

TEXAS COMMISSION ON JAIL STANDARDS

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NOTICE OF NON-COMPLIANCE LIBERTY COUNTY JAIL

June 5, 2024

Please reference the Inspection Requirements Review and Jail Inspection Report issued on June 3-4, 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 |
|-----------------------------|---|--|
| 259.124 259.125 | 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. Dormitories shall contain 9-48 bunks. Dormitories shall contain 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 dormitory shall have adequate toilets, lavatories and may include showers. At the time of the inspection, Liberty County had 335 inmates housed, and their maximum capacity is 281. | 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. At the time of the inspection, the generator had not been tested since 3-4-24 | Upon receipt of this notice. |
| 263.42 | Each facility, after consultation with the local fire department or Texas Commission on Fire Protection, shall have and implement a written plan, approved by the Commission on Jail Standards, for fire prevention and a fire hazard inspection checklist which shall be evaluated no less than each calendar quarter. 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. | |

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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

During the inspection, it was discovered that Liberty County has not done a quarterly fire hazard inspection since 10-10-23.

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.

At the time of the inspection the foam tank for the Ansul hood had been Red Tagged by the inspection agency.

Upon receipt of this notice.

275.1

There shall be a two-way voice communication capability between inmates and jailers, licensed peace officers, bailiffs, and designated staff at all times.

During the inspection of the inmate-occupied areas, the Inspector found cells with missing intercoms along with inoperable intercoms.

Upon receipt of this notice.

275.4

Inmates shall be supervised by an adequate number of jailers to comply with state law and this chapter. One jailer shall be provided on each floor of the facility where 10 or more inmates are housed, with no less than 1 jailer per 48 inmates or increment thereof on each floor for direct inmate supervision. **The Inspector discovered staffing records indicating that Liberty County failed to meet minimum standards of 1-48 on 16 shifts in May 2024.**

Upon receipt of this notice.

279(1)

Preventive maintenance, including necessary repairs, shall be conducted to ensure a safe, secure, and sanitary facility.

During the inspection, the Inspector discovered sinks, showers, toilets, and lighting that did not work correctly. Exposed wiring and damage throughout the inmate-occupied areas were observed.

Upon receipt of this notice.

