

Indiana Department of Correction, Division of Youth Services
2014 Juvenile Detention Inspection - Compliance Report

St. Joseph Probate Court Juvenile Justice Center
1000 South Michigan Street
South Bend, IN 46601
May 7th – 8th, 2014

JUVENILE DETENTION STANDARDS AUDIT TEAM MEMBERS

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I. Introduction

The annual inspection of the St. Joseph Probate Court Juvenile Justice Center, for compliance with the Indiana Juvenile Detention Standards, pursuant to 210 IAC 6, was conducted on May 7th – 8th 2014, by the following team: representing the IDOC, Division of Youth Services was Kellie Whitcomb, DYS, Director of Re- Entry and External Relations; Chance Sweat, DYS, Director of Juvenile Detention Inspections; Amy Karozos, Attorney of the Youth Law T.E.A.M. of Indiana; and Yul Lee.

The 2014 inspection constitutes the 17th annual inspection of the St. Joseph Probate Court Juvenile Justice Center. The inspection consisted of the facility tours, staff and youth interviews, and a review of policy, procedure, and demonstrated practice 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: 90

Actual Population: 60

Average Daily Population for the last 12 months: 51

Average Length of Stay: 26 days

Full Time Staff: 53

Part- Time Staff: 0

Contracted Staff: 5

Counties served: Pulaski, Kosciusko, Marshall, Elkhart, and Starke

Data system: Quest

III. Facility Description

The St. Joseph Probate Court Juvenile Justice Center is located in the city of South Bend, Indiana. The Juvenile Justice Center opened in 1997 and accommodates 90- bed juvenile detention center. The Juvenile Justice Center includes the St. Joseph county court rooms and Probation department.

The St. Joseph Probate Court Juvenile Justice Center Director, Sean Coleman, oversees the detention operations. Sean Coleman reports directly to Peter Morgan, Director of Juvenile Services St. Joseph Probate Court Juvenile Justice Center. The facility governing authority is Judge James Fox St. Joseph Probate Court department.

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The 90- bed secure detention facility consists of general population housing units/pod. The housing unit/pod is comprised of the following: central control station; 80 double cells and 10 multi- person cells; F- Pod is used a single bed isolation cells; each unit/pod has 2- day rooms with 8-sleeping rooms per day room (total of 72 beds are designated for males and 18 beds are designated for females), game tables, 3-phones, indoor gym, and out- door court yard areas no fencing with numerous surveillance cameras.

IV. Facility Tour

The team toured the entire facility Sean Coleman, Director of Detention and Chris Meuschke, Assistant Director of Detention accompanied the team on the tour and responded to the team's questions concerning facility operations. The facility was clean, well maintained, and free of odor. Detention staff interviewed was well versed in policy and procedures, and were respectful and supportive of administration. The Medical and Education Departments was very organized, clean and department staff was informative. The facility dining hall was clean, and food appearance and smell was good. The Youth Service Center has a nice, full- size indoor gymnasium and also out- door recreation facilities.

V. Conditions of Confinement

A. Security

Youth Care Workers at the Center are trained to use de- escalation techniques with the youth. Additionally, they are trained in use of restraint chair, OC spray and defensive tactics through Aikido Control Techniques. The Center does not use, or any other immobilization devices or techniques. The Center does use in room restriction for major violations and the detainees placed on room restriction participate in regular programming. The Corrective Program Unit (CPU) is used for serious violations involving assaults or fights and is reviewed daily and are out of their rooms for approximately 5 hours per day.

Youth Care Workers work 8 hour shifts, 5 days a week. The staff is not required to wear uniforms. They wear polo shirts and jeans with utility belts while on duty.

B. Environment Conditions

The Juvenile Justice Center opened in 1997 and offers a safe and secure environment. The Center is clean and orderly. The facility maintenance staff is continual painting the rooms and pods to maintain cleanliness. Sanitation in the facility was found to be very good. The resident's furniture is functional and in good condition.

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Youth at the Center wear blue khaki style tops and pants with black sandal shoes. The Center issues slip- on shower shoes at admission.

Points of concern:

- Youth reported that the sleeping areas are uncomfortably cold.

C. Food Service

Meals are prepared at the Center by food service staff. Youth receive and eat their meals in the dining area of the Center. The food appearance was good and taste good.

D. Medical / Mental Health Care Services

The St. Joseph Probate Court Juvenile Justice Center contracts medical services through a private physician, Dr. James Tieman. Through the contract: a medical physician visits the detention center at least twice per week and is on-call 24 hours per day; nursing services are available 24 hours per day, 7 days per week.

The detention center mental health care services is provided by a private physician Dr. Jeff Bennett and 3- mental health therapists.

E. Educational Program

The South Bend Community School Corporation provides 3- licensed teachers, 2- Paraprofessionals, and 1- GED instructor for the detention center. Youth attend school 6 hours per day and provided with 1 hour of recreation 5 days a week. The students were able to enroll in three credited classes or to prepare for the GED test. The academic calendar for the Juvenile Justice Center is consistent with the corporation's calendar. The Juvenile Justice Center students are in class the same number of days as other students in the South Bend schools. The teachers and paraprofessionals use the state adopted textbooks and materials to teach courses that are required for graduation. The Juvenile Justice Center also administers the same state standardized tests as the other schools in South Bend.

In order to facilitate the schedule of the students, there is close collaboration between the Juvenile Justice Center and the schools the students attend. In order to facilitate the transferring of grades from one facility to another, in the 2012-2013 school year, the teachers kept a portfolio of work for each do not have trouble getting grades transferred to their home schools. The special education students receive the modifications and accommodations that are in their IEPs. The school corporation provides testing services, as well as speech and language pathologists to provide services that are identified at the students' annual case conferences. The computer program that allows access to the students' files is available to the teaching staff at the Juvenile Justice Center.

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Also, Juvenile Justice Center pre-test and post-test students over the age of sixteen, using the Test of Adult Basic Education, to see if they are increasing in their basic knowledge.

Points of concern:

- None of the youth interviewed were working on academics that would result in credit when they are released. Although the center's education plan includes getting schoolwork from the youth's home school, this does not seem to be happening in practice.

F. Visitation

The Detention Center provides private visitation rooms for youth and their parents or guardians 3 days weekly. The Center has the capability to offer non- contact visits, if necessary.

VI. Youth Interviews

Staff gave us privacy and allowed access to all juveniles. The youth were open, not hesitant, and seemed to feel comfortable about talking about the facility. Youth interviewed reported that they

know the rules, felt safe and all were very positive about the staff. All juveniles knew how to access medical and mental health care. The youth reported being served three meals a day (including two hot meals).

Points of concern:

- None of the juveniles knew how they could call or get in touch with their attorneys. None of the kids' attorneys had been to the center. It seemed the kids had to wait until they were in court to see their lawyers.

VII. Special Affiliations

The St. Joseph Probate Court Juvenile Justice Center participates in the Indiana Juvenile Detention Association (IJDA), Indiana Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative (JDAI) and Indiana Mental Health Screening, Assessment and Treatment Project.

VIII. Inspection Findings

A. Review of Folders:

- Folders are maintained electronically.
- Folders were well organized and easy to read.
- Highlighting and pictures provided in the folders are great addition.

B. Recommendations:

- Implement a procedure and practice of large muscle activity on weekends.
- Consider not limiting juveniles of 2- letters per week
- Consider working closer with probation department concerning, the release of applicable information to the juveniles probation and service providers.

C. Non-applicable and Non-compliant Standards

Of the 275 recommended compliance standards, zero (0) were identified as non-applicable and one (1) was found to be non-compliant. A list of these standards is attached to this Compliance Report.

IX. Conclusion

St. Joseph Probate Court Juvenile Justice Center was founded to be in compliance with 100% of the mandatory standards, and 99.64 % of the recommended standards. The facility was well maintained and organized. The staff was very 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: Michael Dempsey- Executive Director of Juvenile Services
Christine Blessinger- Assistant Executive Director of Juvenile Services
Kellie Whitcomb- Director of Reentry & External Relations
Peter Morgan; Facility Director of St. Joseph Probate Court Juvenile Justice Center.
Sean Coleman; Operations Director of St. Joseph Probate Court Juvenile Justice Center
File

Standards determined to be non- applicable and non- compliant

5.284- Written policy, procedure, and practice provide a recreation and leisure time plan that includes at a minimum at least one hour per day of large muscle activity and one hour of structured leisure time activities. (ACA-5E-04)

Remakes: Large muscle activity not provided on weekends.