

December 3, 2009

Misti Jackson, Acting Program Supervisor
Leflore County Juvenile Detention Center
P.O. Box 1237
Talihina, Oklahoma 74571

RE: Unannounced Visit, 2009

Dear Ms. Jackson:

The Office of Juvenile System Oversight (OJSO) conducted an unannounced visit at the Leflore County Juvenile Detention Center on August 26, 2009. The facility was certified by the Office of Juvenile Affairs (OJA) for ten juveniles. The OJA contracted with the Leflore County Board of Commissioners for the detention center and, in turn, the County Commissioners contracted with Sequoyah Enterprises Inc. for the daily operation of the detention center. The facility also provided regional detention services to other counties. On the date of the oversight the census was eight.

During the oversight visit, the OJSO spoke with the acting program supervisor, the local grievance coordinator, and three residents; reviewed seven resident files and other pertinent documents; and toured the facility buildings and grounds.

The OJSO noted the following concern from the facility tour:

1. Room six was missing a ventilation cover and sheet rock insulation. The OJSO addressed this concern with the acting program supervisor on the date of the oversight. The supervisor reported that a work order had been submitted and the facility was waiting on an estimate from the roofing company. The OJSO did receive a copy of the work order submitted via electronic mail on August 25, 2009.

No other issues or concerns were noted during the visit.

During the exit conference the OJSO commended the facility on the use of room restriction for minor rule violations, rather than room confinement, for which the facility had been cited in previous oversight visits.

Please mail to the OJSO an original, signed response addressing the area of concern noted above, avoiding identification of any child or staff by name. Also, please send a non-scanned, electronic copy of your response to lbaker@okkids.org for publication on the Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth web page. We will wait thirty days to receive your response before publishing this correspondence on the web page; however, this correspondence has been sent to all appropriate state agencies.

Thank you for your assistance and cooperation in this matter. If you have any questions or comments concerning this correspondence, please call me at 405-606-4900.

Sincerely,

Anthony Kibble, MSW
Oversight Specialist

AK/LB

c: Cheryl Caroll
Robert E. Christian
Mike Heath