



# TEXAS COMMISSION ON JAIL STANDARDS

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TEXAS COMMISSION  
ON JAIL STANDARDS

BEXAR COUNTY

SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

SUBJECT: COUNTY JAIL 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 indicated below, 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 indicated below. 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:

George H. Johnson  
Inspector George H. Johnson  
Inspector Fred St. Amant *Fred St. Amant*  
Inspector Anthony Mikesh *Anthony E. Mikesh*

January 21-23, 2009  
Date(s) of Inspection

cc: Judge  
Sheriff  
Inspector

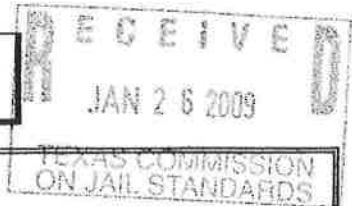
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*Sharon Linder* 1/26/09  
Received by:

*Shannon J. Shubert* 1/27/2009  
Reviewed by: Date

Individuals and/or entities regulated by the Texas Commission on Jail Standards shall direct complaints regarding the commission procedures and functions to the Executive Director

**TEXAS COMMISSION ON JAIL STANDARDS**  
Annual Jail Report



County: Bexar

Sheriff: Amadeo Ortiz Judge: Nelson Wolff

Jail Administrator: Roger Dovalina Inspector: George H. Johnson-Fred St. Amant  
Anthony Mikesh

Last Inspection: 2/11-14/2008 Compliant:  Yes  No *blw* Inspection Date(s): 1/21-23/2008

Remedial Order:  Yes  No Effect: Not applicable.

Reportable Incidents: Fires: 10 Deaths: 1 Suicides: 1

Escapes: 0 (Walkaway 0 Secured 0)

Date Plans Approved: 7/10/2002

**1. Facility Name** Bexar County Jail

Address: 200 N. Comal San Antonio, TX Zip Code: 78207

Phone # (210) 335-6219 Fax # (210) 335-6199

Built: 1988 Renovated: 1996 Addition: 1996

Type: Min/Max Drill Time: 2Min10Sec

Number of Variances: 8

Facility Capacity: 2863

Average Daily Population: 2081

Population this Date: 2810

**2. Facility Name** Bexar County Jail Annex

Address: 200 N. Comal San Antonio, TX Zip Code: 78207

Phone # (210) 335-6806 Fax # (210) 335-6495

Built: 1993 Renovated: NA Addition: NA

Type: Med/Max Drill Time: 2Min00Sec

Number of Variances: 3

Facility Capacity: 1525

Average Daily Population: 1367

Population this Date: 1479

**3. Facility Name** Bexar County Justice Center - Court Holding

Address: Bexar County Courthouse Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # (210) 335-2666 Fax # (210) 335-2677

Built: 1991 Renovated: NA Addition: NA

Type: Remote Drill Time: 59 Sec

Number of Variances: 0

Facility Capacity: 132

Average Daily Population: Varies

Population this Date: 45

|  |  |  |  |   |  |
|--|--|--|--|---|--|
| <b>Housing Capacity</b> <u>4596</u><br>Cells      Capacity<br>Sep Cells <u>11</u> <u>11</u><br>Single Cells <u>320</u> <u>320</u><br>M.O. Cells <u>1037</u> <u>2202</u><br>Dorms <u>40</u> <u>2011</u><br>Neg Press Cells <u>0</u> <u>0</u><br>Medical Cells <u>52</u> <u>52</u> |  | <b>Holding/Detox/Violent Capacity</b> <u>114</u><br>Cells      Capacity<br>Holding Cells <u>17</u> <u>112</u><br>Detoxification Cells <u>0</u> <u>0</u><br>Violent Cells <u>2</u> <u>2</u> |  | <b>Females</b> <u>307</u><br>(Female Population Today)<br># of Cells <u>10</u><br># of Bunks <u>350</u>                           |  |
|  |  | <b>Construction Security Level</b><br>Minimum Capacity <u>355</u><br>Medium Capacity <u>1429</u><br>Maximum Capacity <u>2510</u>   |  | <b>Contract Inmates</b><br>100 + Capacity (30% + Non - TX)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No |  |

Population: **Housing** 4289      **Hold/Detox/Violent** 82      **Total System Population** 4371  
(During Inspection)

Total Inspection Time: 62 Hours      **Total Average Daily Population** 4168  
 with 3 inspectors

Interview with Court Representative:  Yes       No

Amadeo Ortiz  
Sheriff

Anthony Mikesh  
Commissioners Court Representative

TEXAS COMMISSION ON JAIL STANDARDS  
COUNTY JAIL INSPECTION REPORT



COUNTY OF BEXAR

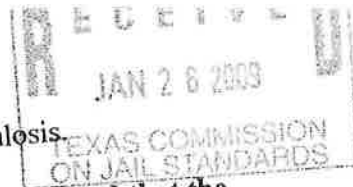
DATE: January 21-23, 2009

AREAS OF NON-COMPLIANCE

| Item | Section | Paragraph | Comments  |
|------|---------|-----------|---|
| 1    | 259     | .135      | <p>The size of the cell shall be determined by the anticipated maximum number of inmates to be confined at any one time. Cells shall be constructed to house from one to 24 inmates and shall contain not less than 40 square feet of floor space for the first inmate and 18 square feet of floor space for each additional inmate to be confined.</p> <p><b>Documentation revealed in the past sixty days they have been over the approved capacity on the second floor AA, AB trusty dorms.</b></p>  |
| 2    | 259     | .138(3)   | <p>The size of the cell shall be determined by the anticipated maximum number of inmates to be confined at any one time. Cells shall be constructed to house from one to 24 inmates and shall contain not less than 40 square feet of floor space for the first inmate and 18 square feet of floor space for each additional inmate to be confined.</p> <p><b>During the walk through of the facility it was observed that the Bexar County Jail was utilizing their holding cells above their approved capacity</b></p>  |
| 3    | 259     | .167      | <p>Two-way voice communication shall be available at all times between inmates and corrections officers.</p> <p><b>At the time of inspection the intercoms in the Annex holding cells were inoperable.</b></p>  |
| 4    | 273     | .7(a)     | <p>Each facility having a capacity of 100 or more inmates, or housing inmates transferred from a facility with a capacity of at least 100 beds or housing inmates from another state, shall develop and implement a plan for tuberculosis screening tests of employees, volunteers, and inmates. Inmates confined in the jail for more than 7 days shall be tested on or before the 7th day after the day of confinement. Inmates may be exempt from the screening test when the test conflicts with the tenets of an organized religion to which the individual belongs or when the test is contraindicated based on an examination by a physician. An inmate is not required to be retested at each rebooking if the inmate is booked into the facility more than once during a 12-month period, unless the inmate shows symptoms</p> |

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of or is known to have been exposed to tuberculosis.



**At the time of the inspection documentation revealed that the facility was not annually testing all officers and inmates.**

5 275 .1

Every facility shall have the appropriate number of corrections officers at the facility 24 hours each day. Facilities shall have an established procedure for visual, face-to-face observation of all inmates by corrections officers at least once every hour. Observation shall be performed at least every 30 minutes in areas where inmates known to be assaultive, potentially suicidal, mentally ill, or who have demonstrated bizarre behavior are confined. There shall be a two-way voice communication capability between inmates and staff at all times. Closed circuit television may be used, but not in lieu of the required personal observation.

**At the time of inspection documentation revealed that Bexar County had the adequate staffing on each floor. But the rovers where unable to provide documentation that they are making hourly face to face visual check. In order for the rovers to be counted in the 1:48 staffing they have to provide documentation of the hourly face to face visual checks.**

6 279 .3

Preventive maintenance, to include necessary repairs, shall be conducted to ensure a safe, secure, and sanitary facility.

**In Towers A, B, C, and D of the Annex Facility there were multiple lavatories and showers that did not have sufficient hot and cold water. There several toilets that did not work.**

**On the second floor Towers C and LA, LB, LC, LD, WA and WB of the Main Jail there were toilets that were not functioning properly and multiple lavatories and showers did not have hot water. Also, the lavatories had multiple low pressure problems throughout the facility.**

7 275 .4

Staff. Inmates shall be supervised by an adequate number of corrections officers to comply with state law and these standards. One corrections officer shall be provided on each floor of the facility where 10 or more inmates are housed, with no less than 1 corrections officer per 48 inmates or increment thereof on each floor for direct inmate supervision. This officer shall provide visual inmate supervision not less than hourly. Sufficient staff to include

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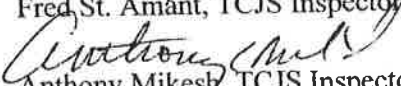


supervisors, correctional officers and other essential personnel as accepted by the Commission shall be provided to perform required functions. A plan, concurred in by both commissioners' court and sheriff's department, **which provides for adequate and reasonable staffing of a facility, may be submitted to the Commission for approval.** This rule shall not preclude the Texas Commission on Jail Standards from requiring staffing in excess of minimum requirements when deemed necessary to provide a safe, suitable, and sanitary facility nor preclude submission of variance requests as provided by statute or these rules.

**At the time of inspection, the Bexar County Jail was unable to meet the 1:48 officer to inmate ratio at all times. The documentation upon review showed that the facility was meeting the 1:48 ratio, however, during the walk through it was observed that officers were leaving their assigned areas and no relief was provided to take their place.**

  
George N. Johnson, TCJS Inspector

  
Fred St. Amant, TCJS Inspector

  
Anthony Mikesch, TCJS Inspector