

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

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**Name and Location of Facility:** Northwest Oklahoma Juvenile Detention Center  
Woodward, Oklahoma

**Date of Visit:** April 12, 2011

**Oversight Reviewer:** Dana S. Holden, Oversight Specialist IV

**Focus of Visit:** Announced Visit, 2011

**Date:** June 17, 2011

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### **Introduction**

The Office of Juvenile System Oversight (OJSO) conducted a routine, announced visit on April 12, 2011, to the Northwest Oklahoma Juvenile Detention Center, located in Woodward, Oklahoma. The purpose of the visit was to assess compliance with established responsibilities and facility policy and procedures. The facility was certified by the Office of Juvenile Affairs (OJA) for ten juveniles. The OJA contracted with the Woodward County Board of Commissioners to manage the detention center and, in turn, the County Commissioners subcontracted with Eastern Oklahoma Youth Services for the day-to-day operation of the facility. The detention center provides regional services to other counties. On the day of the OJSO visit, the census was seven.

### **Interviews Conducted**

- Entry interview and an exit conference with the superintendent
- Two residents

### **Documents Reviewed**

- Files on two residents
- Room Confinement/Room Restriction Log for the period of January 1, 2011, through April 12, 2011
- Office of the Oklahoma State Fire Marshal inspection report dated January 25, 2011

## **Findings**

### Resident Interviews

The OJSO interviewed two residents. The interview questions pertained to the residents' perceptions of safety, detention program services, resident rights, discipline practices, and other residential care issues. Responses to the interview questions indicated:

- Both interviewees felt safe at the facility.
- Both participated in recreational services.
- Both had access to medical care.
- Both were knowledgeable of the residents' rights.
- Residents received enough to eat.

There were no concerns noted from the resident interviews.

### Staff Interviews

The OJSO did not interview any staff members on duty during this oversight visit. The staff members were interviewed by the Office of Juvenile Affairs on March 8, 2011.

### Resident File Review

The OJSO reviewed the files on two residents. The OJSO noted that neither file had documentation of outdoor recreation. There were no other issues of concern noted from the review of the resident files.

### Room Confinement/Room Restriction Log

The OJSO reviewed the room confinement/room restriction log from January 1, 2011, through April 12, 2011. There were no concerns noted during the review of the room confinement log.

### Documents Reviewed

The OJSO reviewed the facility's latest inspection report from the State Fire Marshal's office dated January 25, 2011. The Fire Marshal's office noted minor deficiencies that were corrected and a corrective action plan was submitted. The superintendent stated he had contacted the Oklahoma State Department of Health to schedule an inspection, however, he was not given a date when the inspector would come to the facility. The OJSO did not review the Health Department inspection report from the previous year. The OJSO was advised that inspectors from the Office of Public Integrity (OPI) conducted their inspection on March 8, 2011. The facility had not received their copy of the report as of the date of the OJSO's visit.

## **Area of Concern**

1. The facility is not allowing or documenting outdoor recreation for the residents.

## **Summary**

Overall, the facility appears to be meeting the needs of the residents. An exit conference was conducted with the facility superintendent and a copy of the Facility Exit Checklist was provided to the superintendent. All of the findings and facility strengths were discussed during the exit conference.

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