

TEXAS COMMISSION ON JAIL STANDARDS

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Ricky Armstrong



P.O. Box 12985
Austin, Texas 78711
Voice: (512) 463-5505
Fax: (512) 463-3185
<http://www.tcjs.state.tx.us>
info@tcjs.state.tx.us

June 17, 2026

Technical Assistance Memorandum #26-07

To: All Sheriffs and Jail Administrators *RA*
From: Ricky Armstrong, Executive Director
Re: (Amended) Transfer of Inmates to TDCJ / Other Jails

This memo serves as a reminder that facilities sending inmates to other facilities, other jails or to the TDCJ, have the duty and responsibility to notify and coordinate the care of inmates with serious medical or mental impairments with receiving facilities. In addition, Minimum Jail Standard 273.4 (c) requires that the Texas Uniform Health Status Update form shall be completed and forwarded to receiving criminal justice agencies at the time an inmate is transferred or released from your custody.

For TDCJ inmates who need specialized care, sending facilities **shall** contact TDCJ's Office of Health Services Liaison at 936-437-3589 prior to transfer. Contact the Health Services Liaison to coordinate intake of inmates with the following conditions:

- Dialysis needs;
- Severe mobility impairment, especially wheelchair-dependence. The mobility aid (crutches, cane, walker or wheelchair) must accompany the inmate to TDCJ;
- Blindness or deafness;
- Need for supplemental oxygen (even occasionally);
- Pregnancy with a due date of less than 30 days or a complicated pregnancy;
- Hospitalization or current housing in the jail's infirmary;
- Active infectious diseases (tuberculosis, chicken pox, shingles, mumps, HIV/AIDS);
- Inability to perform **any or all** activities of daily living (i.e., bathing, dressing, feeding, remembering to take medications, etc.);
- Have a diagnosis of dementia, Alzheimer's disease or mental retardation; or,
- Acute mental illness (i.e., expressing suicidal tendencies or thoughts of suicide);
- Diabetes – "Brittle Diabetic" – (Uncontrolled with current medications) or who requires insulin pump;
- Cardiac – Have had a stroke or heart attack recently (within 30 days) or residual problems;
- High blood pressure – ONLY if uncontrolled with treatment;
- Seizure disorder – frequent and medications are not helping, may require an infirmary bed placement;
- CPAP/BYPAP machine;
- PICC lines/ Port-a – Cath – special accesses for antibodies, will need to come into an infirmary bed.
- Cancer Treatment – Need any diagnostics and schedule for radiation and/or chemo treatments. Admission must be scheduled when "in between" treatments (does not apply if in remission);
- Inpatient Medical or Psychiatric – They will need to be reviewed to see if they will need to come into an inpatient setting.
- Anyone taking Clozaril (they must immediately go to one of the inpatient facilities.

Please review this memo with applicable personnel, and if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Deputy Director Jason Jouett at 512-653-5392.

Sheriff Kelly Rowe, Chair
Dr. Esmail Porsa, M.D., Vice-Chair
Judge Joseph "Joe" Fauth, III, Plantersville

Sheriff Richard Kirkpatrick, Kingsville
Ross Reyes, Melissa
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