prisoners may be eligible under a program administered by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs. Assistance includes, but not limited to, direct assistance by qualified claims counselor, issuance of a referral card, or similar assistance.</p> <p>(c) Each sheriff shall maintain a log of positive VRSS returns with identifying prisoner number and whether a referral card was issued to the identified veteran prior to his or her release. If a referral card was not issued, a reason shall be provided on the log.</p> <p>The administration failed to continue to upload inmate information to the Veterans Administration Website for verification as required. This inspector provided technical assistance during last year's annual inspection by training the staff on how to upload the information into the website. They failed to continue the uploading process as required.</p> |

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5 273 .5(2) (2) Identification. Procedures for intake screening to identify inmates who are known to be or observed to be mentally disabled and/or potentially suicidal and procedures for compliance with Code of Criminal Procedure Article 16.22 and referrals to available mental health officials;

During the review of inmate medical records and mental health screening forms, the magistrate, mental health and medical were not always being notified as required. Officers were conducting good interviews and noting down relevant information such as prior / current mental health issues, previous suicide attempts, inmates fears and several "red flags". However, after conducting these interviews, the proper notifications were not transpiring on a consistent basis.

6 273 .6(1)(3)(4)(5) Inmates exhibiting behavior indicating that they are a danger to themselves or others shall be managed in such a way as to minimize the threat of injury or harm. If restraints are determined to be necessary, they shall be used in a humane manner, only for the prevention of injury, and not as a punitive measure.

(1) The decision to apply restraints shall be made by supervisory or medical personnel. Appropriate staff should assess the inmate's medical condition.

(3) A documented observation of the inmate shall be conducted every 15 minutes, at a minimum. The observations should include an assessment of the security of the restraints and the circulation to the extremities.

(4) The inmate should receive medical care a minimum of every 2 hours, to include changing position, exercising extremities, offering nourishment and liquids, offering toilet facilities, checking for medication needs, and taking vital signs. These checks shall be documented.

(5) Documentation of use of restraints shall include, but not be limited to the following: the events leading up to the need for restraints, the time the restraints were applied, the justification for their use, observations of the inmate's behavior and condition, the 15-minute checks and the time the restraints were removed.

While reviewing logs on restraints and the use of a restraint chair, it was determined that the observation rounds were normally 10 to 15 minutes over the requirement. It was also discovered that inmates were in the restraints over the two hour limit with no medical checks being conducted as outlined in the standard. In the majority of logs reviewed, the time/date of when restraints were applied and/or removed was not documented.

7 275 .1 There shall be a two-way voice communication capability between inmates and jailers, licensed peace officers, bailiffs, and designated staff at all times.

During the course of the walk-through of the facility, it was discovered that the intercoms in Holding Cells 209, 210 and both detox cells were inoperable. The administration was informed to take all the cells off-line for use until repairs were completed.

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8 281 .3 Except in emergency situations, meals shall be served in accordance with a written menu approved and reviewed annually for compliance with nationally recognized allowances for basic nutrition including nutritional requirements of known pregnant inmates. This approval and review shall be documented and should be performed by a licensed or provisional licensed dietitian.

The menu's being utilized at the Duval Co. Jail showed a signature of a dietician but not the date that they were reviewed. Therefore, this inspector could not determine when they had been reviewed.

9 285 .1 Each facility shall have and implement a written plan, approved by the Commission, for inmate physical exercise and physical recreation. Documentation of physical exercise and physical recreation shall be maintained for Commission review. Each inmate shall be allowed one hour of supervised physical exercise or physical recreation at least three days per week.

While reviewing the documentation for physical recreation, it was determined that the inmates are not being allowed one hour of physical exercise at least three days per week as required. Interviews with inmates substantiated the documentation review by this inspector.



Phillip Bosquez, T.C.J.S. Inspector