

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

Facility Name: Jim Hogg County Jail

Date:

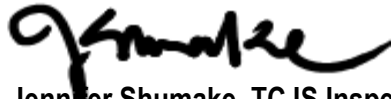
October 16, 2018

Item	Section	Paragraph	Comments
1	263	.40(1)	<p>Plans. Each facility shall have and implement a written plan, approved by the Commission, for escapes, riots, assaults, fires, evacuations, rebellions, civil disasters, and any other emergencies. Each plan shall provide for: (1) use and response to alarms</p> <p>During the smoke test and fire drill, the jail staff failed to respond to the inspectors smoke activated fire drill on two separate occasions in two separate locations.</p>
2	263	.55	<p>Inspections, Maintenance, Testing. All life safety equipment shall be inspected, maintained, and tested by persons qualified to do so (whether under vendor contract, by state or private agency or otherwise) in order that such equipment shall be safe, secure, and fully operative at all times.</p> <p>During the walk-through of the jail, the fire panel was observed to be in two different trouble modes. The staff advised that the fire panel had been in a trouble mode since Saturday (10/13/2018). At the time of the observed trouble modes, the administration had not scheduled an appointment with or contacted the vendor.</p>
3	265	.13(a)(c)	<p>(a)Each sheriff/operator shall investigate and verify the veteran status of each prisoner by using data made available from the Veterans Reentry Search Service (VRSS) operated by the United States Department of Veteran Affairs or similar service. (b) Each sheriff/ operator shall provide assistance to prisoners identified as veterans, identified through either self-report or the VRSS, in applying for federal benefits or compensation for which the prisoners may be eligible under a program administered by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs. Assistance includes, but not limited to, direct assistance by qualified claims counselor, issuance of a referral card, or similar assistance. (c) Each sheriff shall maintain a log of positive VRSS returns with identifying prisoner number and whether a referral card was issued to the identified veteran prior to his or her release. If a referral card was not issued, a reason shall be provided on the log.</p> <p>While attempting to review the VRSS Logs, it was determined that the staff is not reporting inmates through the VRSS system or maintaining a VRSS log as required by minimum jail standards.</p>
4	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>While reviewing inmate files, it was observed that the staff was not completing the mental health/suicide screening form in its entirety. On one occasion, the staff was not able to confirm that the magistrate was notified either in writing or electronically.</p>
5	275	.1	<p>There shall be a two-way voice communication capability between inmates and jailers, licensed peace officers, bailiffs, and designated staff at all times.</p> <p>This inspector observed the jail staff leave the control room unattended. As a result, there was no one to answer intercoms when the intercom were activated.</p>

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6 281 .3 Balanced Diet. Except in emergency situations, meals shall be served in accordance with a written menu approved and reviewed annually for compliance with nationally recognized allowances for basic nutrition including nutritional requirements of known pregnant inmates. This approval and review shall be documented and should be performed by a licensed or provisional licensed dietitian.

While conducting the walking-through the jail, this inspector observed that the lunch served did not match any of the dietitian approved menus on file.



Jenner Shumake, TCJS Inspector