

Indiana Department of Correction, Division of Youth Services  
2015 Juvenile Detention Inspection - Compliance Report



Porter County Juvenile Detention Center  
1660 South State Road 2  
Valparaiso, Indiana 46385

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Auditors

Chance Sweat, Division of Youth Services, Indiana Department of Correction  
Laurie Elliott, Youth Law T.E.A.M. of Indiana  
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Indiana Department of Correction  
Division of Youth Services  
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Facility: Porter County Juvenile Detention Center  
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Inspection Date: April 22, 2015

Subsequent Visit Date: None

Technical Assistance Date: October 7, 2015

Auditors: Chance Sweat  
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## INTRODUCTION

Due to new Indiana Juvenile Detention Standards being promulgated with the intent to implement in 2016, the Facility Inspection will consist of a review of only the 26 mandatory compliance standards. Compliance with 100% of the mandatory standards is required to attain “Full Compliance” in accordance with the aforementioned code. The Indiana Department of Correction, Division of Youth Services provided five (5) Training Sessions and technical assistance to assist facilities coming into compliance with the new standards.

Therefore, the 19<sup>th</sup> annual evaluation of the Porter County Juvenile Detention Center had three components: inspection for compliance with the 26 mandatory standards located in 210 IAC 6; participation in trainings on the new detention center standards to take effect in 2016; and participation in technical assistance offerings for compliance with the new detention center standards.

## FACILITY INFORMATION

Facility county	Porter
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<b>Governing authority</b>	Porter Circuit Court
<b>Name of facility administrator</b>	Alison Cox
<b>Detention facility's mission</b>	To provide safe, secure, and temporary custody to juveniles who are accused or adjudicated of conduct subject to the jurisdiction of the Juvenile Court who require a physically restricting environment for their own or the community's protection.
<b>Rated capacity</b>	24
<b>Population on date of audit</b>	11
<b>Average daily population for the last 12 months</b>	12.6
<b>Average length of stay for the last 12 months</b>	13.9 days
<b>Year the building was built</b>	1994
<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>	New roof
<b>De-escalation techniques training</b>	Nonviolent Crisis Intervention (NCI) / Crisis Prevention Intervention (CPI)
<b>Physical force techniques training</b>	Nonviolent Crisis Intervention (NCI) / Applied Physical Training (APT)
<b>Chemical agents permitted</b>	No
<b>Name of food service provider</b>	Porter County Juvenile Detention Center
<b>Name of food service supervisor</b>	Sharon Hall
<b>Name of health care authority individual or agency and license/certification</b>	Cindy Gilbert, RN
<b>Name of mental health care authority individual or agency and license/certification</b>	Mike Arbanas, MA, NCC

### INSPECTION FOR COMPLIANCE WITH 26 MANDATORY STANDARDS

<b>Auditors</b>	Chance Sweat and Michelle Mosier
<b>File Review of the 26 mandatory standards</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Zero (0) standards were identified as non-applicable, and zero (0) mandatory standards were found to be non-compliant.</li> <li>• Porter County Juvenile Detention Center was in compliance with 100% of the mandatory standards.</li> </ul>
<b>Facility Tour</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All areas of the detention center, including the youth dorm areas, were clean and organized.</li> <li>• Sanitation in the facility was found to be above standard.</li> </ul>

<b>Youth Interviews</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Three youth (two male and one female) were interviewed about their experiences at the Center.</li> <li>• Youth reported, without hesitation, feeling safe at the facility.</li> <li>• Youth did not make complaints or provide recommendations.</li> </ul>
<b>Recommendations</b>	None

### **SUBSEQUENT ANNOUNCED AND/OR UNANNOUNCED VISIT(S)**

On 12/9/2015, a subsequent visit was conducted of the Porter County Juvenile Center by Chance Sweat. Assistant Director Lutz and Conna Stein, Safety Hazard Manager, advised they were working on the standards. The facility tour was conducted by Assistant Director Lutz, and youth were observed participating in education classes. The facility population count was 10 youth. All youth appeared to be in good health. All areas of the facility appeared to be well maintained, and sanitation was found to be satisfactory. The food service and medical departments were well maintained and organized. During the tour, the maintenance staff was installing a brand new dishwasher machine.

### **PARTICIPATION IN NEW DETENTION CENTER STANDARDS TRAINING**

<u><b>Introduction to the new standards</b></u> <u><b>Preparing for an Inspection</b></u> <u><b>Administration and Management</b></u> <u><b>Standards</b></u> <b>January 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>, 2015</b>	Conna Steen, Detention Manager Matthew Bonick, Line Staff
<u><b>Safety Standards</b></u> <u><b>Security Standards</b></u> <b>March 10, 2015</b>	Alison Cox, Facility Director Conna Steen, Detention Manager Jody Jillson-Depolis, Training Coordinator
<u><b>Programs and Services Standards</b></u> <u><b>Education Standards</b></u> <b>June 2, 2015</b>	Alison Cox, Facility Director Conna Steen, Detention Manager Jody Speckhard, Educator
<u><b>Medical Standards</b></u> <u><b>Mental Health Care Standards</b></u> <b>July 21, 2015</b>	Alison Cox, Facility Director Becky Lutz, Assistant Director Cindy Gilbert, Nurse
<u><b>Food Service and Hygiene Standards</b></u> <u><b>Justice and Order Standards</b></u> <b>September 29, 2015</b>	Becky Lutz, Assistant Director Conna Steen, Detention Manager

### **TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE**

The Porter County Juvenile Detention Center's technical assistance visit occurred on October 7, 2015 and was conducted by Chance Sweat and Laurie Elliott. The facility was asked to prepare 10 standard files for review. The technical assistance provided included reviewing the 10 files presented, discussing the difference between policy and procedure and the need for policy to

reflect language in the standard, and addressing the facility's plan to meet the education, medical, and mental health standards. Future technical assistance will be offered in 2016, or as requested by the facility.

## CONCLUSION

Porter County Juvenile Detention Center is in full compliance with the 2015 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 (317) 607-6507 should you have any questions concerning this report.

Respectfully submitted,

*C. Sweat*

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cc: Christine Blessinger, DYS Chief of Operations Director  
Kellie Whitcomb, Director of Reentry & External Relations  
Honorable Mary R. Harper, Porter Circuit Court  
Alison Cox, Facility Director, Porter County Juvenile Detention Center  
File