

# TEXAS COMMISSION ON JAIL STANDARDS

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## NOTICE OF NON-COMPLIANCE HARRIS COUNTY JAIL

June 30, 2025

Please reference the Inspection Requirements Review and Jail Inspection Report issued on June 23-27, 2025, 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
259.138(a)	One or more holding cells shall be provided to hold inmates pending intake, processing, release, or other reason for temporary holding. Inmates shall not be held for more than 48 hours and the cell shall include the following features. <b>The Inspection team discovered that inmates were being held in a holding cell for more than 48 hours.</b>	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. <b>Records showed that Harris County had not completed the 4th quarter fire prevention inspection as required.</b>	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.	Upon receipt of this notice.

Judge Bill Stoudt, Longview, Chair  
Dr. Esmail Porsa, M.D., Parker, Vice-Chair  
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Sheriff Kelly Rowe, Lubbock  
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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*

**The inspection team found fire control panels in trouble mode.**

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.

**Upon receipt of this notice.**

**Harris County exceeded the 30-minute observation requirement when an inmate was left in a court holding cell and they did not conduct a face-to-face observation for 5 hours and 15 minutes.**