

Indiana Department of Correction  
2014-Juvenile Detention Standards- Compliance Report

Marion County Juvenile Detention Center  
4251 North Keystone Avenue  
Indianapolis, IN 46218  
September 10<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup>, 2014

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## **I. Introduction**

The annual inspection of the Marion County Juvenile Detention Center, for compliance with the Indiana Juvenile Detention Standards, pursuant to 210 IAC 6, was conducted on September 10<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> 2014, by the following team: representing the IDOC, Division of Youth Services was Amy Karozos, Staff Attorney, Youth Law T.E.A.M. of Indiana; Chance Sweat, DYS, Director of Juvenile Detention Inspections; Kristin Herrmann, Staff Attorney, Youth Law T.E.A.M.; Laurie Elliott, Executive Director, Youth Law T.E.A.M. of Indiana; of Indiana; Tashi Teuschler Yul Lee, JDAI Juvenile Justice Strategist and Yul Lee, JDAI Juvenile Justice Strategist.

The 2014 inspection constitutes the 18<sup>th</sup> annual inspection of the Marion County Juvenile Detention Center. The inspection consisted of facility tours, staff and youth interviews, and a review of policy, procedure, and demonstrated practices as related to the Indiana Juvenile Detention Standards. Compliance with 100% of the mandatory standards and at least 90% of the recommended standards is required to attain “Full Compliance” in accordance with the aforementioned code.

## **II. Facility Demographics**

Rated Capacity: 96  
Actual Population: 82  
Average Daily Population for the last 12 months: 86.47  
Average Length of Stay: 16.95 days  
Full Time Staff: 117  
Part- Time Staff: 0  
Contracted Staff: 28  
Counties served: Marion  
Data system: Quest

## **III. Facility Description**

The Marion County Juvenile Detention Center is located in the city of Indianapolis, Indiana. The Center opened in 1990. The Marion County Juvenile Services Center consists of 96- bed detention center and on the same grounds as the Marion County Superior Court and Marion County Juvenile Probation Offices.

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The Marion County Juvenile Detention Center Facility Director- Charles Parkins oversees the detention operations with the assistance of Facility Secure Director- Serena Thompson. Judge Clark Rogers and Marion County Superior Court is the facility governing authority.

The 96- single cell co-ed detention facility consists of a Main control station, Six (16 bed) 2- tier living units, administrative offices, an education center, kitchen, gym, dining hall, medical clinic, and a 16- single bed isolation unit. Each unit/pod has showers and storage closets with numerous surveillance cameras.

The rear outside perimeter of the facility is surrounded by 16 foot fencing and numerous surveillance cameras.

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

The team toured the entire facility. Charles Parkins, Facility Director and Serena Thompson, Facility Secure Director accompanied the team and they were more than willing to answer the teams questions concerning facility operations. Sanitation levels in the facility were found to be satisfactory. The center staff that were interviewed were friendly and knowledgeable in policy and procedures. The Medical department appeared to be neat and medication inventory logs were accurate up to date. The medical staff were friendly and very knowledgeable about the medical department and facility operations.

The Education department is located near Main control of the facility. The classroom area is equipped with Smart Board and computer labs for on- line GED program. Juveniles were observed to be positively interacting with detention staff. The center has a full- size indoor recreation area that includes a weight room in which youth earn physical education credits.

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

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

Youth Detention staff at the detention center are trained to use verbal de-escalation techniques with the youth. Additionally, all staff are trained in defensive tactics through soft hand restraint techniques. The center does not use OC spray, and does not have a restraint chair or any other immobilization devices. The center does use the isolation cell and room restriction for behavior violations, programming disruption, and / or out of control behavior. All isolation incidents are approved by Facility Director or designee and juveniles are monitored visually by unit staff.

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

The detention center, opened in 1990, offers a safe environment. All areas of the detention center, including the youth dorm, were clean and organized. Sanitation in the facility was found to be above standard. The resident's furniture is functional and in good condition.

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All staff uniforms are based on their assigned position; Detention officers wear navy blue polo shirts, Program staff wear green polo shirts, Unit Team staff wear royal blue polo shirts, Main Control staff wear grey polo shirts, Training/Officer in Charge staff wear black polo shirts, and Administration Staff wear maroon polo shirts. All staff wear khaki style pants with black shoes while on duty.

Youth resident's at the detention center wear navy blue color scrub style pants and shirts, white t-shirts and black Velcro shoes or tennis shoes.

**C. Food Service**

The facility has a kitchen in which all meals are prepared by Aviaands staff. The kitchen staff was friendly and very informative about food service production. They were more than willing to provide documentation for review. The kitchen production area, freezers, refrigerators, dry storage area were very clean, and organized. The youth eat in the dining hall area while being supervised by detention staff. The day of the tour the youth received Beef bites, tater tots, sliced green beans, wheat bread, and milk for lunch. The serving trays appearance was clean and the food appearance looked good.

**D. Medical Services**

The Marion County Juvenile Detention Center contracts medical services through Correct Care Solutions. Through the contract: a medical physician visits the center for morning sick calls and evaluations and is on-call 24 hours per day; nursing services are also available 24 hours per day, 7 days per week.

The center contracts mental health care services department through 2- private Psychologists, Dr. Dan Holland and Dr. David Ofstein.

**E. Educational Program**

The education program is overseen by Charles Parkins, Facility Director and Principal Mark West. The education department is made up of eight licensed educators, provided for by Indianapolis Public School system. The Youth resident's attend school daily 12 months a year, Monday thru Friday with 6 hours of instructional focus per day and participate in 1 hour of physical education per day monitored by detention staff. The school program includes a Smart Board and several computers for on- line GED program, remedial, and IEP services.

**F. Visitation**

The Center provides visitation area for youth and their parents or guardians 1 day a week.

## **VI. Interviews**

Three youth (3 male) were interviewed by Michelle Mosier and Chance Sweat using combined questions from the DOC detention youth inspections document and the Youth Law T.E.A.M. suggested questions. Interview questions covered: Intake and Admissions; Social Services; Academic, Vocational, and Work; Library; Recreation; Living and Sleeping Areas; and Discipline and Rule Violations; Access to Counsel; Medical Care; and Food Service.

Staff gave us privacy and allowed access to all juveniles. The youth were open, not hesitant, and seemed to feel secure about talking about the facility. Youth interviewed reported that they know the rules, felt safe and all were very positive about the staff. All youth were able to call a parent or guardian when they arrived at the center. All juveniles knew how to access medical, mental health care and attorney. The youth reported being served three meals a day (including two hot meals).

Points of concern:

- Youth reported that the living areas were extremely cold and uncomfortable.

## **VII. Special Affiliations**

Marion County Juvenile Detention Center participates in the Indiana Juvenile Detention Association (IJDA), the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI), Performance Based Standards (PbS), Council of Accreditation, Council of Juvenile Correctional Administrators (CJCA), and the Indiana Mental Health Screening, Assessment and Treatment Project.

## **VIII. Inspection Findings**

### **A. Review of Folders**

- Facility use paper files

### **B. Recommendations**

- Highlight relevant policy, procedure, and practice in the files that support standard.
- Number bullet points that correspond with standard request
- Include relevant documents to provide proof of practice

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**C. Non- applicable and Non- compliant Standards**

Of the 275 recommended compliance standards, six (6) were identified as non-applicable and one (1) standards were found to be non-compliant. A list of these standards is attached to this Compliance Report.

**D. Conclusion**

The Marion County Juvenile Detention Center was found to be in compliance with 100% of the mandatory standards and 99.63% of the recommended standards. The facility was well maintained and organized. The staff were very respectful, helpful and informative. 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; Clark Rogers Judge, Marion County Superior Court  
Charles Parkins – Facility Director, Marion County Juvenile Detention Center  
File

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

**1-Non-Compliant:**

- 1.45- Written policy, procedure, and practice provide that employees who have direct contact with juveniles receive a physical examination prior to job assignment. Employees receive reexaminations according to a defined need or schedule. (ACA1C-14)

*Comments: Staff do not receive physical examinations as part of conditions of employment.*

**6 -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)
- 1.25- Written policy, procedure, and practice provide that the facility administrator is responsible for fiscal management and control. Management of fiscal operations may be delegated to a designated staff person. (ACA-1B-01)
- 1.26- Written policy, procedure, and practice cover at a minimum the following fiscal areas: Internal controls, petty cash, bonding for all appropriate staff, signature control on checks, and the issuing or use of vouchers. (ACA-1B-03)
- 1.36- Written policy, procedure, and practice provide that any financial transactions permitted between juveniles, juveniles and staff, and juveniles and volunteers be approved by designated staff. (ACA-1B-21)
- 2.89- If the facility is on the grounds of any other type of corrections facility, it is a separated, self contained unit. (ACA-2B-03)
- 4.235- When facilities do not have full-time, qualified, health-trained personnel, a health-trained staff member coordinates the health delivery services in the facility under the joint supervision of the responsible health authority and facility administrator. (ACA-4C-17)

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