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State of Wisconsin Department of Corrections

January 21, 2010

Sheriff Ron Cramer
728 Second Street
Eau Claire County Sheriff's Department
Eau Claire, WI 54703

RE: Eau Claire County Jail, 2009 Annual Inspection

Dear Sheriff Cramer:

The 2009 Annual Inspection of the Eau Claire County Jail was completed on December 15, 2009 pursuant to Wisconsin Statute **301.37(3)**. The inspection involved a comparison of the jail and its operation to the Department of Corrections Administrative Code, Chapter DOC 350 and to applicable state statutes. The Eau Claire County Jail has an approved capacity of 326. On the date of inspection there were 251 inmates confined in the jail, including 40 inmates housed in other jurisdictions and 10 inmates on electronic monitoring. This report summarizes the findings of the inspection and identifies improvements since the last inspection, as well as any applicable recommendations.

INSPECTION SUMMARY

Summary of Progress from the Previous Year

Since the last Annual Inspection in 2008, a number of operational changes and improvements have been realized at the Eau Claire County Jail. Some of these include the following:

- Addition/promotion of a Civilian Jail Sergeant.
- Addition of a Programs Director Position.
- Completion of the inmate classification process.
- Substantial staff training.
- Addition of jail programming.
- Implementation of Correctional Officer Inmate Discipline Hearing Team.
- Enhanced training and badge identification for volunteers.
- Increased hours of service for programs and attorney visitors.

Initiative for CTY10

- As of January 2010 the Sheriff's Department will be reorganized to include two divisions. This will result in additional security duties assigned to the jail supervisors. With the change Captain Dan Bresina will become the Chief Deputy and Sgt. Joel

Brettingen will become the new Jail Administrator/Captain. Congratulations Dan and Joel.

- Through the medical contract, the jail will begin providing health care to Huber inmates. This will include the redesign of an area to include a nurse exam area in the Huber wing and increase overall medical staff hours and coverage.
- Continued appointment of civilian Sergeants.

Physical Environment

Met	Not Met	N/A	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Housing areas found to be generally clean and well maintained
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cell and fire escape locks and doors functional (monthly inspections being recorded)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	All inmates found to be assigned a bed/bunk (no inmates sleeping on floor)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Documented fire inspections

Physical Environment Summary: The overall appearance of the facility was acceptable. During the walkthrough no deficiencies were noted with any mechanical devices.

Health Care

Met	Not Met	N/A	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Health Screening form being completed on each individual booked into facility
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Medical records maintained separately from other inmate and jail records
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Medical records maintained in a secure and confidential manner
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Inmate medications are secured and not accessible to inmates
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Procedure in place for inmates to access health care

Health Care Summary: Health care is provided by Health Care Professionals Ltd. (HPL). This includes coverage from a LPN, RN, NP, and MD. There is 24/7 on call accessibility through the contract. Hours of coverage include 7-3 and 5-9. Inmates are afforded an opportunity to submit medical request slips on a daily basis. These requests are reviewed by health care staff. Medical records are stored securely within the health care area.

Denise Sprunk is providing 20 hours of mental health services at the jail. In discussions with Denise it appears there is very good communication between her, medical staff, and correctional staff. Denise does receive written requests from inmates for services and uses a triage system to organize these requests. Staff also makes requests verbally, via e-mail, or written request to have Denise see inmates. The use of SOAP notes for medical charting was noted during the visit.

As has been addressed previously, the current space is not adequate for the health care needs of a facility this size. Medical and mental health staff are not housed in the same area nor are the

files. This can and does cause logistical and communication issues. It is noted that the current plans for a new jail do address this need.

Objective Jail Classification

Met	Not Met	N/A	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Double celling requirements in place (written agreement on file)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Classification system in place using formalized mechanism for housing assignment
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Classification policy implemented

Objective Jail Classification Summary: The jail has a classification system in place. Inmates are classified and reviews/re-classifications are taking place per policy. The jail has an assigned classification officer who also supervises electronic monitoring.

Food Service

Met	Not Met	N/A	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Inmates served nutritionally balanced meals (90 day menus reviewed)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Food service area clean and well maintained
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Inmate food service workers shower daily
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Chemicals and cleaning supplies in kitchen secured
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Kitchen sharps and knives are secured and inventoried at least daily
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Annual review by a registered dietician

Food Service Summary: Food service is provided on site by Aramark. Menus were received and reviewed. Aramark does have a registered dietician on staff that reviews and signs the jail menus. The food service area also provides services to the Juvenile Detention Facility and is inspected by the Department of Public Instruction (DPI). Aramark also holds a restaurant license which results in an inspection annually by the local health department. During our visit the kitchen was clean and orderly. A record of sharps inventory was also inspected during the visit. The current physical plant does create some delivery issues that need correcting. It is noted that these area addressed in the current plans for a new jail.

Security

Met	Not Met	N/A	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Frequent (60 minutes) physical inspections in housing areas completed and documented
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Physical inspections of inmates with special needs/suicidal ideation every 15 minutes
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Periodic searches of inmate housing areas completed and documented
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Intercoms and emergency devices are in good working order

Security Summary: A spot check of the records indicates compliance with security checks. This documentation is based on information entered into a computer worksheet by staff. Three logs for inmates that were placed on suicide watch were also reviewed and found to be compliant with proper checks. Documents indicate that proper security checks of the locks and doors are taking place.

As previously reported, the jail lacks facilities to properly house high risk inmates due to short-term or ongoing mental health behavioral problems. The current jail is not suitable for proper levels of observation or safe housing of these inmates. Proper housing and classification is not possible in the current jail. This issue is addressed in the plans for a new jail.

During a tour of the facility it was noted that inmates possessed cash money. This is generally not an accepted correctional practice due to safety issues it creates. Due to the ability for inmates to gamble, steal, and threaten, other inmates I would recommend an alternative to on-hand cash be developed. On hand cash also poses a problem with contraband trafficking. The concept of cash on hand is further troublesome as those areas did not have any place that inmates could lock up personal belongings. This is an area that should also be explored.

Juvenile Portion of the County Jail

Met	Not Met	N/A	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sight and sound separation
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Operational Plan – review, updates and training
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Separate records from adults – healthcare and custody
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Juvenile log review – dates, times, reasons
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Security checks
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Health screening
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	OJA compliance letter

Programs Available: As noted above there has been an addition of a Program Director. This position has already enhanced operations by providing updated training to all approved volunteers. The Program Director is also using the Risk Assessment Proxy as well as the Compass Core Assessment tool. These documents can assist judges with bond and sentencing decisions as well as confirm the jail is being used to house the intended population. These tools will also provide data to ensure program needs are identified and program resources are allocated properly. In addition to the assessment process the programs office is focusing on the use of evidence based programs and practices. The jail has just purchased an evidence based cognitive program for use. Also provided are AODA, Literacy preparation, life skills, employability classes, domestic violence and bystander education, sexual assault education, and jail ministry.

Along with the volunteers and jail staff services are provided by Chippewa Valley Technical College, UW Stout, and the Family Support Center.

One area of continued concern is the lack of space to provide programming. The current jail does not have adequate space to provide programming. This issue is addressed the current proposed jail plans.

Training: I wide variety of training took place in 2009. Of specific note is the Sheriff's Department commitment to include Correctional Officers as part of the Hostage Negotiations Team. Jail Trainings included:

- International Gang Conference
- Mind-west Gang Conference
- First Line Supervisor Training
- Hostage Negotiations Training
- Interview and Interrogation Training
- Sign Language
- Wisconsin Administrator Conference

Recommendations: Since 1994 there was a temporary agreement between the Sheriff Department and this office to place secure female inmates into a work release area. This office feels this agreement must be ended as soon as possible to ensure proper classification and housing of those inmates. It is noted that the plans for a new jail will address this issue.

The jail is also housing secure inmates in other counties due to the overcrowding. This alone creates a substantial cost to the county and poses a security risk due to increase transports in the community. To further accommodate overcrowding and the housing of secure inmates, some secure inmates area housed in the minimum security work release center. This poses several problems and again is a temporary fix that should be ended as soon as possible. Problems associated with this temporary housing arrangement include the challenges created by mixing classifications of inmates and the inability to properly monitor and supervise those inmates.

The current jail does not have a secure control center needed to ensure proper security of the jail and community. In its current design the jail's control center is suspect to serious security breaches. The booking area is located in the immediate area of the control center making it suspect to disturbance during booking of subjects. The intake area also lacks needed booking/holding cells.

The current facility design limits the staffs' ability to perform direct supervision and provide programming as necessary in today's jails. Plans in the proposed facility will address these issues.

The current jail also lacks needed administrative and office space.

The need for a new facility is well-documented. As in the past, this office supports plans to move forward with the new facility to address the many program, operational and security deficiencies outlined in this report and in previous documentation. Doing so will meet the counties jail needs well into the future, increase public safety, and most importantly minimize the liability that exists in the current facility.

Approval

You and your staff should be commended for the excellent work being completed to ensure the safety and security of the Eau Claire County Jail. Captain Bresina and his staff do an outstanding job with the operation and management of the facility. It should be noted that the constructive comments provided and the needs of this jail are in no way a reflection of the jail staff. Captain Bresina and his staff are doing an excellent job in managing the facility at hand and are to be commended for mitigating liability as much as possible.

The Eau Claire County Jail is approved for operation by this Department. The approval is with the understanding that continued compliance with the Department of Corrections Administrative Code, Chapter DOC 350, and applicable state statutes occur.

I would like to thank Captain Bresina, Lieutenant Salimes and the staff of the Eau Claire County Jail for their assistance and cooperation during this year's annual inspection. Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions or if I may be of assistance to you and your Department.

Sincerely,



Brad Hompe
Detention Facilities Specialist
Office of Detention Facilities

Cc: Captain Dan Bresina
Captain Joel Brettingen, Jail Administrator
Lt. Patti Salimes
Marty Ordinans, ODF Director
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