

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

Name and Location of Facility: Bryan County Juvenile Detention Center
Durant, Oklahoma

Date of Visit: August 5, 2009

Oversight Reviewers: Anthony Kibble and Dana Holden,
Oversight Specialists

Subject: Unannounced Visit, 2009

Date: September 10, 2009

Introduction

The Office of Juvenile System Oversight (OJSO) conducted an unannounced visit to the Bryan County Juvenile Detention Center, located in Durant, Oklahoma, on August 5, 2009. The purpose of the visit was to assess compliance with established responsibilities. The facility was certified by the Office of Juvenile Affairs (OJA) for six juveniles. The OJA contracted with the Bryan County Board of Commissioners who, in turn, contracted with Youth Services of Bryan County for the operation of the facility. The census on the day of the visit was six.

Interviews Conducted

- Entry interview with the detention administrator
- Six residents
- One direct care staff

Documents Reviewed

- Six residents files
- Grievance log
- Room Confinement Log from April 1, 2009, through July 31, 2009
- Incident Reports from April 1, 2009, through July 31, 2009
- Oklahoma State Department of Health Food Inspection report dated November 5, 2008
- Office of the Oklahoma State Fire Marshal report dated March 23, 2009
- Durant Independent School District Educational Services Agreement

Findings

Resident Interviews

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

- Two of the six residents interviewed reported that they were placed on room confinement due to not participating or quitting during “physical training”. The residents reported that they were only required to participate in “physical training” when a particular staff member was on duty.

The OJSO did not note any additional concerns with the resident interviews.

Staff Interview

The OJSO interviewed one direct care staff member. The OJSO did not note any concerns from the staff interview.

Resident File Review

Six resident files were reviewed. The OJSO noted:

- Documentation contained in three different progress notes indicated that residents were placed on “l/d” (laid down) status; however, the reason for being placed on this status was not documented. Documentation did not indicate when the resident was taken off of the “laid down” status.

No other concerns were noted from the resident file reviews.

Incident Report Review

The OJSO reviewed the incident reports from April 1, 2009, through July 31, 2009. The OJSO noted:

- Two of the incident reports reviewed indicated that a resident had been placed on “lock down” due to not following staff’s verbal directives.

The OJSO did not note any additional concerns.

Areas of Concern

1. Two of the six residents interviewed reported that they were placed on room confinement due to not participating or quitting during “physical training”. The juveniles reported that they were only required to participate in “physical training” when a particular staff member was on duty.
2. Documentation contained in three different progress notes indicated that residents were placed on “l/d” (laid down) status; however, the reason for being placed on this status was not documented. Documentation did not indicate when the resident was taken off of the “laid down” status.

Violation

1. Two of the incident reports reviewed indicated that a resident had been placed on “lock down” due to not following verbal directives. OJA policy, OAC 377:3-13-44, Security and control, (14), Room confinement, (A), (i) through (vi), states:

Room confinement is used with detained juveniles for self protection; to separate juveniles from fighting; to restrain juveniles in danger of inflicting harm to themselves or others; to restrain juveniles who have escaped or who are in the process of escaping; to prevent destruction of property if reasonably related to (i) through (iv); and stop behavior that incites other juveniles which jeopardizes the safety of staff and residents of the facility and is reasonably related to (i) through (iv).

Summary

On the day of the OJSO visit, the documentation was in good order and the files were complete, with the exceptions noted. The interactions observed between the staff and the residents were appropriate.

