

TEXAS COMMISSION ON JAIL STANDARDS

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Brandon S. Wood



P.O. Box 12985
Austin, Texas 78711
Voice: (512) 463-5505
Fax: (512) 463-3185
<http://www.tcjs.state.tx.us>
info@tcjs.state.tx.us

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE MEMORANDUM # 22-05

TO: All Sheriffs and Jail Administrators
FROM: Brandon Wood, Executive Director
REGARDING: Changes to Operational Plan: Health Services Plan
DATE: June 9, 2022

Changes to Health Services Operational Plan Continuity of Mental Health Medication- Enacted by SB 49 § 273.2(12)

The Commission adopted the following changes to §273.2 Minimum Jail Standards on February 24, 2022. These procedures shall include providing each prescription medication that a qualified medical professional or mental health professional determines is necessary for the care, treatment, or stabilization of a prisoner with mental illness:

§ 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:

(12) provide procedures that shall require that a qualified medical professional shall review as soon as possible any prescription medication a prisoner is taking when the prisoner is taken into custody. **These procedures shall include providing each prescription medication that a qualified medical professional or mental health professional determines is necessary for the care, treatment, or stabilization of a prisoner with mental illness.**

The Commission understands that this does not mean that jails must provide any medication that the prisoner was prescribed before booking but only that the jail must provide the medical and mental health medications that are determined necessary by the jails medical or mental health provider.

By August 1, 2022, jails must complete the attached Health Services Plan Addendum and email it to Program Specialist Lupe Moreno at lupe.moreno@tcjs.state.tx.us

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"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