Every facility shall have the appropriate number of jailers at the facility 24 hours each day. Facilities shall have an established procedure for documented, face-to-face observation of all inmates by jailers no less than once every 60 minutes. Observation shall be performed at least every 30 minutes in areas where inmates known to be assaultive, potentially suicidal, mentally ill, or who have demonstrated bizarre behavior are confined. There shall be a two-way voice communication capability between inmates and jailers, licensed peace officers, bailiffs, and designated staff at all times. Closed circuit television may be used, but not in lieu of the required personal observation.

After reviewing documentation and video evidence in conjunction with self-reporting by facility administration, it was determined that the inmate was not observed every 30 minutes prior to being discovered. While the jailer made a round within the required time period in the inmates' cellblock, the jailer did not view the inmate face-to-face due to the inmate leaving the cellblock for medicine call and never returning.

Wendy Wisneski - TCJS Inspector