

TEXAS COMMISSION ON JAIL STANDARDS

File

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
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Edwards

July 19, 2022

The Honorable Souliasa Shanklin
Edwards County Judge
P. O. Box 348
Rockspings, TX 78880

and

Sheriff James Guthrie (JW)
Edwards County Sheriff
P. O. Box 156
Rocksprings, TX 78880-0156

Dear Judge Shanklin and Sheriff Guthrie,

Pursuant to the provisions of V.T.C.A. Government Code, Section 511.011 and Title 37, Texas Administrative Code (Chapter 297, Section 5, Texas Minimum Jail Standards), you are hereby notified that the jail in your county fails to comply with minimum standards established under V.T.C.A. Local Government Code, Chapter 351, and the rules of this Commission, and that appropriate corrective measures must be initiated. A reasonable completion date for corrective measures should be set. Failure to initiate appropriate corrective action may cause a remedial order to be issued and enforced, or other appropriate action taken. **In accordance with Chapter 297, Section 6, Texas Minimum Jail Standards, please notify this agency in writing within thirty (30) days of receipt of this notice as to actions initiated.**

The attached page(s) indicate minimum standards violated, corrective measures required, and date by which corrective measures must be initiated. Please reference the Inspection Requirements Review and Jail Inspection Report issued on July 14, 2022, detailing the specific issues that resulted in the issuance of this notice of non-compliance.

Issued this 19th day of July 2022
Texas Commission on Jail Standards

By 
Brandon S. Wood, Executive Director

BW/cw

Judge Bill Stoudt, Longview, Chair
Dr. Esmaeil Porsa, M.D., Parker, Vice-Chair
Ross Reyes, Melissa

Sheriff Kelly Rowe, Lubbock
Sheriff Raul "Pinky" Gonzales, Refugio
Patricia M. Anthony, Garland

Commissioner Ben Perry, Waco
Duane Lock, Southlake
Monica McBride, Alpine

TEXAS COMMISSION ON JAIL STANDARDS - INSPECTOR REQUIREMENTS REVIEW

Martin P. Arnold

Martin P. Arnold, TCJS Inspector

Facility Name: Edwards County Jail

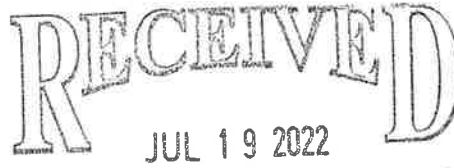
Date: July 14, 2022

Chapter	Title	Comments
259	New Construction	Conducted a walk through inspection of the facility. <u>Technical assistance provided</u> - While reviewing the average daily population for the facility, the inspector observed that on several months the facility was over capacity. After inquiring about the numbers, it was determined that Jail Administration was including the number of inmates being housed at other agencies. Effective immediately, Jail Administration will only count those that are housed at the facility. <u>No follow-up required.</u>
261	Existing Construction	Not applicable.
263	Life Safety	Inspected life safety equipment and conducted and observed emergency drill. Reviewed documentation. Conducted staff interviews. <u>Technical assistance provided</u> - Review of life safety records revealed that the Quarterly Fire Prevention Checklists had not been completed this year. All other life safety documents were complete. Jail Administration was shown the recommended form. <u>Follow-up required</u> - Jail Administration will complete and submit the completed form for the 3rd Quarter of 2022 no later than July 21, 2022.
265	Admission	Reviewed a random sample of 5 inmate files. Interviewed staff. Reviewed policy. <u>Deficiency noted. Technical assistance provided</u> - Facility could not produce a VRSS Log. This was an area in which they received technical assistance during the last comprehensive inspection. The inspector provided Jail Administration with the TA Memo and logs for the VRSS requirements. <u>Follow-up action required</u> - Jail Administration will submit a plan of action to this inspector within 30 days detailing steps taken to remedy the deficiency. Jail Administration will, also, submit weekly a copy of the VRSS log for the next 30-90 days.
267	Release	Reviewed a random sample of 5 inmate files. Interviewed staff.
269	Records/Procedures	Reviewed policy and documentation. Interviewed staff and reviewed ADA compliance evaluation. <u>Technical assistance provided</u> - Facility did not have an ADA compliance evaluation on file. Jail Administration was provided a copy of the evaluation. <u>Follow-up required</u> - Jail Administration will provide this inspector with a copy of the completed evaluation no later than July 21, 2022.
271	Classification	Reviewed a random selection of 5 inmate files. Reviewed staff training records. Reviewed internal classification audits. Reviewed policy. Interviewed staff.
273	Health Services	Reviewed a random selection of 5 files. Interviewed staff and inmates. Reviewed training records. Reviewed policy.
275	Supervision	Reviewed a random selection of 5 officer TCOLE certification records. Reviewed officer documentation. Interviewed staff.
277	Personal Hygiene	Conducted a facility walk through. Reviewed facility schedule.
279	Sanitation	Conducted a facility walk through. Interviewed staff and inmates. Reviewed policy. this inspector within 30 days. <u>Technical assistance provided</u> - This inspector observed that multiple drain covers were missing and in need of replacement. Furthermore, three (3) cells were marked as "Out of Order." Two cells were being used for storage, and one (1) was in need of plumbing repairs. <u>Follow-up required</u> - Jail Administration will submit photographs depicting the repairs to this inspector as soon as completed. <u>Failure to restore these cells may result in non-compliance.</u>
281	Food Service	Conducted walk through inspection in kitchen area. Interviewed staff. Reviewed documentation.
283.1	Discipline	Reviewed 2 disciplinary hearing records. Interviewed staff and inmates. Reviewed policy. Reviewed inmate rules.
283.3	Grievance	Reviewed 1 inmate grievance/complaints. Reviewed policy. Interviewed staff and inmates.
285	Exercise	Walk through of exercise area conducted. Reviewed documentation. Interviewed staff and inmates.
287	Education/Library	Reviewed policy and schedule. Interviewed staff and inmates.
289	Work Assignments	Reviewed policy and schedule. Interviewed staff and inmates.
291.1	Telephone	Reviewed policy and schedule. Interviewed staff and inmates.
291.2	Correspondence	Reviewed policy and schedule. Interviewed staff and inmates.

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TEXAS COMMISSION ON JAIL STANDARDS - INSPECTION REQUIREMENTS REVIEW

291.3	Commissary	Reviewed policy and schedule. Interviewed staff and inmates. <u>Technical assistance provided</u> - Commissary audit was not submitted annually by the county auditor as required. Jail Administration was advised of the statute. <u>Follow-up action required</u> - A commissary audit will be submitted to TCJS for the FY22, no later than October 31, 2022.
291.4	Visitation	Reviewed policy and schedule. Interviewed staff and inmates.
291.5	Religious Practices	Reviewed policy and schedule. Interviewed staff and inmates.
xxx	Variances	Reviewed facilities variance.
xxx	Remedial Orders	Not applicable.
xxx	Complaints	Not applicable.
xxx	CCQ	CCQ inquiries are being submitted through TLETS as required.



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NOTICE OF NON-COMPLIANCE EDWARDS COUNTY JAIL

July 19, 2022

Please reference the Inspection Requirements Review and Jail Inspection Report issued on July 14, 2022, detailing the specific issues that resulted in the issuance of this notice of non-compliance.

Minimum Standards Violated:	Corrective Measure Required	Date Corrective Action Must Be Completed
265.13	<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.</p> <p>(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.</p> <p>Facility is not utilizing the VRSS system. No VRSS verifications have been completed in the last 12 months.</p>	Upon receipt of this notice.

Judge Bill Stoudt, Longview, Chair
Dr. Esmail Porsa, M.D., Parker, Vice-Chair
Ross Reyes, Melissa

Sheriff Kelly Rowe, Lubbock
Sheriff Raul "Pinky" Gonzales, Refugio
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