

**OKLAHOMA COMMISSION ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH  
OFFICE OF JUVENILE SYSTEM OVERSIGHT**

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**Name and Location of Facility:** Beckham County Juvenile Detention Center  
Elk City, Oklahoma

**Date of Visit:** March 23, 2011

**OJSO Reviewer:** Dana S. Holden, Oversight Specialist IV

**Focus of Visit:** Oversight Visit

**Date:** May 17, 2011

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### **Introduction**

The Office of Juvenile System Oversight (OJSO) conducted an announced visit on March 23, 2011, to the Beckham County Juvenile Detention Center, located in Elk City, Oklahoma. The purpose of the visit was to monitor compliance with established responsibilities. The facility was certified by the Office of Juvenile Affairs (OJA) for six juveniles. The OJA contracted with the Beckham County Board of Commissioners for the detention center, and in turn, the County Commissioners contracted with the Western Plains Youth & Family Services for the daily operation of the detention center. The facility provided regional detention services to other counties. On the day of the OJSO visit, the census was four; however, two of the juveniles were away from the facility attending court.

### **Interviews Conducted**

- Entry interview and an exit conference with the assistant superintendent
- Two juveniles

### **Documents Reviewed**

- Files on two residents
- Office of the Oklahoma State Fire Marshal inspection report dated February 11, 2011
- Oklahoma State Department of Health inspection report dated January 19, 2011
- One personnel file

### **Findings**

#### Resident Interviews

The OJSO interviewed two residents. The interview questions pertained to the residents' perceptions of safety, detention program services, resident rights, discipline practices, and other residential care issues. The OJSO noted:

- Both of the residents stated they felt safe at the facility.
- None of the residents reported being placed on room restriction or room confinement.
- Neither of the residents reported any behavior by staff or other residents that caused them concern.

There were no concerns noted from the resident interviews.

#### Staff Interviews

The OJSO did not interview the direct care staff members on duty. All three staff members had been employed less than three months. The OJSO had interviewed all other staff members on duty on several occasions. The OJSO was advised that the Office of Juvenile Affairs (OJA) Office of Public Integrity (OPI) inspected the facility last week; however, the facility had yet to receive the report. The assistant director advised that there were no violations.

#### Resident File Review

The OJSO reviewed the files on the two residents. The files were essentially complete and well-organized. No issues of concern were noted from the resident file review.

#### Personnel File Review

The OJSO reviewed the personnel file of one new employee. The file was complete and well-organized. No concern was noted from the personnel file review.

#### Inspection Reports Review

The OJSO reviewed the latest inspection reports from the State Fire Marshal's office dated February 11, 2011, and the Oklahoma State Department of Health dated January 19, 2011. There were no deficiencies noted on either report.

The latest inspection report by the Office of Public Integrity (OPI) had not been received by the facility. The assistant facility director reported there were no concerns noted by the OPI.

#### **Summary**

There were no violations or areas of concern noted from the OJSO's inspection. An exit conference was held with the assistant director.