## **TEXAS COMMISSION ON JAIL STANDARDS**

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## NOTICE OF NON-COMPLIANCE WILLACY COUNTY JAIL

May 22, 2023

Please reference the Inspection Requirements Review and Jail Inspection Report issued on May 17, 2023, detailing the specific issues that resulted in the issuance of this notice of non-compliance.

Minimum Corrective Standards Measure Violated: Required

Date Corrective Action Must Be Completed

275.1

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. Electronic sensors or cameras capable of recording the required personal observations of inmates in high-risk cells or groups of cells shall be installed no later than August 31, 2020.

Review of the observation logs revealed that 7 of 84 checks exceeded the maximum 60 minutes by anywhere from 90 to 142 minutes as required by minimum jail standards for visual face-to-face observations during a one week period. The issue was only found on the night shift which was operating with the bare minimum staff.

Upon receipt of this notice.