



PREVIOUS INSPECTION _____ Location _____
Sybil Brand Commission for Institutional Inspections

Courts _____ Jails x Sheriff Stations _____

COMMISSIONER(S):
Veral, COC Comm.
Johnson

TIME
DATE
 11am

July 18, 2023

FACILITY NAME:	NCCF
ADDRESS:	29340 The Old Rd, Castaic, CA 91384 LASD SUPERVISOR CONTACTED: Lt Shreves
Census:	(Capacity:appx_____) (Current Census: (_____))
Location(s) Inspected:	500 building, IPA, OSJ, medical area
Issues Reported to:	<input type="checkbox"/> BOS <input type="checkbox"/> Officer in Charge <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LASD <input type="checkbox"/> ISD <input type="checkbox"/> OIG <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COC

RATING: S = Satisfactory U = Unsatisfactory CA = Corrective Action Needed N/A = Not Applicable

ITEMS	RATING	COMMENTS
1. Conditions of Confinement		
Cells/Toilets/Sinks		
Showers (water temperature, rust, mold etc.)		
Crowding	U	500 dorm is triple bunked
Cleanliness/Graffiti		
Safety, Conflict, Tension		
Common Areas	CA	Cleaning supplies are reportedly not provided in 517. Also, a large amount of water from the urinal was flowing into the middle of the dorm. The people incarcerated reported it had just stopped, but it had been gushing water for a couple of hours before that. When asked about it, the module deputy said he did not know what was going on with the flooding and was providing the dorm with extra towels and bedding to absorb the excess water. This was reported.
Air Quality/Temperature	CA	Two incarcerated men in the 500 building noted the cold temperatures inside the unit even amid hot summertime temperatures outside. They complained specifically about being denied thermal under-garments. The County Board of Supervisors resolution ordering thermals distributed to inmates who requested them was approved unanimously (5-0) on July 11.
Deputy/Detainee Relations (incl. specific incidents or allegations of misconduct)		
Strip Search Issues	U	Three incarcerated men in 500 expressed frustrations at the frequency and crass, dehumanizing treatment to which they are subjected to in strip searches that seem far too common. One incarcerated man said that he had been strip-searched 4 times in one day during the prior weekend (July 15). He was told he had no permission to access the outdoor yard without submitting to strip search, indicating that such searches are used as a

		barrier or deterrent to accessing fresh air or recreation. He said the repeated order to "spread that a--" by guards still rang in his head.
Access (Drinking Water)	CA	<p>Received several complaints about the water (taste, smell).</p> <p>Also, several men incarcerated in the units expressed concern about the water outage earlier that day. Stationed in the corner of one unit on 500 was a 5-gallon pail of water that the imprisoned men were told they could use to drink from. After the water was turned back on, two incarcerated men said that the stream from the faucet ran brown for about 30 minutes. They said they would not drink the water. One prisoner said he had drunk the water from the faucet on a few occasions several months ago and became ill, mentally confused, and lacked energy. His illness lasted more than a week, he reported, during which he felt unable to get out of his bunk.</p> <p>Water quality is so poor and deemed so unsafe that every staff person who was asked said they do NOT drink the water. It was very concerning that the only water people incarcerated have available to them is water that is so bad the people who work in the jail refuse it. Especially during the hot summer months, it is very worrisome that people are not able to be properly hydrated because of the problems with the tap water.</p>
Access (Mail/Reading Materials/Law Library)	CA	<p>Mail is extremely slow. Also, people incarcerated and their families are using 3rd party mail services provided through LASD to send pictures and delivery is taking over a month after mail arrives at the facility.</p> <p>We have heard this on prior inspections at NCCF as well.</p>
Access (Toilets (for common room))		
Access (Toiletries, Appropriate Combs/Brushes)		
Access (Exercise, Religious Practice)		
Access (Legal Counsel)		
Access (Visitation, correspondence)	CA	Complaints received about how many people can visit at one time. Pre-covid - there could be three adults and a child. During covid it was restricted to one adult and a child. Why has this not returned to the pre-covid routine when essentially all other covid measures have been lifted throughout the facility? This is important for families who are traveling long distances to visit the facility. This was reported and we were told it would be investigated.
Solitary Confinement		
Privacy/Dignity (showers, bathrooms)		
Special needs populations		
Module Information Postings (re: time calculations, complaint procedures, messages to SBC)		
Complaint Procedures		Module 516-519 did not have complaint forms. When we asked about it the deputy went and got some.

		<p>One individual complained that complaints are not being signed as “received” when a complaint is filed. He has no way of knowing when/if it was received, which is important for him to track if he wants to follow the proper complaint procedures/policy.</p>
<p>Fees Assessed/Money on Books</p>		
<p>Other: _____</p>		
<p>2. Nutrition Quality/concerns</p>		<p>We received complaints about the freshness of food provided. The sack lunches in building 500 consisted of a bread and a slice of meat. The meat was inspected and was wet and multicolored. It also smelled bad. In addition, the “meal” provided did not appear to be enough food for an adult male – it was a small sandwich, a small bag of carrots, a small bag of chips and some cookies. These issues were reported.</p>
<p>Access to special diets</p>		

3. Trustees		
Quarters		
Training & Selection		
Workload and Hours		
Calculation/Time Served		
4. Medical Services (Access, wait times, responsiveness, TB, and other medical screening, dental, vision; infectious disease protocol)		<p>The launch of Medically Assisted Treatment (MAT) services at NCCF seemed a bright spot in the observed jail conditions. The MAT team showed us their new procedures at NCCF since they just started providing this treatment there. We were glad to see this program is expanding at NCCF.</p> <p>One gentleman had been waiting since May to receive MAT (this was confirmed). We were able to speak with the newly implemented MAT team and they confirmed they will see him asap. In addition, the requests for the MAT services on site is so great that the limited clinic staff is straining to respond to the 300-person waiting list.</p>
5. Mental Health Services (Access, wait Times, treatment options, assessment procedures)		
6. Telephones Access/Functionality	CA	Phones in module 517 cut in and out. This was reported.
=]-8. Clean Clothing and Bedding (Including laundry practices)	S	Individuals in dorms 516-519 reported they finally received new clothing after OIG had inspected their module a week or so ago. Before that they were given old clothing.
9. Facilities/Maintenance		
Back Log Unfilled Order(s)		
Kitchen/ Laundry		
Chemical exposure (Kitchen, laundry, trustee duties)		
10. Deputy Staffing		<p>Deputies in the office unit in the IPA were watching/listening to a movie of some kind when we walked into the IPA. When we knocked on the door and went inside, they turned it off.</p> <p>There were 8-9 deputies sitting at the table in the medical area chatting the entire time we went through the medical unit. This was at least 20+ minutes.</p>
Quality of Interactions w/Detainees		
Use of Force (Last 30 days)		
Assault on Staff (Last 30 days)		
Staff Training (MH, trauma informed etc.)		
11. Detainee Complaints/Concerns		
12. Deputy Complaints/Concerns		
13. Prior Corrective Action Resolution		

<p>14. Detainee Documentation (e.g., intake/release, procedures: classification, logs, detainee management files, Exit interview – policies/procedure grievances. generated funds, classifications)</p>		
<p>15. Discipline Proceedings</p>		
<p>16. Emergency Preparedness/Systems (e.g., fire extinguishers, airpack tags, emergency evacuation routes, control centers, emergency lighting fixtures, safety drills, First Aid and Suicide kits)</p>		
<p>17. Grounds (conditions, unlawful postings on exterior grounds (e.g., if ever been convicted cannot visit a detainee, etc.)</p>		
<p>18. Inspection: Special Focus OIG: _____ COC: _____ Community: _____</p>		
<p>19. COVID-19: _COC Request_____</p>		
<p>20. PREA Issues: _____</p>		
<p>21. Other: <u>Transportation</u></p>		<p>Both incarcerated men and deputies at NCCF said that some transportation routing to and from the prison defied common sense. One also noted that it contradicted County goals of reduced carbon emissions. For instance, trips to and from the Antonovich Courthouse in Lancaster (which is just 27 miles north of NCCF) are routed through Downtown L.A. (which is 44 miles south of NCCF). That increases the mileage nearly FIVE-fold: what could be a back-and-forth trip of just 54 miles (27 + 27 miles) for one imprisoned person becomes a trip of 230 miles (44 + 71 + 71 + 44 miles). This grossly inefficient routing adds hundreds of road miles of needless travel EACH day, and thousands of avoidable road miles each week. For just one incarcerated person with 4 court appearances in a Lancaster courtroom, the current routing adds MORE THAN 700 road miles that could be avoided if more rational routing that reflected the County's commitment to reducing carbon emissions, especially from larger, diesel-burning vehicles, were to be fulfilled.</p>