

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

Name and Location of Facility: Texas County Juvenile Detention Center
Hooker, Oklahoma

Date of Visit: November 15, 2010

Oversight Reviewer: Dana S. Holden, Oversight Specialist IV

Focus of Visit: Announced Visit, 2010

Date: December 14, 2010

Introduction

The Office of Juvenile System Oversight (OJSO) conducted an announced visit on November 15, 2010, to the Texas County Juvenile Detention Center, located in Hooker, Oklahoma. The purpose of the visit was to monitor compliance with established responsibilities. The detention center was certified by the Office of Juvenile Affairs (OJA) for six juveniles. The OJA contracted with the Texas County Board of Commissioners for the detention center. On the day of the OJSO visit, the census was six. The facility provided regional detention services to other counties.

Interviews Conducted

- Entry interview and an exit conference with the detention director
- Two residents

Documents Reviewed

- Three resident files
- Personnel files of two direct care staff members
- Room confinement/room restriction logs for July 1, 2010, through November 15, 2010
- Office of Juvenile Affairs Office of Public Integrity (OPI) inspection report dated January 26, 2010
- Oklahoma State Fire Marshal inspection report dated January 27, 2010
- The Oklahoma State Department of Health inspection report dated October 13, 2010

Findings

Resident Interviews

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

- All of the residents interviewed reported feeling safe at the facility.
- All of the residents interviewed reported that staff used appropriate forms of discipline and that residents received the required amount of recreation.

There were no concerns noted from the resident interviews.

Staff Interviews

The OJSO did not interview any direct care staff members. The only staff on duty at the time of the oversight was the director and the assistant director, both of whom have been interviewed by the OJSO several times in past visits.

Resident File Review

The OJSO reviewed three resident files. The files were complete and well-organized. There were no concerns noted from the resident file reviews.

Personnel File Review

The personnel files and training records of two direct care staff members were reviewed for compliance with detention certification standards. The files were well-organized and the materials were easy to locate. The OJSO noted the following:

- The training records for both employees indicated that neither employee had received the required number of training hours in the past two years. In 2008, one employee received six hours of training and the other employee received one hour of training.
- In 2009, one employee received five hours of training and the other employee received four hours of training. In 2010, both employees have received only three hours of training to date.

No other issues of concern were noted from the personnel file reviews.

Room Confinement Log Review

The OJSO reviewed the room confinement log for July 1, 2010, through November 15, 2010. The OJSO noted that there were only two incidents of room confinement documented for this time period. Both residents were placed in room confinement for fighting. There were no concerns noted from the review.

Other Documentation Reviewed

The OJSO reviewed the latest inspection report from the Office of Public Integrity (OPI) dated January 26, 2010. OPI noted the following violations:

- Section 4: one employee did not have current certification in first aid or cardio-pulmonary resuscitation (CPR);

- Section 8: the facility did not document any staff meetings for the months of July, September, or December 2009;
- Section 9: The hot water button did not work in room 6 and the restroom intercom did not work.

All of these concerns were addressed in a corrective action plan submitted to and accepted by OJA. There were no other concerns noted in the OJA report.

Inspection Reports Review

The OJSO reviewed the latest inspection reports from the Oklahoma State Fire Marshal's office dated January 27, 2010, and the Oklahoma State Department of Health dated October 13, 2010. There were no violations noted in either report.

Area of Concern

1. The personnel files and training records reviewed documented that two of the staff members have only received three hours of training in 2010.

Violation

1. Neither of the staff member's personnel file and training records reviewed documented that they have received the required number of training hours (24) since 2008. OJA policy, 377:3-13-43, Staff requirements, (a), General provisions, (8), Staff training, (G), states, "Full-time direct-care staff and administrators shall obtain at least 24 clock hours of training per employment calendar year."

Summary

The OJSO noted that the facility had made improvement in the resident files and reduced the number of room confinements. The OJSO recognizes the strengths of the facility are the staff's interaction with the residents and the staff's use of alternative methods of behavior management to avoid the use of room confinement.

