

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

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**Name and Location of Facility:** Lawton Adventure Program  
Lawton, Oklahoma

**Date of Visit:** June 21, 2010

**Oversight Reviewers:** Dana S. Holden and Janice Sharp, Oversight Specialists

**Focus of Visit:** First Biannual Visit, 2010

**Date:** July 28, 2010

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**Introduction**

The Office of Juvenile System Oversight (OJSO) conducted an unannounced visit at the Lawton Adventure Program on June 21, 2010. The purpose of the visit was to assess compliance with established responsibilities and facility policy and procedures. The Office of Juvenile Affairs (OJA) contracted with Southwestern Oklahoma State University for the operation of the program, which serves OJA-custody males. The program was licensed for sixteen residents by the division of Oklahoma Child Care Services (OCCS) of the Oklahoma Department of Human Services (OKDHS) as a residential child care facility. On the day of the OJSO visit, the census was fifteen.

**Interviews Conducted**

- Entry interview and an exit conference with the case manager
- Three residents

**Documents Reviewed**

- Three resident files
- Two personnel files
- OKDHS OCCS Residential Child Care Facility Inspection report dated May 27, 2010
- Office of the Oklahoma State Fire Marshal report dated January 13, 2010
- Oklahoma State Department of Health Food Inspection report dated April 19, 2010

**Findings**

Resident Interviews

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

- The majority of the residents reported that an incident occurred between a resident and a staff member. Reportedly the staff member grabbed the resident by the shirt and pushed him against a locker at the YMCA. A review of the incident reports by the staff member involved stated, "I then held [resident's name] shirt by his chest area stating to him that he needed to calm down and stop using profanity while in the process [resident's name] was trying to be aggressive and [resident's name] did get bump into the locker by staff." It is concerning that the report by the second staff does not mention the staff member grabbing the resident by the shirt or the resident bumping into the locker. This incident was not reported to OCA by the facility. It was recommended that the facility report this incident immediately.

No concerns were noted from the resident interviews.

#### Staff Interview

The OJSO interviewed one staff member on duty. The staff member was familiar with facility policy and procedures. There were no concerns noted regarding the staff.

#### Resident File Review

The OJSO reviewed three resident files. The files were well-organized and the materials were easy to locate. No concerns were noted from the resident files reviewed.

#### Personnel File Review

The OJSO reviewed two personnel files. There were no areas of concern noted.

#### Inspection Reports by other Agencies

The OJSO reviewed the most recent inspection reports by the OKDHS OCCS, the fire marshal's office, and the health department. There were no concerns noted from the inspection reports.

#### **Area of Concern**

1. An incident between a staff member and a resident was not reported to OCA for investigation. The incident report by the staff member involved indicated that the resident was placed in an improper restraint or was physically grabbed by the staff and pushed into a locker. This incident was reported by the majority of the residents interviewed and their account matched those of the staff member.

DSH/LB