



Oklahoma Department of Human Services
Child Care Services
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February 19, 2010

Joanne Verity
Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth
1111 N. Lee, Suite 500
Oklahoma City, OK 73103-2600

Re: Cedar Canyon Adventure Program, K850000228

This letter is in response to the Office of Juvenile System Oversight visit conducted by Dana Holden on October 15, 2009. This report includes a recommendation to the Oklahoma Department of Human Services division of Oklahoma Child Care Services. This recommendation is:

1. Consider allowing the facility itself to request and schedule the inspections conducted by the health department and the fire marshal's office.

It is not the requirement of the Oklahoma Department of Human Services that dictates who is and is not allowed to request a fire or health inspection.

The Oklahoma Department of Human Services currently contracts with the Oklahoma State Department of Health to conduct annual food service inspections to certain residential child care programs. Part of this contract agreement is for OKDHS to provide a request for inspections for these facilities to the Oklahoma State Department of Health staff. This agreement does not allow for a facility to make their own request for a food service inspection directly to the health department.

Historically, the Oklahoma State Fire Marshall's office has required the OKDHS licensing staff to request a fire inspection on behalf of the facility needing the inspection. My understanding is that it is now acceptable for a facility to make a request for an inspection directly to the Oklahoma State Fire Marshall. In some situations, the Oklahoma State Fire Marshall has allowed a local fire department to conduct those inspections. Depending on the department, OKDHS licensing may be required to request the inspection.

It is the objective of Oklahoma Child Care Services to work with the Oklahoma State Department of Health and the Oklahoma State Fire Marshall's office to follow the process recommended by their agencies that provide a service to the programs that we license.

Thank you for your recommendation.

Sincerely,

Susan Case, Programs Manager
Residential and Agency Licensing