



# Texas Commission on Jail Standards

Sabine County Jail

Hemphill, Texas

January 19, 2021  
Date(s) of Inspection

SUBJECT: INSPECTION REPORT

State Law requires periodic inspections of county jail facilities (VTCA, Local Government Code, Chapter 351, VTCA, Government Code, Chapter 511; Chapter 297.8, Texas Commission on Jail Standards).

- The facility was inspected on the date(s) indicated above, and it was determined that deficiencies exist. You are urged: (1) to give these areas of noncompliance your serious and immediate consideration; and (2) to promptly initiate and complete appropriate corrective measures. The Commission is available to discuss or assist you with the appropriate corrective measures required.

Failure to initiate and complete corrective measures following receipt of the Notice of Noncompliance may result in the issuance of a Remedial Order (Chapter 297.8, et seq.).

- This facility was inspected on the date(s) indicated above. There were no deficiencies noted and upon review of this report by the Executive Director of the Texas Commission on Jail Standards, a certificate of Compliance may be issued per the requirements of VTCA, Chapter 511 and Texas Minimum Jail Standards.

Authenticated:

Inter-Office Use Only

Michael Gravitt, TCJS Inspector

Received by:	Date
	1/20/2021
Reviewed by:	Date

cc: Judge  
Sheriff

Individuals and/or entities regulated by the Texas Commission on Jail Standards shall direct all complaints regarding the commission procedures and functions to the Executive Director at: P.O. Box 12985 Austin, Texas 78711 (512) 463-5505 Fax (512) 463-3185 or at our agency website at [www.tcjs.state.tx.us](http://www.tcjs.state.tx.us).

**ANNUAL JAIL REPORT**

County: <u>Sabine</u>	
Sheriff: <u>Tom Maddox</u> email: <u>tmaddox@scsotx.com</u>	Judge: <u>Daryl Melton</u> email: <u>cookie.cryer@co.sabine.tx.us</u>
Jail Administrator: <u>Mike Olsen</u> email: <u>molsen@scsotx.com</u>	Inspector: <u>Michael Gravitt</u>

Last Inspection January 13, 2020 Compliant No Inspection Date(s) January 19, 2021  
 Remedial Order N/A Effect: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Reportable Incidents</b> <small>(Previous 12 month History)</small>	<b>Fires</b> <u>0</u>	<b>Escapes</b> <u>0</u>	AT	<b>Contract Inmates Housed</b>	
	<b>Deaths</b> <u>0</u>	<b>Walkaway</b> <u>0</u>	AT	Jasper	<u>6</u>
	<b>Suicides</b> <u>0</u>	<b>Secured</b> <u>0</u>		San Augustine	<u>4</u>

Date Plans Approved October 31, 2011

1. **Facility Name** Sabine County Jail Drill Time 1m 26s  
 Address 310 Main Street, Hemphill, TX Zip Code 77514  
 Phone # (409) 787-2266 Fax # (409) 787-2150 Facility Capacity 17  
 Built 1983 Renovated 1997 Addition N/A Average Daily Population 11.78  
 Type Max Number of Variances 0 Housing Total this Date 10  
 Holding Total this Date 0
2. **Facility Name** \_\_\_\_\_ Drill Time \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ Facility Capacity \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Fax# \_\_\_\_\_ Average Daily Population \_\_\_\_\_  
 Built \_\_\_\_\_ Renovated \_\_\_\_\_ Addition \_\_\_\_\_ Housing Total this Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Type \_\_\_\_\_ Number of Variances \_\_\_\_\_ Holding Total this Date \_\_\_\_\_
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 Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Fax # \_\_\_\_\_ Average Daily Population \_\_\_\_\_  
 Built \_\_\_\_\_ Renovated \_\_\_\_\_ Addition \_\_\_\_\_ Housing Total this Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Type \_\_\_\_\_ Number of Variances \_\_\_\_\_ Holding Total this Date \_\_\_\_\_

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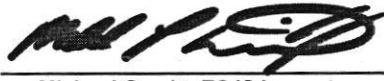
Population: **Housing** 10 **Hold/Detox/Violent** 0 **Total System Population** 10  
(During Inspection)

Total Inspection Time 4 hours **Total Average Daily Population** 11.78

Inspector: *[Signature]*  
 Sheriff: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Jail Administrator: *[Signature]*

Interview with Court Representative  Yes  No  
 Commissioners Court Representative: *[Signature]*

TEXAS COMMISSION ON JAIL STANDARDS - INSPECTION REQUIREMENTS REVIEW



Michael Gravitt, TCJS Inspector

Facility Name: Sabine County Jail

Date:

January 19, 2021

Chapter	Title	Comments
259	New Construction	Conducted a walk through of the facility.
261	Existing Construction	Not applicable.
263	Life Safety	Inspected life safety equipment and conducted and observed emergency drill. Reviewed documentation. Conducted staff interviews.
265	Admission	Reviewed a random sample of 4 inmate files. Interviewed staff. Reviewed policy. <u>Deficiency noted, see report. Technical assistance provided</u> - During the review of observation checks, it was noted that inmates confined in a holding cell or a detoxification cell are not observed by staff at intervals of at least 30 minutes. Documentation showed that observation of inmates in the holding cell and detox cell exceeded the required 30 minutes by 1 to 30 minutes. <u>Follow-up action required</u> - Administration will develop a plan of action to ensure inmates confined in a holding cell or detoxification cell are observed at intervals of at least 30 minutes. Administration will scan and e-mail the plan to this inspector within 10 days of receipt of this report and will e-mail this inspector cell checks for the holding and detoxification cells for the next 30 days.
267	Release	Reviewed a random sample of 3 inmate files. Interviewed staff.
269	Records/Procedures	Reviewed policy and documentation. Interviewed staff and reviewed ADA compliance evaluation. <u>***Inspectors note</u> - While reviewing operational plans, it was determined that a majority of the operational plans were last revised in 2011. It was strongly recommended to administration to review and update their operational plans and submit updated plans to the commission for approval as soon as possible.
271	Classification	Reviewed a random selection of 4 files. Reviewed training records. <u>Deficiency noted, see report. Technical assistance provided</u> - During the review of classification records, it was determined that officers who have not had at least four hours of training on the principles, procedures and instruments for classification assessments, housing assignments, reassessments and inmate needs are completing initial classification assessments and required reassessments. <u>Follow-up action required</u> - Officers performing classification duties will obtain the required 4 hours of classification training. Administration will provide documentation of completed classification training to this inspector within 45 days.
273	Health Services	Reviewed a random selection of 4 files. Interviewed staff and inmates. Reviewed training records. Reviewed policy. <u>Deficiency noted, see report. Technical assistance provided.</u> - During the review of training records, it was determined that a deficiency still exists from the FY20 inspection. The approved Mental Disabilities/Suicide Plan states "Supplemental training will be provided for staff conducting intake screening. This will be done in conjunction with classification training. Special emphasis will be placed on identification, interviewing and/or interpersonal communication skills, the actual screening forms and referrals. This training will be a minimum of 4 hrs." Administration was unable to provide documentation of training and no training was reported to TCOLE. This was an area of technical assistance listed on the FY20 report. <u>Follow-up action required.</u> - Administration will scan and e-mail documentation showing that a minimum of 4 hrs training was conducted according to the approved plan within 45 days.
275	Supervision	Reviewed a random selection of 7 jailer TCOLE certification records. Reviewed jailer documentation. Interviewed staff.
277	Personal Hygiene	Conducted a facility walk through. Reviewed facility schedule.

**TEXAS COMMISSION ON JAIL STANDARDS - INSPECTION REQUIREMENTS REVIEW**

279	Sanitation	Conducted a facility walk through. Interviewed staff and inmates. Reviewed policy. <u>Technical assistance provided</u> - The last health inspection of the kitchen was conducted on December 16, 2019. Administration advised that an inspector with DSHS was scheduled to be on site to conduct an inspection in February 2021. This will place the inspection more than one month past due. <u>Follow-up action required</u> - Administration will scan and e-mail the documentation of the health inspection to this inspector when completed.
281	Food Service	Conducted walk through inspection in kitchen area. Interviewed staff. Reviewed documentation.
283.1	Discipline	Reviewed 1 disciplinary hearing records. Interviewed staff and inmates. Reviewed policy. Reviewed inmate rules.
283.3	Grievance	Reviewed 3 inmate grievance/complaints. Reviewed policy. Interviewed staff and inmates. <u>Technical assistance provided</u> - 1) During the review of inmate grievances, it was determined that there was no place for the inmate to date the grievance when it was written. Without a date of when the grievance was written, it is not possible to determine if an interim response was sent or the grievance was answered within the specified 15 and 60 day time limits outlined in standards. 2) A 15 day interim response was not provided for grievance submitted by inmate Eddie Bryan on June 6, 2020. The grievance was responded to on July 20, 2020 and closed. <u>No follow-up required</u> 1) Jail Administrator M. Olsen edited the grievance form on site. The form now has a place for a date the grievance was written. <u>Follow-up action required</u> - 2) Administration will conduct training with staff on the required time limits associated with grievances and will scan and e-mail completed grievances to this inspector for the next 30-45 days.
285	Exercise	Walk through of exercise area conducted. Reviewed documentation. Interviewed staff and inmates. <u>Technical Assistance Provided</u> - The review of recreation documentation revealed that the inmates in quarantine were not offered recreation as required by minimum jail standards. One inmate was listed as loss of privileges for the last two weeks and was not provided recreation. Administration advised that the inmate is destructive and causes damage to the facility when let out of his cell. This inspector reminded the administration that the Office of the Governor has not suspended recreation for inmates and reiterated that recreation is a right to the inmates and to implement a plan of action to ensure that all inmates receive recreation in the quarantined/cohort cells immediately. <u>Follow-up action required</u> - Administration will email this inspector a plan of action within the next 14 days to provide recreation to inmates in quarantine and to provide recreation to inmates who pose a problem.
287	Education/Library	Reviewed policy and schedule. Interviewed staff and inmates.
289	Work Assignments	Reviewed policy and schedule. Interviewed staff and inmates.
291.1	Telephone	Reviewed policy and schedule. Interviewed staff and inmates.
291.2	Correspondence	Reviewed policy and schedule. Interviewed staff and inmates.
291.3	Commissary	Reviewed policy and schedule. Interviewed staff and inmates.
291.4	Visitation	Reviewed policy and schedule. Interviewed staff and inmates.
291.5	Religious Practices	Reviewed policy and schedule. Interviewed staff and inmates.
xxx	Variances	Not applicable.
xxx	Remedial Orders	Not applicable.
xxx	Complaints	Not applicable.
xxx	CCQ	CCQ inquiries are being submitted through TLETS as required.