

***Sequoyah Enterprises, Inc.***

**OKC Central Office**

600 N. Walker

Oklahoma City, Ok. 73102

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DATE: April 24, 2009

TO: Harold Jergenson – Oversight Specialist - OCCY

FROM: Cheryl Carroll – Programs Director – Sequoyah

CC: Jim Harris – Sequoyah  
Kathy Millender – Sequoyah  
Jay Brand – Sequoyah  
Misti Jackson - Sequoyah  
Shelley Waller - OJA  
Donna Glandon - OJA  
Kim Sardis - OJA  
Kinny Thomas - OJA  
Janice King – OJA  
Trent Hampton - OJA

SUBJECT: Response to OCCY Oversight Visit to LeFlore County  
Juvenile Detention Center/Talihina on 10/29/08.

*Area of Concern:* An employee was hired at that previously resided in the states of Texas and Colorado. The employee had moved to Oklahoma in August 2008, and was hired by the facility on August 9, 2008. Criminal background checks were not requested in the two previous states of residence on behalf of the employee. During the exit conference, it was reported to the OJSO that the policy of the LeFlore county Juvenile Detention Center was to seek criminal background checks from other states if the person had obtained a drivers license in the previous state of residence.

*Corrective Action Plan:* This was an oversight on the part of Sequoyah and has been rectified. If an employee has lived in Oklahoma for less than 1 year, a criminal history records search shall also be obtained from the previous state(s) of residence for the prior 3 years.

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*Area of Concern:*

The OJSO reviewed three juvenile files. The files contained documentation that youth were in their rooms in excess of 12 hours per day. Documentation did not reflect safety concerns or incidents that resulted in room confinement. The files routinely documented juveniles were placed in their rooms for the evening at 2000 hours and the doors would remain closed until 0655. Combined with required time in their rooms for shift change or other activities, this practice resulted in the youth being in their rooms in excess of 12 hours per day.

*Corrective Action Plan:*

The program is ensuring that the lowest status level of youth are not in their rooms any longer than 12 hours and the highest level is not in their room significantly less than 12 hours. This will also continue to be reviewed by Sequoyah QA Department.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact me at 405-795-1293.