

TEXAS COMMISSION ON JAIL STANDARDS

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Brandon S. Wood



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MEMORANDUM

TO: All Sheriff's and Jail Administrator's

FROM: Brandon S. Wood, Executive Director *Brandon S. Wood*

DATE: August 4, 2020

RE: Health Services Plan Change Instructions

The Commission previously adopted the following rule changes to Minimum Jail Standards which required changes to each jail's Health Services Plan by August 31, 2020. Provided below are the referenced administrative rules which need to be accounted for within the Health Services Plan. Jails must complete the attached Health Services Plan Addendum by August 20, 2020 and email it to Program Specialist Lupe Moreno at: lupe.moreno@tcjs.state.tx.us

Please submit **ONLY** the attached addendum. Do not submit the entire plan for review at this time. Please check the box for each applicable option that will be incorporated into your Health Service Plan.

By signing and submitting the attached addendum, you are attesting that the option(s) you select will be incorporated into your full, Health Services Plan. You will need to ensure that these services are currently being provided and the 24-hour access can be verified by Commission staff, upon request. You may incorporate the verbiage in the addendums into your full, Health Services Plan and submit that full plan for review and approval after February 1, 2021.

§273.2 Health Services Plan.

Each facility shall have and implement a written plan, approved by the Commission, for inmate medical, mental, and dental services. The plan shall:

(13) provide procedures that shall give inmates the ability to access a mental health professional at the jail or through a telemental health service 24 hours a day and approved by the Commission by August 31, 2020. If a mental health professional is not present at the county jail at the time or available by telemental health services, then require the jail to provide the inmate access to, at a minimum, a qualified mental health professional (as defined by 25 TAC, §412.303(48)) within a reasonable time;

(14) provide procedures that shall give prisoners the ability to access a health professional at the jail or through a telehealth service 24 hours a day or, if a health professional is unavailable at the jail or through a telehealth service, provide for a prisoner to be transported to access a health professional and approved by the Commission by August 31, 2020;

Judge Bill Stoudt, Longview, Chair
Dr. Esmail Porsa, M.D., Parker, Vice-Chair
Melinda E. Taylor, Austin

Sheriff Dennis D. Wilson, Groesbeck
Sheriff Kelly Rowe, Lubbock
Patricia M. Anthony, Garland

Commissioner Ben Perry, Waco
Duane Lock, Southlake
Monica McBride, Alpine

"The Commission on Jail Standards welcomes all suggestions and will promptly respond to all complaints directed against the agency or any facilities under its purview".

To empower local government to provide safe, secure and suitable local jail facilities through proper rules and procedures while promoting innovative programs and ideas