

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



Porter County Juvenile Detention Center  
1660 S. State Road 2  
Valparaiso, IN 46835

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## Auditors

Rachel McCaffrey, Director of Juvenile Detention Inspections, Indiana Department of Correction  
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: Porter County Juvenile Detention Center  
1660 S. State Road 2  
Valparaiso, IN 46835

On-Site Inspection Dates: 5/7/2021 and 9/28/2021

Auditors: Rachel McCaffrey  
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## **INTRODUCTION**

The 2021 annual juvenile detention facility evaluations conducted by the IDOC, Division of Youth Services included 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.

Porter 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. Porter 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>	Porter
<b>Governing authority:</b>	Porter Circuit Court
<b>Name of facility administrator:</b>	Alison Cox
<b>Detention Director:</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 first audit:</b>	1
<b>Average daily population for the last 12 months:</b>	5
<b>Average length of stay for the last 12 months:</b>	16 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>	Non-Violent Crisis Intervention-Crisis Prevention Institute (NCI CPI)
<b>Physical force techniques training:</b>	NCI-CPI
<b>Chemical agents permitted:</b>	No
<b>Name of food service provider:</b>	PCJDC kitchen staff
<b>Name of food service supervisor:</b>	Pam McKenna
<b>Name of health care authority individual or agency and license/certification:</b>	Dr. Eric Tchaptchet, MD, Quality Correction Care (QCC) Cindy Gilbert, RN
<b>Name of mental health care authority individual or agency and license/certification:</b>	Aimee Christian, MSW, Porter-Starke Services (PRN), Family and Youth Service Bureau
<b>Education Services:</b>	The youth work on homework from home schools for those in school. TABE testing for all and then grade appropriate work for those not in school. TASC prep and testing if no longer pursuing diploma. GRADPOINT for credit recovery and grade level work when appropriate.

**Porter County 2021 Audit**

<b>Standards:</b>	<u><b>All Mandatory Standards, Security Standards, and Training Plan (8-3-52)</b></u>
<b>Standards Reviewed:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u><b>Fifty-One Total Standards Audited</b></u></li> <li>• <u><b>16 Mandatory and 35 Recommended</b></u></li> <li>• <u><b>1 Administration Standard, 7 Safety Standards, 23 Security Standards, 3 Food Service and Hygiene Standards, 15 Medical Standards, and 2 Mental Health Standards</b></u></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) Kristin Herrmann (Files)
<b>Facility Tour:</b>	The facility tour was conducted by Alison Cox. 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>	Three youth were interviewed between both on-site visits.
<b>Youth Responses:</b>	The youth were asked a series of questions regarding the mandatory and security standards. All the youth stated that they had been a part of a fire drill that had been conducted at the facility. They all felt safe and that the facility was clean and in good working. None interviewed had been off grounds for an appointment but they did know that facility vehicles were utilized in the movement of youth.
<b>Staff Interviews:</b>	There were two line staff interviewed.
<b>Staff Responses:</b>	The staff were asked a series of questions regarding mandatory and security standards. Both staff went over protocol in the event of an emergency. One spoke of fire drills and how they are conducted monthly. The other spoke of other emergency drills like tornado that is conducted a few times a year. There is a system to evacuate the youth simultaneously and a backup for that system. The staff receive twenty hours of training regarding fire and emergency protocols.
<b>Non-compliant Standards:</b>	None
<b>Recommended Action:</b>	None

<b>Standards:</b>	<b>Safety, Justice &amp; Order, and 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>	Kristin Herrmann
<b>Youth Interviews:</b>	Three youth were interviewed between both on-site visits.
<b>Youth Responses:</b>	Youth were asked a series of questions regarding the safety, justice and order, and education standards. One youth felt that the facility rules were unfair and wanted a laxer bedtime and other things like wearing their own shoes to gym. All the youth felt like the sanctions to rule breaking were fair. All youth reported that they had received a handbook from the facility and were able to keep it. The youth said they were able to use an online learning program and that their earned credits would transfer.
<b>Non-compliant Standards:</b>	None
<b>Recommended Action:</b>	None

<b>Standards:</b>	<b><u>Food Service &amp; Hygiene, Medical, Mental Health, and 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>	Kristin Herrmann
<b>Youth Interviews:</b>	Three youth were interviewed between both on-site visits.
<b>Youth Responses:</b>	All three youth were asked a series of questions regarding food service and hygiene, medical, mental health, and program standards. The youth shared that they received clean bedding once a week and clean clothes every day. All the youth residents claimed they receive three meals a day at regular times and that most of them have hot items. They stated that they knew how to request for medical assistance and that their medical and mental health was being taken seriously by the facility.

<b>Non-compliant Standards:</b>	None
<b>Recommended Action:</b>	None

<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:</li> <li>• Number of Recommended Standards in Compliance: 61</li> </ul>
<b>Auditor(s):</b>	Kristin Herrmann
<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**

Porter 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, Porter 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, IDOC  
Honorable Mary DeBoer, Circuit Court  
Alison Cox, Director  
pursuant to 210 IAC 8-1-5(f)  
File