

View results

Respondent

26

Anonymous

34:28

Time to complete

### Inspection Information

1. Location \*

Men's Central Jail

2. Date of Previous Inspection \*

10/9/2023



3. Date of this Inspection \*

3/17/2024



4. Time \*

1:45pm

5. Location

Courts

Jails

Sheriff Station

Location

6. Commissioner(s) - (Select all that Apply) \*

- Ingrid Archie
- Haley Broder
- Norma Cumpian
- Wynter Daggs
- Mark - Anthony Clayton Johnson
- Bob Frutos
- Dr. Cheryl N. Grills
- Eric J. Miller
- Raymond Regalado
- Alexander Sherman
- Joahanna Terrones
- Mary Veral
- Other

## Facility Information

7. Facility Name \*

Courthouse names and locations: <https://www.lacourt.org/courthouse>

Patrol Names and locations Stations: <https://lasd.org/stations/>

LA County Jail Facilities names and locations: <https://lasd.org/custody/>

Men's Central Jail

8. Facility Address \*

Courthouse names and locations: <https://www.lacourt.org/courthouse>

Patrol Names and locations Stations: <https://lasd.org/stations/>

LA County Jail Facilities names and locations: <https://lasd.org/custody/>

441 Bauchet Street,  
Los Angeles, CA 90012 General

9. Name and Title of LASD Supervisor Contacted \*

Lieutenant Vu; Lieutenant Short

10. Census: Capacity \*

4800

11. Current Census \*

4051

12. Location(s) Inspected: \*

6050, 7000FL (including high power row); 3100/3300, 3500, 3000 FL mess hall, 3907 room and 3000 floor Hunter Library and 3000 FL Education Based Incarceration classrooms

13. Issues reported to (Select all that Apply): \*

- BOS
- Officer in Charge
- LASD
- ISD
- OIG
- COC
- Other

14. Name of the person(s) issues were reported to: \*

Lieutenant Short

15. Contact Information of the person(s) contacted: \*

RFshort@lasd.org

**Conditions of Confinement**

16. **Condition of Confinement:** Cells/Toilets/Sinks

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

17. **Condition of Confinement COMMENTS RE:** Cells/Toilets/Sinks

No hot water in 6502

18. **Condition of Confinement:** Showers (water temperature, rust, mold etc.)

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

19. **Conditions of Confinement COMMENT RE:** Showers (water temperature, rust, mold etc.)

Dirty showers in the 3500 block

20. **Condition of Confinement:** Crowding

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

21. **Conditions of Confinement COMMENT RE:** Crowding

Individuals who were classified K10 according to their jail bracelets and so should have been assigned single cells with televisions and commissary were assigned to an area with no commissary, television, nor property. These men had the property they had bought taken from them.

22. **Condition of Confinement:** Cleanliness/Graffiti

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

23. **Conditions of Confinement COMMENT RE:** Cleanliness/Graffiti

In every dormitory we visited, there was trash covering the floors and the floors were not clean and the jail in general manifested a severe lack of sanitation.

24. **Condition of Confinement:** Safety, Conflict, Tension

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

25. **Conditions of Confinement COMMENT RE:** Safety, Conflict, Tension

we witnessed Sheriff Deputy threaten to retaliate against the men housed in 7000 unit in front of their sergeant; we also witnessed the prohibition of purchasing batteries from all but a small proportion of the men incarcerated in the jails which the men said raised their stress levels, undermining their mental health, despite there being other means of responding to safety concerns regarding fires in the jail, and despite there being a pervasive smell of smoke and burning in the jail.

26. **Condition of Confinement:** Common Areas

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

27. **Conditions of Confinement COMMENT RE:** Common Areas

The mess hall on the 3000 floor was the severely unsanitary, with food detritus on chairs, tables, and in a cart in the middle of the room, a cupboard in the 7000 block had food left to rot inside it, a room in 3907 had toilets that were covered in black fungus or mold and stank, and the floors of 3100, 3300, 3500, and 7000 were covered with trash.

28. **Condition of Confinement:** Air Quality/Temperature

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

29. **Conditions of Confinement COMMENT RE:** Air Quality/Temperature

The men in 7000 claimed there was no air circulating and they found it hard to breathe. They had ended a hunger strike to complain about the conditions because the Lieutenant had allowed the men to keep their food/cuffing hatches open. While we were present, a sergeant appeared, closed the hatches, and announced that a captain had rescinded the lieutenant's policy.

30. **Condition of Confinement:** Deputy/Detainee Relations (Including Specific Incidents or allegations of misconduct)

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

31. **Conditions of Confinement COMMENT RE:** Deputy/Detainee Relations (Including Specific Incidents or allegations of misconduct)

A deputy retaliated against the men in the 7000 block. The prohibition on batter purchases appears to be retaliatory.

32. **Condition of Confinement:** Strip Search Issues

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

33. **Condition of Confinement:** Access (Drinking Water)

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

34. **Condition of Confinement:** Access (Mail/Reading Materials/Law Library)

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

35. **Conditions of Confinement COMMENT RE:** Access (Mail/Reading Materials/Law Library)

The Hunter Library had leaks in the ceiling.

36. **Condition of Confinement:** Access (Toilets for Common Room)

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

37. **Condition of Confinement:** Access (Toiletries, Appropriate Combs/Brushes)

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

38. **Conditions of Confinement COMMENT RE:** Access (Toiletries, Appropriate Combs/Brushes)

The commissioners reported at least one person who lacked toothpaste in the 3500 unit.

39. **Condition of Confinement:** Access (Exercise, Religious Practice)

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

40. **Condition of Confinement:** Access (Legal Counsel)

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

41. **Condition of Confinement:** Access (Visitation, Correspondence)

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

42. **Condition of Confinement:** Solitary Confinement

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable



43. **Condition of Confinement:** Privacy/Dignity (showers, bathrooms)

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

44. **Condition of Confinement:** Special needs populations (pregnant, non-ambulatory, hearing impaired, mentally ill, medical conditions, developmental disability)

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

45. **Conditions of Confinement COMMENT RE:** Special needs populations (pregnant, non-ambulatory, hearing impaired, mentally ill, medical conditions, developmental disability)

The CPAP men housed in 6500 lacked ADA compliant showers and one lacked a wheelchair, which impeded his ability to attend court.

46. **Condition of Confinement:** Module Information Postings (re: time calculations, complaint, developmental disability)

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

47. **Condition of Confinement:** Complaint Procedure (e.g., Deputy, Medical Complaints - Confidential Procedures to SBC, OIG, COC)

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

48. **Condition of Confinement:** Fees Assessed/ Money on Books

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

49. **Conditions of Confinement COMMENT RE:** Fees Assessed/ Money on Books

Men housed in the 3500 unit who were given a K10 classification lost the property they had bought

50. **Condition of Confinement:** Other

51. **Condition of Confinement:** Other

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

## Nutrition

52. **Nutrition:** Quality/Concerns

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

53. **Nutrition COMMENT RE:** Quality/Concerns

Men on the 7000 block and 3000 block complained their food was served cold.

54. **Nutrition:** Access to special diets

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

## Trustees

55. **Trustees:** Quarters

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

56. **Trustees:** Training and Selection

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

57. **Trustees:** Workload and Hours

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

58. **Trustees:** Calculation/Time Served

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

## Medical Services

59. **Medical Services**

	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Corrective Action Needed	Not Applicable
Access	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Wait Times	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Responsiveness	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
TB and Other Medical Screening	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Dental	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Vision	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Infectious Disease Protocol	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

60. **COMMENTS RE:** Medical

## Mental Health

61. **Mental Health Services**

	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Corrective Action Needed	Not Applicable
Access	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Wait Times	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Treatment Options	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Assessment Procedures	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

62. **COMMENTS RE:** Mental Health

## Telephones

63. **Telephones**

	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Corrective Action Needed	Not Applicable
Access	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Functionality	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

64. **COMMENTS RE:** Telephones

We primarily checked on the telephones in 6500 and 7000 and observed functioning telephones and the men had access to them.

## Education Based Incarceration Programming (EBI)

65. **Education Based Incarceration Programming (EBI)**

	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Corrective Action Needed	Not Applicable
Availability	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Type	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Access	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

66. **COMMENTS RE:** EBI Programming

The rooms in which the men receive education based incarceration were moldy.

67. **EBI:** Volunteer Services

	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Corrective Action Needed	Not Applicable
Type	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Access	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Concerns	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

68. **COMMENTS RE EBI:** Volunteer Services

### Clean Clothing and Bedding

69. **Clean Clothing and Bedding** (including laundry practices)

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

70. **COMMENTS RE: Clean Clothing and Bedding** (including laundry practices)

The mattresses in 6500 and 3000 did not have a non-absorbent plastic cover and were not changed weekly as required by Title 15.

### Facilities/Maintenance

71. **Facilities/Maintenance:** Back Log Unfilled Order(s)

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

72. **Facilities/Maintenance COMMENTS RE:** Back Log Unfilled Order(s)

73. **Facilities/Maintenance:** Kitchen/Laundry

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

## Deputy Staffing

74. **Deputy Staffing:** Quality of Interactions w/Detainees

	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Corrective Action Needed	Not Applicable
Use of Force (Last 30 days)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Assault on Staff (Last 30 days)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Staff Training (MH, trauma informed etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

75. **Deputy Staffing COMMENTS RE:** Quality of Interactions w/Detainees

76. **Detainee Complaints/Concerns COMMENTS:**

77. **Deputy Complaint/Concerns COMMENTS:**

78. **Prior Corrective Action Resolution:**

79. **Detainee Documentations** (e.g., intake/release, procedures):

	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Corrective Action Needed	Not Applicable
Classification	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Logs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Detainee management	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Exit interview - policies/procedure grievances	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Generated funds	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

80. **Detainee Documentation COMMENTS:**

81. **Discipline Proceedings:**

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable



82. Inspection: Special Focus

	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Corrective Action Needed	Not Available
COC	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Community	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
CHS	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
DMH	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
DPH	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Facilities	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Food Services	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
OIG	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

83. Inspection: Special Focus Request (Select all that Apply):

- COC
- Community
- CHS
- DMH
- DPH
- Facilities
- Food Services
- OIG
- N/A
- Other

84. Inspection: Special Focus Request Comments:

85. **Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) Issues:**

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

**INSPECTION DETAILS - ANCHORED TO SUMMARIZE #3 THROUGH #106**

86. Inspection Detail for #:

87. Inspection Detail for #:

88. Inspection Detail for #:

89. Inspection Detail for **OIG** Request Related to:

90. Inspection Detail for **COC** Request Related to:

91. Inspection Detail for **Community Request** Related to:

92. **Inspection Detail:** EBI

93. **Inspection Detail:** Medical

94. **Inspection Detail:** Medical

95. **Inspection Detail:** Building and Maintenance *(Select all that apply)*

- Lawns
- Recreation Area
- Blacktop
- Asphalt
- General Condition
- Paint
- Roof
- Drains/Gutters
- Not Applicable
- Other

96. **Inspection Detail:** Building and Maintenance

**INSPECTION DETAIL: INTERIOR OF BUILDINGS(S)**

97. **Inspection Detail:** Interior of Building(s) and Maintenance *(Select all that apply)*

- Walls
- Paint
- Floors
- Drains
- Plumbing fixtures working
- Air Vents
- Windows
- Not Applicable
- Other

98. Inspection Detail **Interior of Building:**

The facility floors were filthy, the air ventilation in 7500 was not working, and the walls had concrete crumbling off.

99. Are Cleaning fluids and chemicals labeled and safely stored?

- Yes
- No
- Not Applicable
- Other

100. Weapons locker present?

- Yes
- No
- Not Applicable
- Other

101. Recreation/Sports Equipment:

102. Are the hallways clear, are doors propped open or closed?

- Yes
- No
- Not Applicable
- Other

103. Holding areas (cells/rooms), is there access to drinking water and toilet?

- Yes
- No
- Not Applicable
- Other

104. Condition of individual cells/rooms, or dormitories:

The floors are filthy.

105. Beds - Type of bed and is it off the floor?

106. Adequate lighting:

107. Temperature:

108. Narrative Report

## 109. Narrative Continued

Commissioners Miller and Veral visited areas: 6050, 7000FL (including high power row); 3100/3300, 3500, 3000 FL mess hall, 3907 room and 3000 floor Hunter Library and 3000 FL Education Based Incarceration classrooms.

Men's Central Jail is a disintegrating and poorly maintained building. As early as 2014, the Department of Justice described the living conditions at Men's Central Jail as "deficient (dimly lit, vermin-infested, noisy, unsanitary, cramped and crowded)...and create an environment that may contribute to prisoners' mental distress." Letter from U.S. Department of Justice, Mental Health Care and Suicide Prevention Practices at Los Angeles County Jails (June 4, 2014). According to the September 3, 2015, Joint Settlement Agreement Regarding the Los Angeles County Jails; and Stipulated Order of Resolution entered into by the Department of Justice and Los Angeles County before Judge Dean Pregerson, "the County and the Sheriff will have written housekeeping, sanitation, and inspection plans to ensure the proper cleaning of, and trash collection and removal in housing...areas, in accordance with California Code of Regulations ("CCR") Title 15 § 1280: Facility Sanitation, Safety, and Maintenance." Title 15 is, however, somewhat vague. Section 1280 requires written policies and procedures that "shall provide for a regular schedule of housekeeping tasks and inspections to identify and correct unsanitary...conditions."

Despite the last decade of warnings and litigation, the problems of dimly lit, vermin-infested, noisy, and unsanitary conditions with inadequate trash collection and removal in housing dorms, last year this Commission reported to the Board of Supervisors its "alarm[] and frustrat[ion] with the regularity with which it finds unsafe, inhumane, and unsanitary conditions in the jails. The recurrence of issues after this Commission brings them to the attention of responsible parties at the Sheriff's Department is evidence of problems not being adequately addressed...The Sheriff's Department's failure to maintain a sanitary facility and to conduct regular inspections of its facilities for sanitary conditions reflects an administrative orientation with a limited commitment to upholding basic values." Los Angeles County Sybil Brand Commission for Institutional Inspections Report & Recommendations on the Los Angeles County Jails Humanitarian Crisis July 2023 at 4, 22.

Clearly, the system of relying on trustees and outside contractors to clean Men's Central Jail abjectly fails to ensure sanitary conditions in those areas of the jail occupied by incarcerated men. LASD does keep the areas of the jail occupied by Sheriff Deputies and civilian staff clean. The rest of the jail requires a concerted and consistent effort to bring up to even minimal standards of cleanliness. Since at least 2014, various groups including the Department of Justice, the Central District of California, the ACLU, and the Sybil Brand Commission have pointed out the severe, prolonged lack of sanitation in Men's Central Jail. We note that federal law establishes such conditions "constitute an infliction of pain within the meaning of the Eighth Amendment." Johnson v. Lewis, 217 F.3d 726, 731 (9th Cir. 2000)

Our most recent inspection of Men's Central Jail, which covered 6050, 7000FL (including high power row); 3100/3300, 3500, and 3000 FL mess hall along with the Hunter Library and 3000 FL Education Based Incarceration classrooms, revealed disgusting, unsanitary conditions in the areas occupied and used by the men incarcerated in that facility. The condition of these areas contrasts with the relatively clean areas occupied by the Sheriffs and suggest that the Sheriff's Department can and does keep the jail clean in those areas it wants to and deliberately neglects the other parts of the jail.

We shall now focus on the specific areas that the Commissioners visited.

6050

People in 6050 are GP but use CPAPs. They had recently moved to this area from the

## 110. Narrative Continued

7000 floor. The cells are organized so that there are 8 people to a cell. However, moving incarcerated people to this location solely on the basis of their medical condition imposed some new restriction including lack of access to the library. Furthermore, despite the medical justification for the move, the cells were not properly fitted out for people with disabilities. For example, one man in the module did have a wheelchair and said he had difficulty transferring when he takes a shower. The shower had a lip and did not appear to be ADA-compliant. There was no hot water in cell 6052. There is a large brown stain on the wall outside the 6050 module. It appears to be a result of a large water leak through the ceiling. The brown stain has been on the wall during previous MCJ inspections. A couple of people reported they were concerned about retaliation for talking to us. Further evidence of retaliation were provided in complaints about the arbitrary allocation of wheelchairs. One gentleman in 6050 has a walker because the Sheriffs refuse to give him a wheelchair for court. As a result, he reported he has missed three court dates. 7000 Leaking ceiling in the hallway Highpower/hard cells: The Commissioners visited the 7000 Block cells to check on a reported hunger strike. This row is for individuals who have medical issues, and the Sheriffs designate as a K10 classification under the LASD Special Handling Codes (Court Services Division §2-07/015.10), which means that they are a "High Jail Security Risk...who...require administrative segregation from the general population at all times." The 7000 unit is not a disciplinary area, but it appears to be treated as such. A deputy unlocked the large metal door to let us access this row when he was doing his 30-minute security walk. Besides some light TV noise, neither Commissioner Veral nor Commissioner Miller could not hear anything on the row until the large door was open. Upon entering the row, the Commissioners observed water dripping from the ceiling, a hole in high in the wall in the middle of the unit where the concrete had crumbled away, and food all over the floor. The people incarcerated in this unit complained that the Sheriffs allowed trash to accumulate for days at a time. One Deputy showed the Commissioners a cupboard where food seemed to have been shoved under the door and left to rot. People here reported they do not get access to programming of any kind, and they don't get out of their cells at all. The cells do not have emergency call buttons so given their medical issues, they wanted to be able to alert for help if something happened. Deputies are on this row two times per hour, however, as we have consistently observed at County jail facilities, the security checks we observed were very brief and perfunctory. When we walked in, there was trash everywhere. People complained that minimal air circulates in their cells, so they wanted the tray slots open. When these slots were closed, the men had gone on hunger strike: the men stopped the strike because a Lieutenant let the men keep them open, so they weren't "enforcing" the policy. During our visit, six deputies appeared including a sergeant to inform the incarcerated men that a captain had decided to overturn the open-slot policy. The sudden appearance of five deputies and a sergeant seemed odd: the deputies were not taking anyone out of the cells and some of the deputies were hanging outside the unit. It appeared to the Commissioners that our presence had drawn the attention of the deputies to the unit. The deputies told the people incarcerated that they needed to close the tray slots, per the unit order and "the Captain's orders." One gentleman refused to close the slot because he could not get air in his cell. Deputy Cruz became very aggressive with this man right in front of us. One man complained that, if the people in the unit tried to alert the Sheriffs to an emergency, there was no way the

## 111. Narrative Continued

Sheriffs could hear. Deputy Cruz then threatened to turn off all the television channels so that there would be no noise. This threat of retaliation was very disturbing to witness, especially because the Commissioners, as observers, were standing right next to the Sheriffs and the Sergeant did not object to this retaliatory threat. When we reported the incident to the Watch Commander, he did condemn the behavior: however, part because the deputy should "know your audience," suggesting that part of the problem was retaliating in front of the Commissioners. The Commissioners are very concerned for how people are treated when we are not present.

3100/3300

In June 2023 SBC commissioners witnessed fires in cells and brought the issue to the attention of LASD in hopes they would take steps to ensure the safety of people incarcerated and working inside of Men's Central Jail. LASD has not done anything to address the issue except to take away batteries from everyone incarcerated in the jail except a few people in the 1700 and 1750 units. People in the 3100 and 3300 rows get very limited out of cell time and the batteries for their "radios" or MP3 players, and which also provides a channel that enables them to listen to the television. Their radios are one of the few things they can purchase to help with their mental health by providing music and entertainment while they are confined in their cell. Without batteries they are useless. The Commission previously reported the fires previously occurring in a different area of the jail, not the K10 area we visited. The Commission also reported that the fires were often used to heat food; the men we spoke to suggested they also needed the extra heat to keep warm. There are a variety of actions that could have been taken to ensure that fires were dealt with: frequent inspections should disclose the source of fires; providing food heaters and extra blankets are other options. The Watch Commander did not explain adequately why prohibiting the purchase of batteries was the only possible response to the issue of fires: instead, the LASD's response that appears to have been taken in retribution of the Commissioner's report about the fires (which was also reported in the LA Times).

Despite the battery confiscation, during this visit, the Commissioners noted a strong smell of smoke during this inspection when walking the modules and when walking through the main corridor outside the watch commander's office. It is very disturbing that SBC raised an issue, and the only response was to take things from people incarcerated, rather than increasing supervision or installing fire alarms.

3000 Mess Hall

Title 15, § 1245. Kitchen Facilities, Sanitation, and Food Storage requires that "food preparation, service, and storage shall comply with standards set forth in Health and Safety Code, Division 104, Part 7, Chapters 1-13, Sections 113700 et seq. California Retail Food Code." However, the Mess Hall was in a disgraceful state. The Mess Hall was empty: no-one was there to clean it. Food scraps covered tables and chairs around the Hall. A pile of cooked rice with some kind of sauce was on a cart in the middle of the room with a swarm of flies all around it. The Commissioners found rat traps placed along three of the walls. A concrete column in the middle of the Hall was crumbling, and there was water leaking through the roof.

Hunter's Library and the two Education Based Incarceration classrooms that we visited had leaks in ceiling and the classroom ceiling were covered with mold.

3907

This is a set of rooms behind a door on the 3000 floor. We went inside and there was standing water in a toilet that was dark brown and smelled like mold. There was also a full trash bin and other trash strewn about. Commissioner Veral almost threw up from the smell.

3500

A row - Shower was dirty and there was trash in the row. There were open milk containers and plastic all over the floor.

This is an

## 112. Narrative Continued

administrative-segregation area where some men are housed while classification is still being determined. However, some of the men were housed because of their K10 classification and the fact that there was nowhere else to put them. That meant that men with commissary privileges and property that they had bought had their property taken from them: the only property given to the men housed in 3500 were the "fish" kits, which are small hygiene given to incarcerated people. One man claimed that he had \$350 worth of property taken from him upon his move to 3500.

The people in this unit do not get access to phones, commissary or television. Some people are here for over 30 days. It was understood why the phones and movement are restricted, but it was not clear to commissioners why people cannot get televisions in this module. This is not supposed to be disciplinary but it felt like it.

One man had just arrived in this row from the hospital, and he did not have toothpaste. This was reported to the W/C. He also reported he had been housed previously at NCCF and was transported to USC hospital for a chest x-ray. He spent four days in the urgent care and hospital before being sent to MCJ for processing. Commissioners are following up individually with LASD regarding this process.

In the 3000 block, the men lacked clean mattresses. Title 15, § 1271 requires that each man in the jail receive "one serviceable mattress which meets the requirements of Section 1272 of these regulations...Washable items such as sheets, mattress covers, and towels shall be exchanged for clean replacement at least once each week." Section 1272 requires that "Any mattress issued to an inmate in any facility shall be enclosed in an easily cleaned, non-absorbent ticking." The men in 3500 claimed that their mattresses were changed only every two weeks, and in the 3000 block, none of the mattresses appeared to have the non-absorbent plastic covers observed elsewhere in the jails. Instead, the mattresses appeared to be foam with a stretch cotton mattress cover on top. The men complained about the unclean and dilapidated state of the mattresses.



113. Narrative Continued

## View results

Respondent

22

Anonymous

3821:35

Time to complete

### Inspection Information

1. Location \*

Twin Towers

2. Date of Previous Inspection \*

1/16/2024



3. Date of this Inspection \*

3/30/2024



4. Time \*

12:30pm

5. Location

Courts

Jails

Sheriff Station

Location



6. Commissioner(s) - (Select all that Apply) \*

- Ingrid Archie
- Haley Broder
- Norma Cumpian
- Wynter Daggs
- Mark - Anthony Clayton Johnson
- Bob Frutos
- Dr. Cheryl N. Grills
- Eric J. Miller
- Raymond Regalado
- Alexander Sherman
- Joahanna Terrones
- Mary Veral
- Other

## Facility Information

7. Facility Name \*

Courthouse names and locations: <https://www.lacourt.org/courthouse>

Patrol Names and locations Stations: <https://lasd.org/stations/>

LA County Jail Facilities names and locations: <https://lasd.org/custody/>

Twin Towers Correctional Facility

8. Facility Address \*

Courthouse names and locations: <https://www.lacourt.org/courthouse>

Patrol Names and locations Stations: <https://lasd.org/stations/>

LA County Jail Facilities names and locations: <https://lasd.org/custody/>

450 Bauchet Street,  
Los Angeles CA90012

9. Name and Title of LASD Supervisor Contacted \*

Watch Commander

10. Census: Capacity \*

3200

11. Current Census \*

2344

12. Location(s) Inspected: \*

Module 141 Forensic Inpatient (FIP) Stepdown; Module 162 HOH Dorm

13. Issues reported to (Select all that Apply): \*

- BOS
- Officer in Charge
- LASD
- ISD
- OIG
- COC
- Other

14. Name of the person(s) issues were reported to: \*

Watch Commander

15. Contact Information of the person(s) contacted: \*

450 Bauchet Street,  
Los Angeles CA90012

## Conditions of Confinement

16. **Condition of Confinement:** Cells/Toilets/Sinks

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

17. **Condition of Confinement:** Showers (water temperature, rust, mold etc.)

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

18. **Condition of Confinement:** Crowding

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

19. **Condition of Confinement:** Cleanliness/Graffiti

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

20. **Condition of Confinement:** Safety, Conflict, Tension

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

21. **Condition of Confinement:** Common Areas

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

22. **Condition of Confinement:** Air Quality/Temperature

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

23. **Condition of Confinement:** Deputy/Detainee Relations (Including Specific Incidents or allegations of misconduct)

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

24. **Conditions of Confinement COMMENT RE:** Deputy/Detainee Relations (Including Specific Incidents or allegations of misconduct)

see report at end

25. **Condition of Confinement:** Strip Search Issues

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

26. **Condition of Confinement:** Access (Drinking Water)

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

27. **Condition of Confinement:** Access (Mail/Reading Materials/Law Library)

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

28. **Condition of Confinement:** Access (Toilets for Common Room)

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

29. **Condition of Confinement:** Access (Toiletries, Appropriate Combs/Brushes)

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

30. **Condition of Confinement:** Access (Exercise, Religious Practice)

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

31. **Condition of Confinement:** Access (Legal Counsel)

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

32. **Condition of Confinement:** Access (Visitation, Correspondence)

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

33. **Condition of Confinement:** Solitary Confinement

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

34. **Condition of Confinement:** Privacy/Dignity (showers, bathrooms)

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

35. **Condition of Confinement:** Special needs populations (pregnant, non-ambulatory, hearing impaired, mentally ill, medical conditions, developmental disability)

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

36. **Condition of Confinement:** Module Information Postings (re: time calculations, complaint, developmental disability)

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable



37. **Condition of Confinement:** Complaint Procedure (e.g., Deputy, Medical Complaints - Confidential Procedures to SBC, OIG, COC)

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

38. **Condition of Confinement:** Fees Assessed/ Money on Books

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

39. **Condition of Confinement:** Other

40. **Condition of Confinement:** Other

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

## Nutrition

41. **Nutrition:** Quality/Concerns

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

42. **Nutrition COMMENT RE:** Quality/Concerns

43. **Nutrition:** Access to special diets

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

## Trustees

44. **Trustees:** Quarters

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

45. **Trustees:** Training and Selection

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

46. **Trustees:** Workload and Hours

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

47. **Trustees:** Calculation/Time Served

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

### Medical Services

48. **Medical Services**

	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Corrective Action Needed	Not Applicable
Access	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Wait Times	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Responsiveness	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
TB and Other Medical Screening	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Dental	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Vision	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Infectious Disease Protocol	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

49. **COMMENTS RE:** Medical

### Mental Health

50. **Mental Health Services**

	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Corrective Action Needed	Not Applicable
Access	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Wait Times	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Treatment Options	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Assessment Procedures	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

51. **COMMENTS RE: Mental Health**

See report at end

**Telephones**

52. **Telephones**

	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Corrective Action Needed	Not Applicable
Access	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Functionality	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

53. **COMMENTS RE: Telephones**

Education Based Incarceration Programming (EBI)

54. **Education Based Incarceration Programming (EBI)**

	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Corrective Action Needed	Not Applicable
Availability	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Type	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Access	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

55. **COMMENTS RE: EBI Programming**

See report at end

56. **EBI: Volunteer Services**

	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Corrective Action Needed	Not Applicable
Type	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Access	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Concerns	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

57. **COMMENTS RE EBI: Volunteer Services**

See report at end

### Clean Clothing and Bedding

58. **Clean Clothing and Bedding** (including laundry practices)

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

### Facilities/Maintenance

59. **Facilities/Maintenance: Back Log Unfilled Order(s)**

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

60. **Facilities/Maintenance COMMENTS RE: Back Log Unfilled Order(s)**

61. **Facilities/Maintenance:** Kitchen/Laundry

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

## Deputy Staffing

62. **Deputy Staffing:** Quality of Interactions w/Detainees

	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Corrective Action Needed	Not Applicable
Use of Force (Last 30 days)	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Assault on Staff (Last 30 days)	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Staff Training (MH, trauma informed etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

63. **Deputy Staffing COMMENTS RE:** Quality of Interactions w/Detainees

There are some issues with using the FIP/Stepdown Unit for certain training procedures. See report at end

64. **Detainee Complaints/Concerns COMMENTS:**

65. **Deputy Complaint/Concerns COMMENTS:**

66. **Prior Corrective Action Resolution:**

67. **Detainee Documentations** (e.g., intake/release, procedures):

	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Corrective Action Needed	Not Applicable
Classification	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Logs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Detainee management	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Exit interview - policies/procedure grievances	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Generated funds	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

68. **Detainee Documentation COMMENTS:**

69. **Discipline Proceedings:**

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

**Inspection: Special Focus**

70. Inspection: Special Focus

	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Corrective Action Needed	Not Available
COC	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Community	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
CHS	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
DMH	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
DPH	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Facilities	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Food Services	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
OIG	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

71. Inspection: Special Focus Request *(Select all that Apply)*:

- COC
- Community
- CHS
- DMH
- DPH
- Facilities
- Food Services
- OIG
- N/A
- Other

72. Inspection: Special Focus Request Comments:



73. **Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) Issues:**

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

74. **Other:**

**INSPECTION DETAILS - ANCHORED TO SUMMARIZE #3 THROUGH #106**

75. Inspection Detail for #:

Twin Towers Correctional Center houses a number of people with significant mental illness, designated P3: "Unstable due to significant mental illness; persistent danger of hurting self in less acute care setting; or recurrent violence due to emotional instability," or P4: "Severe debilitating symptoms; Meets LPS 5150 criteria for danger to self, others, or grave disability." These people qualify for "High Observation Housing. According to a September 3, 2015, Joint Settlement Agreement Regarding the Los Angeles County Jails; and Stipulated Order of Resolution entered into by the Department of Justice and Los Angeles County before Judge Dean Pregerson, a federal judge, "High Observation Housing" or 'HOH' refers to designated areas for prisoners with mental illness who require an intensive level of observation and care and/or safety precautions." which means that they are separated into one- or two-person cells, often clothed in suicide vests, rather than ordinary jail fatigues, provided limited programming, often while chained to a table or chair. Consistent with the Settlement Agreement, the Sheriff Deputies engage in safety checks of people with the designation of P3 or P4 every 15 minutes.

On December 19, 2022, Judge Pregerson entered an order granting Plaintiff United States' Notice of Motion and Motion for Court Order Setting Deadlines for Substantial Compliance with the 2015 Settlement Agreement. That order included provisions for the "Expansion of Stepdown Program." The order noted that the LA County "Jails have been operating "Stepdown" HOH units that serve individuals who previously received inpatient care in the Jails and others in the HOH population....These units, unlike standard HOH areas, allow individuals to spend most of the day outside their cells without restraints....They also provide improved programming, and a better care environment overall than standard HOH units....They are also better at preventing decompensation."

Part of the point of using Stepdown units rested on the finding that such units "should reduce the acuity of mental illness across the system, and thus help to reduce the demand on the Jails' overtaxed inpatient and HOH units, the two most impacted types of mental health housing." The Order then required Los Angeles County to "expand the number of operational Stepdown units according to the following schedule, which should be feasible based on their implementation plans:..."

- o 20 Stepdown pods by March 2024;
- o 28 Stepdown pods by March 2025."

On June 27, 2023, the Los Angeles Board of Supervisors passed a motion, sponsored by Supervisor Hilda Solis, Supporting the Expansion of FIP Stepdown and HOH Dorm Units the Los Angeles County Jails, which contained the following "requests":

1. Request that the Sheriff and direct the Department of Health Services (DHS) – Correctional Health Services (CHS) continue to expand rapidly the number of FIP Stepdown and HOH Dorm pods at TTCF and CRDF to a total of 20 pods by March 30, 2024...
2. Request that the Sheriff and Direct the Department of Health Services (DHS) – Correctional Health Services (CHS) continue to recruit volunteer Mental Health Assistants, including through recruitment and training initiatives, such as the Merit Masters program, at least two times per year, more if needed."

On February 21, 2024, the Office of Inspector General, published its first Report Back on Support for Mental Health Assistants in Furthering the Sustainability and Success of the Forensic In-Patient Stepdown Unit Program (Item No. 10, Agenda of November 21, 2023).

On the same date, February 21, 2024 Judge Pregerson entered another order, Granting Stipulation to Modify Court Order Setting Deadlines for Substantial Compliance.

## 76. Inspection Detail for #:

As part of that order, Judge Pregerson noted that "The County has begun expanding Stepdown units and currently operates 17 such units in the Jails," as well as expanding "its use of High Observation Housing dorms ("HOH Dorms") since the December 2022 order was entered. The County maintains that HOH Dorms are functionally equivalent to Stepdown units. According to the County, both unit types possess the same essential elements, including enhanced, unrestrained out-of-cell time; a therapeutic physical space with games, soft furniture, decorative art or plants, and other pro-social environmental features; consistent and specially trained custody and Correctional Health Services ("CHS") staff, and tailored treatment plans and programming. The County also maintains that HOH Dorms are easier to expand and can safely house more people than Stepdown units. On this basis, the County has asked the United States to agree to modify the December 2022 Order to allow the operational HOH Dorms to be credited toward the Stepdown unit requirement." On the basis of these representations, "The United States agrees that HOH Dorms may be credited toward the Stepdown requirement," and permitted a revised target of "18 such Stepdown units in operation by June 2025;"

It was against this background of litigation and transformation in the jails that we visited the Twin Towers Forensic Inpatient (FIP) Stepdown Unit, as well as one of the HOH dorms. A core goal of our visit was to understand how the Forensic Inpatient (FIP) Stepdown Unit worked, including a preliminary understanding of the coordination between the Sheriff's Department, Correctional Health Services, and the Mental Health Assistants who currently operate the Forensic Inpatient (FIP) Stepdown Unit, as well as to observe and understand the operation of the HOH Dorms.

At the Forensic Inpatient (FIP) Stepdown Unit we spoke primarily with Craigen Armstrong, who had worked for 7 years as Mental Health Assistant, had graduated as a Merit Master from the Education Based Incarceration program at Men's Central Jail, and is a co-author with Adrian Berumen of the book, *The Solution: Mental Health Assistants*. Mr. Armstrong described the process of selecting and training mental health assistants, as well as caring for people with significant mental health issues in the Forensic Inpatient (FIP) Stepdown Unit.

The Forensic In-Patient (FIP) Stepdown Unit is still a High Observation Unit with regular safety checks, but it has a distinctive and therapeutic appearance. It is immaculately clean, with floors painted by the Mental Health Assistants: as an ocean complete with fish, sunken ship, and treasure chest; as a space diorama with a small Millennium Falcon; and as a "Picasso" canvas—although it is more like a nascent Pollock with splashes of paint decorating the floor. All of this gives the unit a much more cheerful and relaxed appearance than the rest of the jail.

The people incarcerated in the Forensic Inpatient (FIP) Stepdown Unit kept their cells very clean. There was none of the graffiti that covers the walls of cells elsewhere in the High Observation Housing units of Twin Towers. The people in the cells were alert and calm and wore a version of the usual jail fatigues, rather than the usual blue suicide vest (a padded and somewhat uncomfortable poncho) which is often discarded, leaving many of the people on High Observation Housing elsewhere in Twin Towers languishing naked in their cells.

The unit has comfortable chairs and plants, and each pod is surrounded by books that the people incarcerated there can easily access. There are tables and dry-erase boards. In all but one of the five pods, the people incarcerated there are not handcuffed or chased when they engage in programming. The Mental Health Assistants work to ensure that people spend no more than a month programming in handcuffs before being moved to a pod where the people are not in restraints.

## 77. Inspection Detail for #:

We spoke with about eight Mental Health Assistants from 141 and 161 modules. The Mental Health Assistants included about three who were undergoing training. They spoke at length about the challenges this population of people presented and the sort of patience and discipline it took to be a Mental Health Assistant. The Mental Health Assistants' cells are unlocked so that they can respond to the needs of the people incarcerated in the unit throughout the night. One of the Mental Health Assistants told us that even though these call-outs can be challenging, it is better to address them immediately for the long term health of the people incarcerated there and the smooth running of the program.

Mr. Armstrong stressed that one of the core difficulties of working with this population of significantly mentally ill people is that these are people who no-one wants: no program within the jail, and often not even their families outside the jail.

Forensic Inpatient (FIP) Stepdown Unit looks and feels different because of the Mental Health Assistants.

For example, Mental Health Assistants ensure that the people incarcerated in the Forensic Inpatient (FIP) Stepdown Unit take their medication. That is a time-consuming process that requires persuasion and monitoring, including explaining to the incarcerated person the nature of their illness and the effect of their medication. In addition, some incarcerated people do not swallow their medication, but hide it in their cheeks or spit it out. Mental Health Assistants are skilled in spotting when incarcerated people do not take their medication. They have a special interest not shared by nurses or Deputies in ensuring that the people in Forensic Inpatient (FIP) Stepdown Unit take medication: if the patients do not, then they become unresponsive and sometimes aggressive or violent.

Deputy and nursing staff do not want to do pill call. Medication is distributed by staffed by Licensed Vocational Nurse (LVN), who nurses trained in basic, specific nursing skills, and so not Registered Nurses (RN) with more advanced training and patient care planning skills. If an incarcerated person refuses their medication, then rather than persuading the person to take their medication, Deputies and nursing staff usually just keep on going. Both Deputies and nursing staff think that persuading incarcerated people to take their pills takes too long. Given these difficulties, there was significant turnover in the nursing staff assigned to Forensic Inpatient (FIP) Stepdown Unit.

Historically, Mental Health Assistants have had difficulties working with Deputies who take a more punitive approach. For example, the Mental Health Assistants developed an incentive program involving placing daily stars on a sheet outside each cell for every incarcerated person who performed basic hygiene functions. It was difficult to get people with severe mental illness to take care of themselves and their living conditions. The program would then provide the successful incarcerated people with some small food treats, such as cookies, at the weekend. LASD officers initially impeded program by removing star-sheets from outside the cells. It took the Mental Health Assistants a significant amount of work to persuade the Deputies not to pull down these sheets when they did their inspection rounds.

Another challenge is faced by LASD having deputies train in the Forensic Inpatient (FIP) Stepdown Unit. The Mental Health Assistants know patients and are able to deal with them without using restraints. On the one hand, starting Deputies' training in the Unit enables them to observe how well people with significant mental problems can succeed in the jail. However, because the training officer must ensure that the Deputies know the procedures that apply to other parts of the jail, trainees use restraints to move people incarcerated people around the Unit. We observed at least one person being moved in this way.

## 78. Inspection Detail for **OIG** Request Related to:

Some training officers treat upset patients as a training opportunity and put incarcerated people on discipline to teach the training officer how to write up infractions.

The Forensic Inpatient (FIP) Stepdown Unit is undergoing a period of significant turnover. The Unit Director used to be a dedicated psychiatric technician, Sarah Strong. However, she died in December 2023. Sergeant Flores, who used to oversee the program, has been promoted and is no longer with the Unit. One of the founders of the Mental Health Assistant program, Adrian Berumen, has returned to a State correctional facility. Even though the Board of Supervisors' motion and Judge Pregerson's order has led to visits from interns and psychiatric students but no long-term staffing of Forensic Inpatient (FIP) Stepdown Unit with psychiatric technician to replace Dr. Strong.

The proposed expansion has had significant effects on the Unit. Mental Health Assistants require 6 months of training to complete the program developed by Mr. Berumen and Mr. Armstrong, in conjunction with the former Director of the Felony Inpatient (FIP) Stepdown unit, Sarah Tong, who was a psychiatric technician. The Mental Health Assistants do not receive outside training.

After six months of training in the Unit, successful trainees would receive the designation "Certified Mental Health Assistant." Certification simply signified that an incarcerated person had completed the Mental Health Assistant course and received the certification. However, Correctional Health Services objected to the designation of "certified" and required the Mental Health Assistants to stop calling themselves certified. Now, they are called Inmate Mental Health Assistants (although some of the Deputies refer to them as "merit masters," which is the name of the Education-Based Incarceration program that they have completed before engaging in the rest of the Mental Health Assistant training program).

Until recently, a psychiatric technician, Sarah Tong was the director of the Forensic Inpatient (FIP) Stepdown Unit. However, Ms. Tong complained of lack of support from Correctional Health Services. According to Mr. Armstrong, Ms. Tong received more support from the sergeants overseeing the Forensic Inpatient (FIP) Stepdown Unit (Sergeant Flores) than Correctional Health Services. It appears that in the time since she died in December, Correctional Health Services has not appointed a new psychiatric technician to the Unit.

The previous process for selecting Mental Health Assistants was that Ms. Tong, the Forensic Inpatient (FIP) Stepdown Unit Sergeant, and the Mental Health Assistants would participate in selecting who becomes a Mental Health Assistant and how they are trained. The smooth running of the Forensic Inpatient (FIP) Stepdown Unit depends upon having Mental Health Assistants who understand from their own experience how incarcerated people relate to each other, what are their interests and incentives, and how they operate within the power-dynamics and politics of the jails. Mr. Armstrong suggested that people who do not understand or are not suited to dealing the difficulties presented by chronically ill inmates disrupt the Unit.

After the Board of Supervisors Motion and District-Court ordered expansion, Correctional Health Services and LASD are taking more of a role in controlling the selection of incarcerated people to serve as Mental Health Assistants. Correctional Health Services does not participate in the training program for Mental Health Assistants, but simply provides the Merit Masters program in Men's Central Jail.

Mr. Armstrong suggested that LASD and Correctional Health Services do not understand the training process for Mental Health Assistants and do not understand the unique challenges faced by individuals who are incarcerated in a jail setting in serving as Mental Health Assistants.

## 79. Inspection Detail for **COC** Request Related to:

Not every person who graduates from the Merit Master program in Men's Central Jail is capable of dealing with the challenges presented by treating the people in the Forensic Inpatient (FIP) Stepdown Unit. Now there is only limited participation from Mental Health Assistants

Under the new expansion agreement, LASD and Correctional Health Services require only graduation from the merit master program to qualify as a Mental Health Associate for the Forensic Inpatient (FIP) Stepdown Unit, as well as providing peer support training. However, Mr. Armstrong criticized LASD's over reliance on peer support, because that training does not address the nature of the various illnesses that the Mental Health Associates treat, and so does not provide all the required skills to become a Mental Health Professional. As Mr. Armstrong explained, that puts people at risk because merit master training on its own does not prepare people to be in a pod with low-functioning people with mental health problems.

Another effect of the new policy is limiting the pool of people who could qualify as Mental Health Assistants. One of LASD's policy goals is to try to find people who can receive good time credits for working in pods. However, given the jail population, there are relatively few people who qualify for prison credits. Other incentives already available include increased contact visits and to order certain goods from Amazon. However, Armstrong suggested that one of the real benefits is to work on oneself and to work away from the "politics" of the dorms and cells (including racial politics).

Forensic Inpatient (FIP) Stepdown Unit leaders wanted to create a Mental Health Assistant class in Men's Central Jail taught by the Mental Health Assistants themselves. Mr. Armstrong met with Dr. Hellman, the Educational Development Administrator at Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, about a year ago. However, Mr. Armstrong suggested the they were unable to get permission to teach merit master course.

The Mental Health Associates also partnered with Education-Based Incarceration (EBI) to help set up the Century Regional Detention Facility Forensic Inpatient (FIP) Stepdown Unit at the women's jail. Mr. Armstrong and the Mental Health Assistants at Twin Towers were teleconferencing with the women Mental Health Assistants to help with their training. However, when Lieutenant Hicks, who was involved in setting up the Century Regional Detention Facility program moved from Century Regional Detention Facility to Twin Towers, coordination with the Twin Towers Mental Health Assistants stopped. When Century Regional Detention Facility Mental Health Assistants asked for the same hot meals ration (two per day) as the Mental Health Assistants in Twin Towers, LASD leveled down and dropped the Twin Towers hot meal ration to one per day, rather than level up the women Mental Health Assistant's ration to two per day.

Part of the LASD resistance to allowing Mental Health Assistants to provide Education Based Incarceration training appears to stem from some a punitive orientation because of the Mental Health Assistant's criminal record.

80. Inspection Detail for **Community Request** Related to:

According to Mr. Armstrong, LASD has proposed introducing an alternative, phased model to replace current Forensic Inpatient (FIP) Stepdown Unit structure. In the phased model, each module would consist of are five dorms, A, B, C, D, and E dorms, each capable of housing 16 people in 8 two-person cells. The plan is to have a process of graduation from pod-to-pod in which an incarcerated person with severe mental illness is moves from E-dorm, where they are placed in a single cell, clothed in a suicide gown and allowed limited chained and handcuffed programming, to D-dorm, where they remain in a single cell, but now the clothed in prison fatigues and allowed limited chained and handcuffed programming, to C-dorm, where the incarcerated person is able to share a cell and receives more programming, but still chained and handcuffed, to B dorm, which is the Forensic Inpatient (FIP) Stepdown Unit, in which the incarcerated person is no longer chained and handcuffed on programming and receives attention from a Mental Health Assistant, and finally to A-Dorm where the incarcerated person no longer is afforded the assistance of a Mental Health Assistant.

There has been no formal meeting between the Mental Health Assistants and the watch commander or captains to discuss expansion of the program. If there are meetings, these are facilitated by the Office of Inspector General. The most contact that the Mental Health Assistants have with LASD and Correctional Health Services is at at the ceremony for graduating inmates when they exit the Forensic Inpatient (FIP) Stepdown Unit. Otherwise, Correctional Health Services rarely show up in the Forensic Inpatient (FIP) Stepdown Unit.

Commissioners Miller and Frutos also visited Module 162 pod A. Pod A is one of the "High Observation Housing dorms ("HOH Dorms")...[that t]he County maintains...are functionally equivalent to Stepdown units." The LASD Deputies in the dorm informed us that, because we visited on a weekend, none of the people incarcerated in Pod A were allowed out of their cells until Monday. When the people incarcerated there were allowed out of their cells during the week, they could receive three hours unrestrained in the morning and three hours in the afternoon, during which time they would receive counseling with the mental health staff. However, only those people who were cooperative would receive this out-of-cell time. Of the 25 people incarcerated in the HOH dorm, only 6 were deemed cooperative at the last session.

When we spoke to the people incarcerated there, they were significantly less comfortable than the people in the Forensic Inpatient (FIP) Stepdown Unit. The cells were covered in graffiti and were generally less clean. In one room, the occupant had made a tent of blankets so that we could not see him in his bed. A Deputy on the mandatory 15-minute safety check preceded us and logged the room as checked without being able to see the person in the cell or ascertain their health status of safety.

81. **Inspection Detail:** EBI

82. **Inspection Detail:** Medical

83. **Inspection Detail:** Medical

84. **Inspection Detail:** Building and Maintenance *(Select all that apply)*

- Lawns
- Recreation Area
- Blacktop
- Asphalt
- General Condition
- Paint
- Roof
- Drains/Gutters
- Not Applicable
- Other

85. Inspection Detail: Building and Maintenance

**INSPECTION DETAIL: INTERIOR OF BUILDINGS(S)**

86. **Inspection Detail:** Interior of Building(s) and Maintenance *(Select all that apply)*

- Walls
- Paint
- Floors
- Drains
- Plumbing fixtures working
- Air Vents
- Windows
- Not Applicable
- Other

87. Inspection Detail **Interior of Building:**

88. Are Cleaning fluids and chemicals labeled and safely stored?

- Yes
- No
- Not Applicable
- Other

89. Weapons locker present?

- Yes
- No
- Not Applicable
- Other

90. Recreation/Sports Equipment:

91. Are the hallways clear, are doors propped open or closed?

- Yes
- No
- Not Applicable
- Other

92. Holding areas (cells/rooms), is there access to drinking water and toilet?

- Yes
- No
- Not Applicable
- Other

93. Condition of individual cells/rooms, or dormitories:

94. Beds - Type of bed and is it off the floor?

95. Adequate lighting:

96. Temperature:

97. Narrative Report

View results

Respondent

25

Anonymous

45:57

Time to complete

### Inspection Information

1. Location \*

Lancaster Station

2. Date of Previous Inspection \*

4/5/2024

3. Date of this Inspection \*

4/5/2024

4. Time \*

11:00am

5. Location

	Courts	Jails	Sheriff Station
Location	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

6. Commissioner(s) - (Select all that Apply) \*

- Ingrid Archie
- Haley Broder
- Norma Cumpian
- Wynter Daggs
- Mark - Anthony Clayton Johnson
- Bob Frutos
- Dr. Cheryl N. Grills
- Eric J. Miller
- Raymond Regalado
- Alexander Sherman
- Joahanna Terrones
- Mary Veral
- Other

## Facility Information

7. Facility Name \*

Courthouse names and locations: <https://www.lacourt.org/courthouse>

Patrol Names and locations Stations: <https://lasd.org/stations/>

LA County Jail Facilities names and locations: <https://lasd.org/custody/>

LANCASTER SHERIFF'S STATION  
(661) 948-8466  
501 W. Lancaster Blvd., Lancaster, CA 93534

8. Facility Address \*

Courthouse names and locations: <https://www.lacourt.org/courthouse>

Patrol Names and locations Stations: <https://lasd.org/stations/>

LA County Jail Facilities names and locations: <https://lasd.org/custody/>

501 W. Lancaster Blvd., Lancaster, CA 93534



9. Name and Title of LASD Supervisor Contacted \*

Michael Politano, Lt.

10. Census: Capacity \*

54

11. Current Census \*

11

12. Location(s) Inspected: \*

Sally-port, intake and holding cells

13. Issues reported to (Select all that Apply): \*

- BOS
- Officer in Charge
- LASD
- ISD
- OIG
- COC
- Other

14. Name of the person(s) issues were reported to: \*

Michael Politano, Lt.  
Dep. Morales

15. Contact Information of the person(s) contacted: \*

501 W. Lancaster Blvd., Lancaster, CA 93534  
661 948-8466

## Conditions of Confinement

16. **Condition of Confinement:** Cells/Toilets/Sinks

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

17. **Condition of Confinement:** Showers (water temperature, rust, mold etc.)

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

18. **Conditions of Confinement COMMENT RE:** Showers (water temperature, rust, mold etc.)

Water pressure low in module B and J - Showers

19. **Condition of Confinement:** Crowding

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

20. **Condition of Confinement:** Cleanliness/Graffiti

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

21. **Condition of Confinement:** Safety, Conflict, Tension

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

22. **Condition of Confinement:** Common Areas

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

23. **Condition of Confinement:** Air Quality/Temperature

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

24. **Condition of Confinement:** Deputy/Detainee Relations (Including Specific Incidents or allegations of misconduct)

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

25. **Condition of Confinement:** Strip Search Issues

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

26. **Condition of Confinement:** Access (Drinking Water)

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

27. **Condition of Confinement:** Access (Mail/Reading Materials/Law Library)

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

28. **Condition of Confinement:** Access (Toilets for Common Room)

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

29. **Conditions of Confinement COMMENT RE:** Access (Toilets for Common Room)

Toilet in module E appeared to be out of service due to bread and paper jammed in bowl.

30. **Condition of Confinement:** Access (Toiletries, Appropriate Combs/Brushes)

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

31. **Condition of Confinement:** Access (Exercise, Religious Practice)

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

32. **Condition of Confinement:** Access (Legal Counsel)

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

33. **Conditions of Confinement COMMENT RE:** Access (Legal Counsel)

Temporary holding/booking cell 3, phone out of service this condition could impact access to legal counsel at time of booking.

34. **Condition of Confinement:** Access (Visitation, Correspondence)

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

35. **Condition of Confinement:** Solitary Confinement

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

36. **Condition of Confinement:** Privacy/Dignity (showers, bathrooms)

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

37. **Condition of Confinement:** Special needs populations (pregnant, non-ambulatory, hearing impaired, mentally ill, medical conditions, developmental disability)

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

38. **Condition of Confinement:** Module Information Postings (re: time calculations, complaint, developmental disability)

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

39. **Condition of Confinement:** Complaint Procedure (e.g., Deputy, Medical Complaints - Confidential Procedures to SBC, OIG, COC)

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

40. **Condition of Confinement:** Fees Assessed/ Money on Books

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

41. **Condition of Confinement:** Other

During time of booking, assessment is conducted to determine if special attention is needed such as medical/mental health conditions, and a determination is made as to whether facility is appropriate for temporary placement, or other accommodations need to be considered.

42. **Condition of Confinement:** Other

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

## Nutrition

43. **Nutrition:** Quality/Concerns

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

44. **Nutrition:** Access to special diets

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

## Trustees

45. **Trustees:** Quarters

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

46. **Trustees:** Training and Selection

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable



47. **Trustees:** Workload and Hours

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

48. **Trustees:** Calculation/Time Served

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

## Medical Services

49. **Medical Services**

	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Corrective Action Needed	Not Applicable
Access	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Wait Times	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Responsiveness	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
TB and Other Medical Screening	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Dental	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Vision	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Infectious Disease Protocol	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

50. **COMMENTS RE:** Medical

During booking process, assessment is conducted to ascertain if station holding facilities are appropriate for temporary housing.

## Mental Health

### 51. Mental Health Services

	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Corrective Action Needed	Not Applicable
Access	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Wait Times	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Treatment Options	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Assessment Procedures	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

### 52. COMMENTS RE: Mental Health

Mental health assessment is conducted to determine if station holding facilities are appropriate for temporary housing.

## Telephones

### 53. Telephones

	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Corrective Action Needed	Not Applicable
Access	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Functionality	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

### 54. COMMENTS RE: Telephones

Education Based Incarceration Programming (EBI)

55. **Education Based Incarceration Programming (EBI)**

	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Corrective Action Needed	Not Applicable
Availability	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Type	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Access	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

56. **COMMENTS RE:** EBI Programming

57. **EBI:** Volunteer Services

	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Corrective Action Needed	Not Applicable
Type	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Access	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Concerns	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

58. **COMMENTS RE EBI:** Volunteer Services

**Clean Clothing and Bedding**

59. **Clean Clothing and Bedding** (including laundry practices)

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

**Facilities/Maintenance**

60. **Facilities/Maintenance:** Back Log Unfilled Order(s)

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

61. **Facilities/Maintenance COMMENTS RE:** Back Log Unfilled Order(s)

As noted earlier, items for corrective action was noted and made known to the watch Lt.

62. **Facilities/Maintenance:** Kitchen/Laundry

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

63. **Facilities/Maintenance:** Chemical exposure (kitchen, laundry, trustee duties)

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

## Deputy Staffing

64. **Deputy Staffing:** Quality of Interactions w/Detainees

	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Corrective Action Needed	Not Applicable
Use of Force (Last 30 days)	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Assault on Staff (Last 30 days)	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Staff Training (MH, trauma informed etc.)	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

65. **Deputy Staffing COMMENTS RE:** Quality of Interactions w/Detainees

66. **Detainee Complaints/Concerns COMMENTS:**

67. **Deputy Complaint/Concerns COMMENTS:**

68. **Prior Corrective Action Resolution:**

69. **Detainee Documentations** (e.g., intake/release, procedures):

	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Corrective Action Needed	Not Applicable
Classification	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Logs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Detainee management	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Exit interview - policies/proced ure grievances	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Generated funds	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

70. **Detainee Documentation COMMENTS:**

71. **Discipline Proceedings:**

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

72. **Emergency Preparedness/Systems:**

	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Corrective Action Needed	Not Applicable
Fire Extinguishers	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Airpack Tags	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Emergency Evacuation Routes	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Control Centers	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Emergency Lighting Fixtures	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Safety Drills	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
First Aid and Suicide Kits	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

73. **Emergency Preparedness/Systems COMMENTS:**

74. **Grounds:**

	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Corrective Action Needed	Not Applicable
Conditions	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Unlawful postings on exterior grounds (e.g., if ever been convicted cannot visit a detainee, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

75. **Grounds COMMENTS:**

**Inspection: Special Focus**

76. **Inspection: Special Focus**

	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Corrective Action Needed	Not Available
COC	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Community	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
CHS	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
DMH	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
DPH	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Facilities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Food Services	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
OIG	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

77. Inspection: Special Focus Request (Select all that Apply):

- COC
- Community
- CHS
- DMH
- DPH
- Facilities
- Food Services
- OIG
- N/A
- Other

78. Inspection: Special Focus Request Comments:

79. **Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) Issues:**

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

80. **Other:**

### INSPECTION DETAILS - ANCHORED TO SUMMARIZE #3 THROUGH #106

81. Inspection Detail for #:



82. Inspection Detail for #:

83. Inspection Detail for #:

84. Inspection Detail for **OIG** Request Related to:

85. Inspection Detail for **COC** Request Related to:

86. Inspection Detail for **Community Request** Related to:

87. **Inspection Detail:** EBI

88. **Inspection Detail:** Medical

89. **Inspection Detail:** Medical

90. **Inspection Detail:** Building and Maintenance *(Select all that apply)*

- Lawns
- Recreation Area
- Blacktop
- Asphalt
- General Condition
- Paint
- Roof
- Drains/Gutters
- Not Applicable
- Other

91. **Inspection Detail:** Building and Maintenance

Address plumbing issues as noted above along with phone repair.

**INSPECTION DETAIL: INTERIOR OF BUILDINGS(S)**

92. **Inspection Detail:** Interior of Building(s) and Maintenance *(Select all that apply)*

- Walls
- Paint
- Floors
- Drains
- Plumbing fixtures working
- Air Vents
- Windows
- Not Applicable
- Other

93. Inspection Detail **Interior of Building:**

As noted earlier.

94. Are Cleaning fluids and chemicals labeled and safely stored?

- Yes
- No
- Not Applicable
- Other

95. Weapons locker present?

- Yes
- No
- Not Applicable
- Other

96. Recreation/Sports Equipment:

97. Are the hallways clear, are doors propped open or closed?

- Yes
- No
- Not Applicable
- Other

98. Holding areas (cells/rooms), is there access to drinking water and toilet?

- Yes
- No
- Not Applicable
- Other

99. Condition of individual cells/rooms, or dormitories:

Satisfactory

100. Beds - Type of bed and is it off the floor?

yes

101. Adequate lighting:

102. Temperature:

103. Narrative Report

104. Narrative Continued

105. Narrative Continued

106. Narrative Continued

107. Narrative Continued

108. Narrative Continued

View results

Respondent

23 Anonymous

3310:23

Time to complete

### Inspection Information

1. Location \*

2. Date of Previous Inspection \*

3. Date of this Inspection \*

4. Time \*

5. Location

	Courts	Jails	Sheriff Station
Location	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

6. Commissioner(s) - (Select all that Apply) \*

- Ingrid Archie
- Haley Broder
- Norma Cumpian
- Wynter Daggs
- Mark - Anthony Clayton Johnson
- Bob Frutos
- Dr. Cheryl N. Grills
- Eric J. Miller
- Raymond Regalado
- Alexander Sherman
- Joahanna Terrones
- Mary Veral
- Other

## Facility Information

7. Facility Name \*

Courthouse names and locations: <https://www.lacourt.org/courthouse>

Patrol Names and locations Stations: <https://lasd.org/stations/>

LA County Jail Facilities names and locations: <https://lasd.org/custody/>

8. Facility Address \*

Courthouse names and locations: <https://www.lacourt.org/courthouse>

Patrol Names and locations Stations: <https://lasd.org/stations/>

LA County Jail Facilities names and locations: <https://lasd.org/custody/>

9. Name and Title of LASD Supervisor Contacted \*

Watch Commander Loera

10. Census: Capacity \*

unknown

11. Current Census \*

1291

12. Location(s) Inspected: \*

1300 (FIP stepdown) 2300 – HOH 3600 EBI GP dorm

13. Issues reported to (Select all that Apply): \*

- BOS
- Officer in Charge
- LASD
- ISD
- OIG
- COC
- Watch Commander

14. Name of the person(s) issues were reported to: \*

Watch Commander Lt Loera

15. Contact Information of the person(s) contacted: \*

unknown

## Conditions of Confinement



16. **Condition of Confinement:** Cells/Toilets/Sinks

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

17. **Condition of Confinement COMMENTS RE:** Cells/Toilets/Sinks

3600: One woman just moved from 2600 where she reported there are gnats and bugs coming out of the plumbing.  
3600: Gnats and bugs coming out of plumbing + cloudy water with particles in it  
3600: sinks backed up/ toilets overflowing  
1300: One woman was in a cell without water. She showed me how parched her lips were and said she hadn't had water for "a while" (she was very ill and was unable to communicate linearly.) Her toilet was overflowing. When we brought this to the deputies' attention they said she was probably flooding the room so the shift before probably turned off the water – but there was no documentation of this. Upon further inquiry by SBC, a deputy discovered there was a leak in the pipes next to the woman's cell and the water had been turned off by someone, but they just left her in the cell. Deputies told us they were going to move her to a new cell but did not complete the move before we left.

18. **Condition of Confinement:** Showers (water temperature, rust, mold etc.)

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

## Nutrition

19. **Nutrition:** Quality/Concerns

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

20. **Nutrition:** Access to special diets

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

## Trustees

21. **Trustees:** Quarters

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

22. **Trustees:** Training and Selection

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

## Medical Services

### 23. Medical Services

	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Corrective Action Needed	Not Applicable
Access	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Wait Times	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Responsiveness	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
TB and Other Medical Screening	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Dental	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Vision	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Infectious Disease Protocol	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

### 24. COMMENTS RE: Medical

3600: A woman had injured her foot in a soccer program. She was told incorrect medical information in November and told to just ice her foot (and told her foot would just heal) but did not receive follow-up until March after repeated complaints. She is now worried because the doctor told her she may need surgery.

3600: Medical told woman she was "whining" when she requested information about her diabetes treatment.

One pregnant woman asked us when her next medical appointment was because she had not been seen in weeks. We confirmed with medical that she would be seen this week.

## Mental Health

### 25. Mental Health Services

	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Corrective Action Needed	Not Applicable
Access	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Wait Times	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Treatment Options	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Assessment Procedures	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

26. **COMMENTS RE:** Mental Health

## Telephones

27. **Telephones**

	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Corrective Action Needed	Not Applicable
Access	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Functionality	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

28. **COMMENTS RE:** Telephones

2 phones not working in 3600

## Education Based Incarceration Programming (EBI)

29. **Education Based Incarceration Programming (EBI)**

	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Corrective Action Needed	Not Applicable
Availability	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Type	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Access	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

30. **COMMENTS RE:** EBI Programming

31. **EBI: Volunteer Services**

	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Corrective Action Needed	Not Applicable
Type	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Access	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Concerns	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

32. **COMMENTS RE EBI: Volunteer Services**

No Spanish EBI classes are available. A monolingual Spanish speaker we spoke with was forced to take a GED class in English and rely on her cellmate to translate

Women in the STAR program do not get the opportunity to receive video visits with their children in DCFS cases.

Request for additional self-help/ mental health resources and groups.

## Clean Clothing and Bedding

33. **Clean Clothing and Bedding** (including laundry practices)

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

## Facilities/Maintenance

34. **Facilities/Maintenance: Back Log Unfilled Order(s)**

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

35. **Facilities/Maintenance COMMENTS RE:** Back Log Unfilled Order(s)

The elevator is broken – deputies reported it had been broken for nearly 3 weeks. LASD is not using a stairchair to transport people with mobility issues down the stairs if they have to go to court. They stated to us that instead, they are making people walk slowly. This is reportedly causing court delays and other delays, including to do food service (they have to lock everything down anytime they need to do movement).

Stairwell full of trash (fire hazard)

3600: Very cold temperatures (women complained of this and the commissioners were cold in the walkways of the dorm – presumably the cells are even colder).

36. **Facilities/Maintenance:** Kitchen/Laundry

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

37. **Facilities/Maintenance:** Chemical exposure (kitchen, laundry, trustee duties)

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

## Deputy Staffing

38. **Deputy Staffing:** Quality of Interactions w/Detainees

	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Corrective Action Needed	Not Applicable
Use of Force (Last 30 days)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Assault on Staff (Last 30 days)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Staff Training (MH, trauma informed etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

39. **Deputy Staffing COMMENTS RE:** Quality of Interactions w/Detainees

No complaint or request forms were available in any of the modules in 1300. We had to ask the deputies for them. Despite this, when we raised issues (for instance – one woman wanted something to read) the response was “they need to fill out a form.” But there were no forms available. It appears anything that requires deputy initiative does not occur with any regularity.

40. **Detainee Complaints/Concerns COMMENTS:**

Deputies are disrespectful and concerns about retaliation for talking with inspectors was communicated. They expressed they do not want to complain too much so they take away the program. As social workers, it appears to the commissioners that the deputies need additional training about how to interact and support peer support specialists such as the MHAs.

Five deputies were sitting in the center area talking rather than walking around with the women who are incarcerated. In addition, we observed two safety checks, and they were conducted very quickly and in a cursory manner. During these checks, we observed two cells where the bunks were covered with blankets, and it was not possible to see inside to observe that the woman in the cell was moving. We observed that deputies just walked by very quickly.

41. **Deputy Complaint/Concerns COMMENTS:**

42. **Prior Corrective Action Resolution:**

43. **Detainee Documentations** (e.g., intake/release, procedures):

	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Corrective Action Needed	Not Applicable
Classification	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Logs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Detainee management	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Exit interview - policies/procedure grievance	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Generated funds	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

44. **Detainee Documentation COMMENTS:**

45. **Discipline Proceedings:**

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

**Inspection: Special Focus**

46. **Inspection: Special Focus**

	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Corrective Action Needed	Not Available
COC	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Community	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
CHS	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
DMH	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
DPH	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Facilities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Food Services	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
OIG	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



47. Inspection: Special Focus Request *(Select all that Apply)*:

- COC
- Community
- CHS
- DMH
- DPH
- Facilities
- Food Services
- OIG
- N/A
- Other

48. Inspection: Special Focus Request Comments:

49. **Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) Issues:**

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory
- Corrective Action Needed
- Not Applicable

50. **Other:**

### **INSPECTION DETAILS - ANCHORED TO SUMMARIZE #3 THROUGH #106**

51. Inspection Detail for #:

52. Inspection Detail for #:

53. Inspection Detail for #:

54. Inspection Detail for **OIG** Request Related to:

55. Inspection Detail for **COC** Request Related to:

56. Inspection Detail for **Community Request** Related to:

57. **Inspection Detail:** EBI

58. **Inspection Detail:** Medical

59. **Inspection Detail:** Medical

60. **Inspection Detail:** Building and Maintenance *(Select all that apply)*

- Lawns
- Recreation Area
- Blacktop
- Asphalt
- General Condition
- Paint
- Roof
- Drains/Gutters
- Not Applicable
- Other

61. **Inspection Detail:** Building and Maintenance

**INSPECTION DETAIL: INTERIOR OF BUILDINGS(S)**

62. **Inspection Detail:** Interior of Building(s) and Maintenance *(Select all that apply)*

- Walls
- Paint
- Floors
- Drains
- Plumbing fixtures working
- Air Vents
- Windows
- Not Applicable
- Other

63. Inspection Detail **Interior of Building:**

64. Are Cleaning fluids and chemicals labeled and safely stored?

- Yes
- No
- Not Applicable
- Other

65. Weapons locker present?

- Yes
- No
- Not Applicable
- Other

66. Recreation/Sports Equipment:

67. Are the hallways clear, are doors propped open or closed?

- Yes
- No
- Not Applicable
- Other

68. Holding areas (cells/rooms), is there access to drinking water and toilet?

- Yes
- No
- Not Applicable
- Corrective action needed

69. Condition of individual cells/rooms, or dormitories:

70. Beds - Type of bed and is it off the floor?

71. Adequate lighting:

72. Temperature:

### 73. Narrative Report

FIP stepdown -1300

MHAs are getting fewer, and they are having a difficult time recruiting. We were also told recruitment has been paused. Caseloads are very high. We spoke to them about participating in SBC on 5/2 and they were very enthusiastic about doing so.

Concerns:

Not getting credit for their work as MHAs. They have been speaking with OIG and they understand some of the credit issues might need to be addressed at a higher level

such as with the Cal Legislature. However, it was noted that LASD can quickly communicate to CDCR if someone has a disciplinary write-up/problem, but there is minimal communication (if any) about the positive programming completed. This includes the MHA program.

No communication with Court/DA re MHA program so there's an understanding of the rehabilitative efforts the women are undertaking to participate in the MHA program and support the MH care for FIP patients.

Deputies are disrespectful and concerns about retaliation for talking with inspectors was communicated. They expressed they do not want to complain too much so they take away the program. As social workers, it appears to the commissioners that the deputies need additional training about how to interact and support peer support specialists such as the MHAs.

Continued difficulties with lice. (This was an issue at the last CRDF visit)

Sgt Cadmon does not actively participate in communicating with the women. He does not communicate with the MHAs and there's no way for them to follow up, but they have questions.

Deputies are watching videos while on the job.

2300:

\*\*When the commissioners arrived to 2300, a woman was finishing in the shower and was calling for the deputies to let her out of the shower and back into her cell. We are not sure how long she had already been calling. Two trustees also alerted the deputies she was ready. For 42 minutes, she called for the deputies to please let her out of the shower. After the commissioners spoke with the deputies and asked them to please let her out and return her to her cell, they were told they were just finding out about this (in front of them), and that they would get to it. This is while 5 deputies were watching YouTube in the bubble. The commissioners stayed until the woman was let out of the shower and returned to her cell.

EBI:

Concerns about the safety of the water for drinking. Worms, black flies coming out of the sink.

Told that January was the last time they were in the outside area. Deputies said that short-staffing was the reason for this. Women reported not enough toilet paper, pads, tampons, and underwear in the EBI dorms.

Three women who were designated by medical to only be on bottom bunks due to medical need/ injury were assigned top bunks by deputies and told they were complaining when asked to switch. They have not been switched — this is an accessibility access issue.

EBI module had an entire row upstairs of sinks clogged.

One woman reported she had not been given underwear for the week, and that the laundry returned to the dorm was not clean.

Not enough hygiene supplies available: told that there is a fixed amount and once it is gone, no more is available for the module. A group of women requested a meeting with Senior Alfaro regarding programs and timing/ requested a response to the requests they are submitting.

### 74. Narrative Continued

### 75. Narrative Continued

### 76. Narrative Continued

77. Narrative Continued

78. Narrative Continued

CURRENTLY NO WRITTEN OR ELECTRONIC  
PUBLIC COMMENT WAS SUBMITTED