

TEXAS COMMISSION ON JAIL STANDARDS

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NOTICE OF NON-COMPLIANCE LEON COUNTY JAIL

April 16, 2024

Please reference the Inspection Requirements Review and Jail Inspection Report issued on April 12, 2024, 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
259.134	<p>Multiple occupancy cells shall contain two to eight bunks and not less than 40 square feet of clear floor space for the first bunk plus 18 square feet of clear floor space for each additional bunk. Each multiple occupancy cell shall have one toilet and lavatory. Multiple occupancy cells should not be provided in direct supervision facilities.</p> <p>Records reviewed show that Leon County exceeded their approved capacity of 53 a total of 14 times since January 1, 2024. Leon County's population reached as high as 60 inmates during the period from January 1, 2024 to April 12, 2024.</p>	Upon receipt of this notice.
259.162	<p>Plumbing work shall meet the requirements of the International Plumbing Code, or equivalent. Warm and cold water shall be provided at all lavatories and warm water shall be provided at all showers. Lavatories in court holding cells are not required to provide warm water. Warm water temperature shall be between 100 and 120 degrees Fahrenheit. All plumbing in inmate occupied areas shall have quick shut off capability.</p> <p>During the investigation of a submitted complaint and subsequent walk-through of the facility, it was learned that Leon County has been experiencing issues with the hot water in the facility. Administration advised that issues have been ongoing for the last 3 to 4 months</p>	Upon receipt of this notice.
263.41	<p>Training of staff for emergency situations shall be provided immediately upon employment and no less than each calendar</p>	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

quarter for all jail personnel to include fire, emergency, evacuation drills, and location and use of equipment.

Documentation reviewed failed to show that all staff received required life safety training no less than each calendar quarter for the year 2023.

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 annual inspection of the facility by a local fire official was last conducted on December 3, 2021. This places the annual inspection of the facility past due by approximately 28 months.

Upon receipt of this notice.

263.55

All life safety equipment shall be inspected, maintained, and tested by persons qualified to do so (whether under vendor contract, by state or private agency or otherwise) in order that such equipment shall be safe, secure, and fully operative at all times.

The ansul system in the kitchen was last inspected in April 2023. This places the inspection past due by approximately 12 months. Per NFPA code, the ANSUL inspection is to be inspected bi-annually.

Upon receipt of this notice.

263.56

Emergency power equipment shall be tested at least once each week and the electric load transferred to the circuits at least monthly.

During the review of generator logs, it was noted that weekly test of the facility generator was not conducted for one week in August 2023 and one week in September 2023. Additionally, there were no weekly tests or monthly load tests of the facility generator conducted for February 2024 or March 2024.

Upon receipt of this notice.

265.13(a)

Each sheriff/operator shall investigate and verify the veteran status of each prisoner by using data made available from the Veterans Reentry Search Service (VRSS) operated by the United States Department of Veteran Affairs or similar service.

Documentation reviewed during the inspection shows that checks of inmates against the Veterans Reentry Search Service (VRSS) operated by the United States Department of Veteran Affairs or similar service have not been conducted since October 5, 2023.

Upon receipt of this notice.

- 273.5(a)(1) Training. Provisions for staff training (including frequency and duration) on the procedures for recognition, supervision, documentation, and handling of inmates who are mentally disabled and/or potentially suicidal. Supplemental training should be provided to those staff members responsible for intake screening;
Administration was unable to provide documentation of training and no training was reported to TCOLE. Upon receipt of this notice.
- 273.5(a)(2) Identification. Procedures for intake screening to identify inmates who are known to be or observed to be mentally disabled and/or potentially suicidal and procedures for compliance with Code of Criminal Procedure Article 16.22 and referrals to available mental health officials;
During the review of inmate medical files, it was observed that staff failed to notify the magistrate within 12 hrs when warranted by affirmative answers on the screening form or positive response on the CCQ. 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.
During the review of one restraint log, it was determined that staff exceeded the required 15-minute observation checks by 11 minutes. Upon receipt of this notice.
- 281.3 Except in emergency situations, meals shall be served in accordance with a written menu approved and reviewed annually for compliance with nationally recognized allowances for basic nutrition including nutritional requirements of known pregnant inmates.
Documentation provided shows that the last approval and review of the facility menu was last conducted on November 30, 2021. Upon receipt of this notice.

