

Indiana Department of Correction  
2014 Juvenile Detention Standards- Compliance Report

Dearborn County Juvenile Detention Center  
219 West High Street  
Lawrenceburg, IN 47304  
August 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>, 2014

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**I. Introduction**

The annual inspection for compliance of the Indiana Juvenile Detention Standards, pursuant to 210 IAC 6, of the Dearborn County Juvenile Detention Center (DCJDC) was conducted on August 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>, 2014. The audit team consisted of the following individuals: Chance Sweat, IDOC Division of Youth Services, Director of Juvenile Detention Inspections; Kellie Whitcomb, IDOC, DYS, Director of Re- Entry and External Relations; Ashley Barnett, JDAI Juvenile Justice Strategist; Amy Karozos, Staff Attorney, Youth Law T.E.A.M. of Indiana; and Michelle Mosier, Compliance Monitor, Youth Law T.E.A.M. of Indiana.

The 2014 inspection constitutes the 18<sup>th</sup> annual inspection of the Dearborn County Juvenile Detention Center. The inspection consisted of a facility tour, youth interviews, and a review of policy and procedure relating to the Indiana Juvenile Detention Standards. In accordance with the aforementioned code, compliance with 100% of the mandatory standards and at least 90% of the recommended standards is required to attain “full compliance.”

**II. Facility Demographics**

Rated Capacity: 20  
Actual Population: 3  
Average Daily Population for the Last 12 Months: 8  
Average Length of Stay: 16 Days  
Full-Time Staff: 15  
Part-Time Staff: 8  
Contracted Staff: 4  
Counties Served: Dearborn, Ohio, Ripley, and Switzerland Counties  
Data System: Microsoft Access (built by Ivy Tech Co-Op)

**III. Facility Description**

The DCJDC was opened in February of 1993 and is located in the city of Lawrenceburg, Indiana. The facility is located on the same grounds as the Dearborn County Courthouse, Dearborn County Sheriff’s Department, Court Administration Building, and the Hoosier Square Building, which houses the probation department and Community Corrections.

Traci Agner serves as the Facility Director, and oversees detention operations with the help of Scott Schwing, Assistant Facility Director. Judge James D. Humphrey, Dearborn County Circuit Court is the facility’s governing authority.

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The facility is two stories high and contains: a main control station, 14 single bed rooms, three double bedrooms, and three single bedrooms, which serve as isolation rooms. Individual rooms do not contain toilets or sinks; youth share a common bathroom area, and they are under direct supervision of detention staff when in use.

Juveniles share a single day room area. The room consists of game tables, dual showers, and storage closets.

During the audit, youth were in the lower section and were not directly observable by staff except by camera.

#### **IV. Facility Tour**

Traci Agner, Facility Director, and Scott Schwing, Assistant Facility Director led the auditors on a tour of the detention facility. Traci Agner and Scott Schwing were more than willing to answer any of the auditor's questions concerning the facility's operations. The facility was clean and organized. The medical department, which was located on the first floor of the facility, appeared to be neat and organized. Due to size restrictions, the education area, dining hall, and library are all located in the same location. The facility's recreation areas include a half-court basketball court outdoors, and one of the dayrooms indoors is used for recreation. Juveniles were observed to be positively interacting with all staff.

#### **V. Conditions of Confinement**

##### **A. Security**

Detention staff is not trained in specific de-escalation techniques. Staff is trained in defensive tactics through Aikido Control Techniques. The DCJDC does not utilize OC spray, restraint chairs, or any other immobilization devices. The center does place juveniles on room restriction for behavior violations, programming disruption, and/or out of control behavior. All isolation incidents are approved by Traci Agner or a designee. Juveniles on room restriction are visually monitored by staff.

##### **B. Environmental Conditions**

The DCJDC offers a safe and positive environment to detained youth. All areas of the detention center were clean and organized. Sanitation in the facility was found to be satisfactory. The residents furniture was functional and in good condition.

Staff uniforms consist of khaki pants or jeans, polo shirts with staff member's name, and tennis shoes.

Youth wear orange scrubs, grey sweatshirts, and blue canvas slip-on shoes.

### **C. Food Service**

The dining hall, which was located on the first floor of the facility, appeared to be clean, organized, and functional. Meals are prepared by the Dearborn County Sheriff's Department, and are transported over by the food service matron. Once the food arrives, detention staff test the food to make sure it is at the correct serving temperatures. Youth receive and eat their meals in the dining hall. Youth serving trays appeared to be clean and the food smelled good.

### **D. Medical Services**

The medical department is clean and organized.

### **E. Educational Program**

The educational program is overseen by Traci Agner, Facility Administrator. The education staff consists of 2 licensed teachers. The youth attend school 12 months out of the calendar year, five days per week, six hours per day. Youth participate in one hour of physical education per day.

### **F. Visitation**

The detention center provides a visitation area for youth and their parents or guardians at least one day per week.

## **VI. Interviews**

Three youth (two males and one female) were interviewed by auditors. Staff allowed privacy during interviews and access to all juveniles. Youth interviewed were open and did not hesitate in answering questions. Youth reported they knew the rules of the facility, felt safe, and spoke positively of staff. All youth were permitted a phone call during the intake process. Juveniles stated they knew how to request medical and mental health needs. Youth reported they received three meals per day (including two hot meals).

All youth interviewed stated their attorneys failed to meet with them, despite numerous requests.

## **VII. Special Affiliations**

The DCJDC participates in the Indiana Juvenile Detention Association (IJDA), Dearborn-Ohio County Child Advocate Program, and the Mental Health Screening, Assessment, and Treatment Project, and the National Partnership for Juvenile Services.

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**VIII. Inspection Findings**

**A. Review of Folders**

Folders were organized and easy to read.

**B. Non-Applicable and Non-Compliant Standards**

Of the 275 recommended standards, four were identified as non-applicable and five were found to be non-compliant. A list of these standards is attached to this compliance report.

**IX. Conclusion**

The Dearborn County Juvenile Detention Center was found to be in compliance with 100% of the mandatory standards and 97.7% of the recommended standards. The facility was well maintained. Staff was respectful, helpful, and informative. A certificate of compliance will accompany this report, which becomes public information ten days from the date of mailing.

Please contact me at 317-607-6507 should you have any questions concerning this report.

Respectfully submitted,

*C. Sweat*

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cc: Christine Blessinger- Acting Executive Director of Juvenile Services  
Kellie Whitcomb- Director of Reentry & External Relations  
Honorable James Humphrey; Juvenile Judge, Dearborn County 7<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court  
Facility Director Traci Agner – Facility Director, Dearborn County Juvenile Detention Center  
File

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**Standards determined to be non- applicable and non- compliant from Total 301 Standards  
- 26 Mandatory and 275 Recommended Standards:**

6- Non-Compliant:

1.59- Written policy, procedure, and practice provide that all new juvenile staff care workers receive an additional 120 hours of training during their first year of employment. At a minimum this an additional 120 hours of training during their first year of employment. At a minimum this training covers the following areas:

- security procedures
- supervision of juveniles
- signs of suicide risks
- suicide precautions
- use-of-force regulations and tactics
- report writing
- juvenile rules of conduct
- rights and responsibilities of juveniles
- fire and emergency procedures
- safety procedures
- key control
- interpersonal relations
- social/cultural lifestyles of the juvenile population
- communication skills
- first aid/CPR
- counseling techniques (ACA-1D-09)

*Comments: No proof, new employee this year has 21 hrs so far & no proofs that required subject covered*

2.96- Each sleeping room has at a minimum the following facilities and conditions:

- sanitation facilities, including access to toilet facilities that are available for use without staff assistance 24 hours
- a wash basin with hot and cold running water
- a bed, desk, and seating
- natural light
- temperatures that are appropriate to the summer and winter comfort zones.

*Comments: Cells do not have toilets, sinks, tables or chairs*

2.109- The total indoor activity area, which includes the gymnasium, multi-purpose room(s), library, arts and crafts room(s), and all other leisure areas outside the living unit, provides space equivalent to a minimum of 100 square feet per juvenile. (ACA-2E-01)

*Comments: Total indoor activity area is under the required 100 feet per juvenile.*

2.118- Adequate space is provided for janitorial closets that are accessible to the living and activity areas. Each closet is equipped with a sink, cleaning implements, and a system of ventilation.

*Comments: Cleaning closet does not have sink or ventilation system*

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2.123- All parts of the facility that are accessible to the public are accessible to and usable by handicapped staff and visitors. (ACA-2F-02)  
*Comments: There's no elevator in facility for handicapped employees or juveniles to access to entire facility*

3.132- Written policy, procedure, and practice require that when both males and females are housed in the facility, at least one male and one female staff member are on duty at all times.  
*Comments: Practice does not show female staff member on duty at all times*

4- Non-Applicable:

1.5- Written policy, procedure, and practice provide that if services for adult and juvenile offenders are provided for by the same agency, statements of philosophy, policy, program, and procedure distinguish between criminal codes and the statutes that establish and give direction to programs for juveniles. (ACA-1A-07)

1.34- If there is a commissary or canteen, strict controls are maintained over its operation and regular accounting procedures are followed: (ACA-1B-18)

between juveniles, juveniles and staff, and juveniles and volunteers be approved by

2.115- The food preparation area includes a space for food preparation based on population size, type of food preparation, and methods of meal service. (ACA-2E-07)

2.117- Toilet and wash basin facilities are available to food service personnel and juveniles in the vicinity of the food preparation area. (ACA-2E-09)