

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

Name and Location of Facility: Oklahoma School for the Deaf
Sulphur, Oklahoma

Date of Visit: May 23, 2006

Oversight Reviewer: Ellen Harwell, Oversight Specialist

Purpose of Visit: Unannounced Biannual Visit

Date: September 19, 2006

General Information

The Office of Juvenile System Oversight (OJSO) conducted a routine, unannounced visit of the Oklahoma School for the Deaf (OSD) on May 23, 2006. The OSD, a special school for students with hearing disabilities, is operated by the Department of Rehabilitation Services. The OSD is accredited by the Conference of Educational Administrators of Schools and Programs for the Deaf (CEASD). The focus of the visit was to assess compliance with established responsibilities and facility policy and procedures.

Interviews Conducted

- Entry interview and exit conference with the Superintendent
- Two direct care staff
- Six students

Documentation Reviewed

- Most recent referral reports by the Office of Client Advocacy of the Department of Human Services
- Most recent inspection reports by the Oklahoma State Department of Health and the Office of the Oklahoma State Fire Marshal
- Three personnel files
- Files on four students

Overview

Interviews

The OJSO interviewed six students and two direct care staff members. A certified interpreter was utilized for the student interviews. The students interviewed stated that they felt safe at the facility. No areas of concern were noted in the interviews.

File Reviews

The OJSO reviewed the files on four students and three personnel files. No violations were noted in the files reviewed.

Observational Tour

The OJSO conducted a tour of the facility. Damage to one wall was noted; repair to the wall was made at the time of the visit.

Summary

On the day of the OJSO visit, the facility was in compliance with established responsibilities. On July 14, 2006, upon request of the DRS and the OSD, the OJSO initiated a review of supervision of residents and admission practices. As of the date of this report, the review is not completed.

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