


**TEXAS COMMISSION ON JAIL STANDARDS
SPECIAL INSPECTION REPORT**

Facility Name: Van Zandt Co. Jail

Date:

August 15, 2016

Item	Section	Paragraph	Comments
1	275	.1	<p>Observation shall be performed at least every 30 minutes in areas where inmates known to be assaultive, potentially suicidal, mentally ill, or who have demonstrated bizarre behavior are confined.</p> <p>Documentation revealed that an inmate was placed on special observation due to being an escape risk. Observation logs reveal that the jailers exceeded the required 30 minute observations by as few as 2 minutes and by as many as 18 minutes.</p>
2	273	.5(a)2	<p>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.</p> <p>The magistrate was not notified after receiving credible information that the inmate in question may be suffering from mental illness or mental impairments. Documentation reviewed indicated a possible match on the continuity of care query.</p>
3	273	.5(b)	<p>Screening Instrument. An approved mental disabilities/suicide prevention screening instrument shall be completed immediately on all inmates admitted.</p> <p>Documentation reviewed confirmed that the officer did not complete the form in its entirety. The officer that attempted to complete the form failed to notate the date, time and signature that the screening took place.</p>


Jackie Semmler - TCJS Inspector