

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

Name and Location of Facility: Comanche County Regional Juvenile Detention Center
Lawton, Oklahoma

Date of Visit: June 26, 2007

Oversight Reviewer: Dana S. Holden, Oversight Specialist

Focus of Visit: Oversight Visit

Date: July 19, 2007

General Information

The Office of Juvenile System Oversight (OJSO) conducted an unannounced visit on June 26, 2007, at the Comanche County detention center, located in Lawton, Oklahoma. The purpose of the visit was to assess compliance with established responsibilities. The facility is certified by the Office of Juvenile Affairs (OJA) for twenty-five juveniles. On the day of the OJSO visit, the census was twenty. The facility provides regional detention services to other counties. The facility was operated by the Comanche County Juvenile Bureau.

Interviews Conducted

- Entry interview and an exit conference with the facility Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent
- Five residents
- Two direct care staff members on-duty

Documents Reviewed

- Personnel files and training records of three direct care staff members
- Files on six residents
- Office of the State Fire Marshal inspection report, dated October 31, 2006
- Oklahoma State Department of Health inspection report, dated June 15, 2007
- OJA Office of Public Integrity (OPI) monitoring report, regarding visit of March 13 and 14, 2007, and the facility's response, dated May 1, 2007
- Facility room confinement logs for March through June 26, 2007

Findings

Interviews

The OJSO interviewed five residents. The interview questions identified the residents' perceptions of safety, detention program services, the rights of residents, discipline practices, and other residential issues. The residents' responses to the interview questions indicated they:

- felt safe at the facility, primarily because of the security of the facility;
- received appropriate care by the staff;
- had access to medical care;
- participated in recreational activities; and
- were knowledgeable of their rights.

The interviewees were familiar with the facility's grievance process and had filed grievances with the facility. All stated that the quality of the food was appropriate, and that they received enough to eat. No issues of concern were noted from the resident interviews.

The OJSO interviewed two direct care staff members on-duty. Both reported receiving appropriate training and demonstrated familiarity with the facility's policies and procedures and the detention standards.

Documentation Reviews

The OJSO reviewed the files on six residents. The files were complete and well-organized. No concerns were noted from the resident file reviews.

The personnel files of three direct care staff were reviewed for compliance with OJA detention standards. The files were well-organized, and the materials were easy to locate. All three staff members had received the required hours of training, and all were in compliance with the requirement for cardiopulmonary resuscitation/first aid.

The OJSO reviewed the room confinement logs for the months of March through June 26, 2007. During that time, there were fifty incidents of room confinement. No concerns were noted from the review.

The most recent inspection reports by the Office of the State Fire Marshal and the Oklahoma State Department of Health were reviewed. There were no violations cited in the reports. The OJSO also reviewed the most recent monitoring report by the OJA OPI; the facility was cited for noncompliance in two areas and findings were made in two areas. The facility issued a corrective action plan that indicated the deficient areas either had been corrected or were in the process of being corrected.

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