Inmates confined in a holding cell or detoxification cell shall be observed by facility personnel at intervals not to exceed 30 minutes.

After reviewing documentation for visual face-to-face observations, it was determined that staff exceeded the required visual face-to-face observation of inmates in detox and holding anywhere from 15 minutes to over an one hour over the required 30 minute time period.

All medical instructions of designated physicians shall be followed.

After reviewing a random selection of inmate files, it was determined that the medical instructions of the doctor were not being followed. In one file, the doctor ordered Vitamin D and B12 for an inmate on 11/25/2015. The Medical Administration Records reveal that the inmate did not receive the vitamins as prescribed.

Identification. Procedures for intake screening to identify inmates who are known to be or observed to be mentally disabled and/or potentially suicidal and procedures for compliance with Code of Criminal Procedure Article 16.22 and referrals to available mental health officials.

On March 14, 2016, an inmate was booked into the Stephens Co. Jail that had a match on a CCQ and indicators on the screening form that the inmate has been diagnosed with a mental illness. The magistrate and supervisor were not notified as required.

Supervision. Provisions for adequate supervision of inmates who are mentally disabled and/or potentially suicidal and procedures for documenting supervision.

The facilities approved operational plan indicates various stages of suicide watches. Staff exceeded the approved 15 minute watch by as little as 1 minute and up to 19 minutes over the 15 minute watch.

Food shall be prepared under the supervision of a staff member or contract employee and shall be served only under the immediate supervision of a staff member.

Inmates are not being supervised by facility staff in the kitchen area during food preparation and during the serving/prepping of the trays.

Jackie Semmler, T.C.J.S. Inspector