

TEXAS COMMISSION ON JAIL STANDARDS

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NOTICE OF NON-COMPLIANCE VAN ZANDT COUNTY JAIL

April 4, 2023

Please reference the **Inspection Requirements Review and Jail Inspection Report** issued on **March 29, 2023**, detailing the specific issues that resulted in the issuance of this notice of non-compliance.

Minimum Standards Violated:	Corrective Measure Required	Date Corrective Action Must Be Completed
263.42	The facility shall be inspected annually by a local fire official who is certified by the Texas Commission on Fire Protection or who meets the alternative criteria provided in Government Code 419.909 and shall pass the inspection. The facility was last inspected by a local fire official in August 2021. This places the annual inspection past due by eight months.	Upon receipt of this notice.
265.3	Inmates confined in a holding cell or detoxification cell shall be observed by facility personnel at intervals not to exceed 30 minutes. Records reviewed revealed that staff routinely exceeded the required 30 minute observation time period.	Upon receipt of this notice.
273.6 (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. Observation checks of inmates restrained with the restraint chair were conducted from 1 to 5 minutes over the required 15 minute time frame on multiple occasions.	Upon receipt of this notice.

Judge Bill Stoudt, Longview, Chair
Dr. Esmail Porsa, M.D., Parker, Vice-Chair
Ross Reyes, Melissa

Sheriff Kelly Rowe, Lubbock
Sheriff Raul "Pinky" Gonzales, Refugio
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

275.1

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.

Records reviewed revealed that staff routinely exceeded the required 30 minute observation period.

Upon receipt of this notice.

279.1(2)

(2) water and sewage systems not part of a public system and food preparation areas shall be inspected at least annually by health authorities and record kept for each inspection;

The facility was last inspected by health authorities on November 3, 2021. This places the annual inspection past due by four months.

Upon receipt of this notice.