

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

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**Name and Location of Facility:** Muskogee County Regional Juvenile Detention Center  
Muskogee, Oklahoma

**Date of Visit:** November 1, 2006

**Oversight Reviewer:** Cliff A. Aldridge, Oversight Specialist

**Focus of Visit:** Unannounced Visit, 2006

**Date:** January 10, 2007

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**General Information**

The Office of Juvenile System Oversight (OJSO) conducted an unannounced, routine visit of the Muskogee County Regional Juvenile Detention Center on November 1, 2006. The purpose of the visit was to monitor compliance with established responsibilities and facility policy and procedures. The detention center was certified for ten juveniles by the Office of Public Integrity of the Office of Juvenile Affairs (OJA). Certificate No. D-51-04 was current and valid until September 2008. The OJA contracted with the Muskogee County Board of Commissioners for management of the detention center, and, in turn, the Commissioners contracted with the Muskogee County Council of Youth Services (MCCOYS) for the operation of the facility. On the day of the OJSO visit, the census was ten.

Persons Interviewed

- Entry interview with the superintendent
- Three residents
- Two detention workers
- Subsequent exit conference with the superintendent by telephone
- Brief informal conversations with the program director, the teacher, and other staff members

Documentation Reviewed

- Case records on three residents
- Personnel files of two detention workers
- Facility daily population report
- Facility critical incident log for August, September, and October 2006

- One incident report involving room confinement
- Resident grievance log for August, September, and October 2006
- OJA monitoring report of May 18, 2006
- Oklahoma State Department of Health inspection report of August 3, 2006
- Fire service and inspection report of September 25, 2006
- Emergency power inspection report of February 14, 2006

### Areas Toured

- Dayroom, bathroom, and living areas
- Outside secure recreational area
- Kitchen

### **Overview**

### Interviews

The OJSO interviewed three residents. The interview questions pertained to the residents' perception of safety, detention program services, the rights of residents, discipline practices, and other detention care issues. Two detention workers from the afternoon shift were interviewed relative to detention practices and their training. No issues of concern were identified from the resident or staff interviews.

### Documentation Reviews

The OJSO reviewed the case files on three residents and the personnel files of two detention workers for compliance with detention certification standards. The files were well-organized and the materials were easy to locate. The five files were complete for the items reviewed.

Six resident grievances were filed during the three-month period reviewed. All six had been promptly resolved.

The Oklahoma State Department of Health's inspection report of August 3, 2006, did not cite any critical violations but identified minor issues to be corrected within ninety days. The Office of the Oklahoma State Fire Marshal had not inspected the facility since May 2004. The OJA monitoring report from May 2006 indicated the State Fire Marshal's office was contacted to schedule an inspection. Subsequently, the State Fire Marshal's office inspected the facility on December 21, 2006, and approved the facility for occupancy.

### Room Restriction/Room Confinement Review

Facility documentation indicated one instance of the use of room confinement for the period reviewed. The OJSO reviewed the incident report. No issues of concern were identified.

## Observational Tour

The OJSO conducted a tour of the facility. The fixtures and equipment were in good repair, with the exception of upholstered furniture in the living areas. In several instances, the coated fabric covering had peeled from the fabric or had become detached from the wooden frames. The furnishings in the dayroom had been replaced. Two strips of drywall tape had begun to peel from the ceiling of the west wing.

On the day of the OJSO visit, the facility was clean. Written emergency plans were available. The key logs and medication records were current. The staff-to-resident ratios and gender requirements were met. Interactions observed between the staff and residents were appropriate. A counselor from MCCOYS was observed conducting a counseling group with the residents during the visit. No issues of concern were identified from the tour.

## **Summary**

On the day of the OJSO visit, the Muskogee County Regional Juvenile Detention Center was in compliance with the OJA detention certification standards. The staff demonstrated a willingness and desire to provide care for the residents, and the residents made positive comments regarding the staff.

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