

# Indiana Department of Correction, Division of Youth Services 2021 Juvenile Detention Inspection - Compliance Report



Elkhart County Juvenile Detention Center  
26861 CR 26 Bldg. C  
Elkhart, IN 46517

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## Auditors

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Kristin Herrmann, Youth Law T.E.A.M. of Indiana  
Danielle Zagone, Director of External Relations, Indiana Department of Correction

Indiana Department of Correction  
Division of Youth Services  
302 W. Washington St. Rm. E334, Indianapolis, IN 46204

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2021 Juvenile Detention Inspection - Compliance Report**

Facility: Elkhart County Juvenile Detention Center  
26861 CR 26 Bldg. C  
Elkhart, IN 46517

On-Site Inspection Dates: 4/8/2021 and 8/31/2021

Auditors: Rachel McCaffrey  
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## **INTRODUCTION**

The 2021 annual juvenile detention facility evaluations conducted by the IDOC, Division of Youth Services conducted two on-site facility inspections; staff and youth interviews; and an audit of the state detention standards.

While the proposed Indiana Juvenile Detention Facility Standards are in the process of being promulgated, Detention Facilities had the option to be audited on three hundred one (301) current detention standards or the corresponding two hundred and thirty-seven (237) proposed juvenile detention facility standards.

Elkhart County Juvenile Detention Center chose to be audited on the two hundred and thirty-seven (237) proposed juvenile detention facility standards in 2021, for their 25th annual detention inspection. Of the two hundred and thirty-seven (237) standards audited, sixteen (16) standards require mandatory compliance and the remaining two hundred and twenty-one (221) are recommended standards. Compliance with 100% of the mandatory standards and 90% of the recommended standards is required to attain "Full Compliance." Again, Centers that chose to be audited on the proposed detention standards were only required to meet the expectation of the current detention standards. Elkhart County Juvenile Detention Center chose to also provide documentation on the extra standards with exclusively new requirements. The breakdown of each audit listed below is only reflective of the current standards.

## FACILITY INFORMATION

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Facility county:</b>   | Elkhart   |
| <b>Governing authority:</b>   | Elkhart Circuit Court   |
| <b>Name of facility administrator:</b>  | Susan Mora  |
| <b>Detention Director:</b>  | Susan Mora  |
| <b>Detention facility's mission:</b>  | Ensure public safety by providing a safe, secure environment for lawfully detained juveniles. Provide for the juveniles' basic needs, including: shelter, food, clothing, personal hygiene and medical care while in detention. Protect juveniles' rights while detained in the Juvenile Detention Center. Provide continual improvement in programming and services in: education, visitation, counseling, supervision, medical, food, recreation, library materials, addictions and religious services. |
| <b>Rated capacity:</b>  | 30  |
| <b>Population on date of first audit:</b>   | 5   |
| <b>Average daily population for the last 12 months:</b>                                     | 10  |
| <b>Average length of stay for the last 12 months:</b>                                       | 22 days   |
| <b>Minor upgrades since last audit (i.e. painting, flooring, bedding, furnishings):</b>     | None  |
| <b>Major upgrades since last audit (i.e. plumbing, electrical, security system):</b>        | None  |
| <b>De-escalation techniques training:</b>   | Review, Staff Meetings, Conflict Resolution, Crisis Management, De-escalation is always the first step in all conflict  |
| <b>Physical force techniques training:</b>  | Safe Crisis Management  |
| <b>Chemical agents permitted:</b>   | No  |
| <b>Name of food service provider:</b>   | Summit Group  |
| <b>Name of food service supervisor</b>  | Laquanna Brown  |
| <b>Name of health care authority individual or agency and license/certification:</b>        | Dr. J. Foster, DO, Wellpath<br>RNs provided by Wellpath   |
| <b>Name of mental health care authority individual or agency and license/certification:</b> | Oaklawn, MSW  |
| <b>Education Services:</b>  | Provides a constructive, proactive education system to meet the diverse needs of each resident. Students are able to earn high school credits. A variety of programs are offered: TASC preparation health and hygiene, therapeutic group learning options, career   |

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|  | exploration and yoga. |
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**Elkhart County 2021 Audit**

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| <b>Standards:</b>          | <b><u>All Mandatory Standards, Security Standards, and Training Plan (8-3-52)</u></b>  |
| <b>Standards Reviewed:</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b><u>Fifty-One Total Standards Audited</u></b></li> <li>• <b><u>16 Mandatory and 35 Recommended</u></b></li> <li>• <b><u>1 Administration Standard, 7 Safety Standards, 23 Security Standards, 3 Food Service and Hygiene Standards, 15 Medical Standards, and 2 Mental Health Standards</u></b></li> <li>• Number of Standards Not Applicable: 0</li> <li>• Number of Mandatory Standards in Compliance: 16</li> <li>• Number of Recommended Standards in Compliance: 35</li> </ul> |
| <b>Auditor(s):</b>         | Rachel McCaffrey, Kristin Herrmann, and Danielle Zagone (Inspection)<br>Rachel McCaffrey (Files)   |
| <b>Facility Tour:</b>      | The facility tour was conducted by Kaestner Rickard. This inspection focused on mandatory standards. Areas such as medical, janitorial closet, kitchen, visitation rooms, search areas, private interview rooms, youth rooms, youth living areas, personal and property areas, mechanical and safety areas were inspected. It was ensured that staff had access to the Emergency Manual.   |
| <b>Youth Interviews:</b>   | Four youth were interviewed between both on-site visits.   |
| <b>Youth Responses:</b>    | The youth were asked a series of questions pertaining to mandatory and security standards. All of the youth said that they are allowed to use cleaning chemicals, but that staff supervise them and also spray the cleaner while they wipe down the area. All youth had been in a fire drill at the facility and were able to describe the process. Lastly, all of the youth said that a juvenile would never be put in charge of another, but that they can work as group to accomplish tasks.                                |
| <b>Staff Interviews:</b>   | Two line staff were interviewed and one with control room experience.  |
| <b>Staff Responses:</b>    | The staff were asked a series of questions regarding mandatory and security standards. The staff receive yearly fire and emergency training. They also go over any SOPs that need to be addressed or refreshed upon at their weekly meetings. Mechanical restraints are very rarely used in the facility and they can stay on for a maximum of two hours but rarely, if ever, stay on that long. The medical health screening is conduct by health trained staff upon a juvenile’s intake. The staff receive a training        |

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|                                 | over four minute response yearly. |
| <b>Non-Compliant Standards:</b> | None                              |
| <b>Recommended Action:</b>      | None                              |

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|---------------------------------|--|
| <b>Standards:</b>               | <b>Safety, Justice &amp; Order, Education Standards</b>  |
| <b>Standards Reviewed:</b>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b><u>70 Total Recommended Standards Audited</u></b></li> <li>• <b><u>27 Safety Standards, 37 Justice &amp; Order Standards, and 6 Education Standards</u></b></li> <li>• Number of Standards Not Applicable: 0</li> <li>• Number of Recommended Standards in Compliance: 70</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Auditor(s):</b>              | Rachel McCaffrey   |
| <b>Youth Interviews:</b>        | Four youth were interviewed between both on-site visits.   |
| <b>Youth Responses:</b>         | The four youth were interviewed about safety, justice and order, and education standards. All four of the youth said that they could request a timeout if needed to destress from a situation. The facility has a positive behavior reward system that allows for more privileges as they receive higher levels. The youth all stated that they enjoy the facility's education program and are using an online learning program and that their credits transfer. |
| <b>Non-compliant Standards:</b> | None   |
| <b>Recommended Action:</b>      | None   |

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| <b>Standards:</b>          | <b><u>Food Service &amp; Hygiene, Medical, Mental Health, Program Standards</u></b>   |
| <b>Standards Reviewed:</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b><u>Fifty-Three Total Standards Audited</u></b></li> <li>• <b><u>16 Food Service &amp; Hygiene Standards, 13 Medical Standards, 4 Mental Health Standards, and 20 Programs &amp; Services Standards</u></b></li> <li>• Number of Standards Not Applicable: 0</li> <li>• Number of Recommended Standards in Compliance: 53</li> </ul> |
| <b>Auditor(s):</b>         | Rachel McCaffrey and Danielle Zagone (inspection)   |

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|                                 | Rachel McCaffrey (files)  |
| <b>Youth Interviews:</b>        | Four youth were interviewed between both on-site visits.  |
| <b>Youth Responses:</b>         | All four of the youth were asked questions regarding food and hygiene, medical, mental health, and program standards. One youth had a food restriction and was given substitutes for restricted food items. All four of them felt that their medical and mental health was taken seriously and kept confidential. Lastly, they all said that they receive clean bedding twice a week and clean clothing once a day. |
| <b>Non-compliant Standards:</b> | None  |
| <b>Recommended Action:</b>      | None  |

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| <b>Standards:</b>               | <u><b>Administration Standards</b></u>   |
| <b>Standards Reviewed:</b>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u><b>Sixty-One Total Standards Audited</b></u></li> <li>• <u><b>61 Administration Standards</b></u></li> <li>• Number of Standards Not Applicable: 0</li> <li>• Number of Recommended Standards in Compliance: 61</li> </ul> |
| <b>Auditor(s):</b>              | Rachel McCaffrey   |
| <b>Non-compliant Standards:</b> | None   |
| <b>Recommended Action:</b>      | None   |

Was the facility required to implement a corrective action plan as a result of the audit? **NO**/YES

### CONCLUSION

Elkhart County Juvenile Detention Center chose to be audited on the proposed standards, which corresponds with the current (301) detention standards and received a score of 100% compliance with the mandatory standards and 100% of the recommended standards.

**The facility received a separate scoresheet indicating their level of compliance with the new proposed detention standards.**

Therefore, Elkhart County Juvenile Detention Center is in compliance with the 2021 Indiana Detention Center Standards Audit performed by the Indiana Department of Correction, Division of Youth Services. A certificate of compliance will accompany this report, which becomes public information ten (10) days from the date of mailing.

Please contact me at (812) 929-3980 should you have any questions concerning this report.

Respectfully submitted,

**Rachel McCaffrey**

Director of Juvenile Detention Inspections

Indiana Department of Correction/Division of Youth Services

cc: Danielle Zagone, Director of External Relations, DOC  
Honorable Michael Christofeno, Circuit Court  
Susan Mora, Director  
pursuant to 210 IAC 8-1-5(f)  
File