

TEXAS COMMISSION ON JAIL STANDARDS
JAIL INSPECTION REPORT

Facility Name: Hale County Jail

Date:

January 4, 2021

Item	Section	Paragraph	Comments
1	273	.5(a)(2)	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; During the previous nine months, jail staff have been notifying the Magistrate of inmates with possible mental health indicators on a weekly basis. Notifications to the Magistrate were as late as 4-5 days after booking. Jail Standards refers to C.C.P. 16.22 which requires the magistrate be notified not later than 12 hours after receiving credible information that the inmate has a mental illness.
2	273	.5(b)	Screening Instrument. An approved mental disabilities/suicide prevention screening instrument shall be completed immediately on all inmates admitted. Jail staff failed to complete the Screening form for Suicide and Medical/Mental/Developmental Impairments in its entirety on a multiple inmates. Technical assistance was provided for this issue during the last annual inspection.
3	273	.6(3)	Restraints. Inmates exhibiting behavior indicating that they are a danger to themselves or others shall be managed in such a way as to minimize the threat of injury or harm. If restraints are determined to be necessary, they shall be used in a humane manner, only for the prevention of injury, and not as a punitive measure. A documented observation of the inmate shall be conducted every 15 minutes, at a minimum. The observations should include an assessment of the security of the restraints and the circulation to the extremities. Restraint chair logs indicated jail staff exceeded the required 15-minute observation checks from anywhere between 1 to 10 minutes on multiple occasions.

Jason Jouett, T.C.J.S. Inspector

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