

To: Florida Corrections Accreditation Commission, Inc.
From: Team Leader Tammy Matthews
Date: August 29, 2021
Re: Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office Department of Corrections
Comparative Compliance Assessment Report
August 3 – 5, 2021

A. Agency/Assessment Information

Chief Executive Officer: Sheriff Ric L. Bradshaw
Jail Administrators: Major Michael Devoter and Major Darlyn Morris
Accreditation Manager: Captain Patrice Quinn
Accreditation Team: Lieutenant Meredith Scott, Sergeant Rechina Castro, Sergeant Michael Altemari, Inspector Ann Juhasz, and Mary Wright

Standards Manual Version: 4.13

Previous Accreditation Dates: July 1998, October 2000, October 2003, October 2006, October 2009

Excelsior Dates: September 2012, October 2015, October 2018

Additional Accreditations: Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation (CFA), Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA), American Correctional Association (ACA), National Commission on Correctional Health Care (NCCHC), and Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA)

Assessment Team Recommendation: Excelsior Reaccreditation

Assessment Team

Team Leader: Tammy Matthews
Okaloosa County Department of Corrections
tmatthews@myokaloosa.com

Sergeant Cody Whiddon
Clay County Sheriff's Office
cwhiddon@claysheriff.org

Ms. Mary Valdez
Monroe County Sheriff's Office
mvaldez@keyssso.net

B. Compliance Tally

Status	Mandatory Standards	Other-than-mandatory Standards	Total Standards
In compliance	91	30	121
In compliance (Comparative Compliance)	89	48	137
Not in compliance	1	0	1
Not applicable	2	1	3
Elected exemptions	0	0	0
Not Set	0	0	0
Total:	182	79	262

Total Applicable Other-than-mandatory Standards	30
Maximum allowable number of Elected Standards	3

C. Agency Profile

Palm Beach County encompasses over 2,383 square miles with a year-round population of over a million and 45 miles of shoreline. The sheriff's office employs approximately 3,919 staff members with 1,588 assigned to the Department of Corrections.

The Corrections Security Bureau is divided into two detention units, an in-house arrest program, and a video visitation center. Detainees are afforded programs including academic education, self-help groups, and re-entry programs.

The Main Detention Center is a 2,166-bed unit located on Gun Club Road managing maximum, medium, and minimum custody inmates. It also houses juvenile and special category inmates. Operations are overseen by Captain John Cardaropoli and Captain William Pinto. It has a bed capacity of 923 inmates. The West Detention Center, located in Belle Glade, maintains housing for 998 inmates at the same custody levels, excluding juveniles. Operations are overseen by Captain Eliecer Ramos and Captain Eddie Jones.

The Corrections Court Security Division manages the court security for their judicial circuit.

The Corrections Contract Compliance Division has agreements with three contracted vendors. Trinity Services provides food services to both facilities. Keefe Group provides commissary services to all inmates. Wellpath is the provider for medical, mental health, and dental services. They operate an infirmary in each location and four in-patient mental health units.

D. Assessment Summary

On Tuesday, August 3, 2021, the team was picked up from the hotel and transported to the facility. The assessment began with an entrance interview attended by:

ATTENDING AT THE CORRECTIONS ADMINISTRATION CONFERENCE ROOM:

Colonel Alfonso Starling – Department of Corrections
Major Darlyn Morris – Corrections Operating Bureau
Major Michael Devoter – Corrections Security Bureau
Captain Patrice Quinn – Standards & Staff Development
Lieutenant Meredith Scott – Standards & Staff Development
Sergeant Michael Altemari – Standards & Staff Development
Sergeant Rechina Castro – Standards & Staff Development
Medical Inspector Ann Juhasz – Standards & Staff Development
Procedural Officer Mary Wright – Standards & Staff Development
Division Manager Stephanie Peskowitz – Corrections Contract Compliance
Captain Ronald Wilson – Corrections Support Services
Lieutenant Isabelle McDonald – Main Detention Center
Lieutenant Tenicia Poitier – Corrections Support Services

ATTENDING VIA ZOOM:

Supervisor Maribel Williams – Standards & Staff Development
Captain Eddie Jones – West Detention Center
Captain William Pinto – Main Detention Center
Lieutenant Barrington Buckle – Inmate Management
Captain Eliecer Ramos – West Detention Center
Captain Robert Tutko – Corrections Court Security
Captain Kimberly Kinsey – Inmate Management
Lieutenant Gerard Imbert – Correction Court Security
Unit Manager Tiffany Wagner – Standards & Staff Development
Section Manager Juna Thomas – Inmate Management
Section Manager Sally Joseph – Corrections Contract Compliance
Manager Faryl Thomas – Corrections Contract Manager
Lieutenant Camay Curry – Inmate Management
B. Harper – Facilities Management
Section Manager Roderick White – Corrections Contract Compliance
Dr. Morcos – Wellpath, Medical Director
Krista Shuffett – Wellpath, Health Services Administrator
Ruth Osborne – Wellpath, Mental Health Director
R. Kirkland – Wellpath, Assistant Director of Nursing
Sharon Lindner – Wellpath Main Detention Center, Director of Nursing
Shara Davis – Wellpath West Detention Center, Director of Nursing

A tour was conducted throughout the facility. Assessor Matthews broke off from the main tour to tour the medical department. The team began file review as the special events team delivered lunch. The agency utilized comparative compliance to the Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation assessment report and the American Correctional Association assessment report with 137 standards in comparative review. The team

conducted observations and interviews at the Main Detention Center on Tuesday afternoon, August 3, 2021, and at the West Detention Center on Wednesday morning, August 4, 2021, concluding observations and interviews on Thursday, August 5, 2021.

Assessor Whiddon reviewed chapters 1, 2, 5, 6, 9, 10, 11, 16, 17, 26, and 30. He observed key control with excellent review of the shadow board and multiple electronic key systems throughout the facilities. The agency has the capability to make keys on site as required. SCP Dunn was very knowledgeable about his assignment as key manager.

Assessor Whiddon interviewed Deputy Zambrano who explained how and why inmates are locked down and how often they are checked. Deputy Zambrano explained housing duties and the processes for visitation, recreation, and meal service. Some housing areas have classrooms attached to housing, affording inmates' accessibility to programs such as Alcoholics Anonymous, Law Library, and education services. The inmates were enthusiastic in explaining the programs they are able to participate in. The housing areas were clean with the chemical closets well organized.

Correctional Support Personnel Daily explained how her position monitors deputies in housing while in the cell block. She explained the procedures for emergency situations.

Correctional Support Personnel Wells provided an extensive explanation on available inmate programs to include GED, AA, voter programs, ServeSafe Food Handlers program, Career Exploration, Going the Distance, and Choice to Change. Inmates interviewed were appreciative of the opportunity to participate in the various programs.

During observations of both facilities, the walls, floors, and cells were very clean. The showers and sinks were in good repair and clean. The supply area was well organized and professionally run.

Several housing areas were closed to observations and interviews due to COVID-19 quarantine.

Assessor Valdez reviewed chapters 3, 4, 12, 13, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 27, 28, and 29. She conducted interviews with the transportation team, kitchen staff, housing officers, and the emergency response team. Staff were professional and understood policies and their job functions. Director Moynihan of the Rebel Recovery program was excited to explain the program and inmates were appreciative for the opportunity to participate.

Assessor Valdez reported the Inmate Transportation Section staff was newly assigned, but very knowledgeable about their assignment and proficient in their understanding of their division responsibilities.

The kitchen was clean and well organized. Kitchen workers were limited with a reduction in inmate workers due to COVID-19 housing quarantine.

The visitation area is off site, offering video visitation while maintaining the security of the facility. Visitation hours have been reduced in order to keep visitors from being too closely seated, holding the requirement for social distancing.

Assessor Matthews reviewed chapters 7, 8, 14, 15, 24, 25, and 31. She conducted interviews and observations verifying compliance with booking and release procedures, inmate property standards, and housing unit requirements. Medical staff confirmed compliance with standards for sick call, pregnant female care, and pharmacy procedures. Courthouse holding procedures have changed throughout the COVID-19 pandemic since many court proceedings were handled virtually. Court has begun to move toward in-person proceedings slowly starting with jury trials.

Assessor Matthews observed a medical/mental health review meeting with several physicians present to review cases of high risk and serious medical concerns. They make joint decisions on the process for moving forward with the inmate treatment.

The following staff were interviewed by the assessment team:

Major Morris	Deputy Gillis
Captain Pinto	Deputy Marty
Captain Tutko	Deputy Zambrano
Captain Ramos	Deputy Lemay
Captain Kinsey	Deputy Walker
Captain Quinn	Deputy Rambrana
Lieutenant Curry	Deputy Altamari
Lieutenant McDonald	Deputy Abhau
Lieutenant Imbert	Deputy Baglino
Sergeant Santiago	Deputy Schlachter
Sergeant Alfred	Deputy Anderson
Sergeant McGucklan	Deputy Howard
Sergeant Ford	Deputy Jennings
Sergeant Castro	Deputy Balkissoon
Sergeant Altemari	Deputy Jones
Sergeant Knowles	Deputy Martinez
Sergeant Illiopoulos	Deputy Matthews
Sergeant McKinney	Deputy Dean
Corporal Hoffman	Deputy Dawson
Corporal Bryant	Unit Manager Eberhardt
Corporal Barnett	Unit Manager Tiffany Wagner
Deputy Gilyard	Unit Manager Dukes
Deputy Robinson	Unit Manager Cann
Deputy Lemay	Section Manager Josef
Deputy McWilliams	Section Manager Delaura
Deputy Graham	Section Manager Thomas
Deputy Taragano	Manager Moore
Deputy Hanks	Manager Thomas

Supervisor Williams	Doctor Beauvil
Supervisor Wagner	Doctor Landry
Kitchen Manager Consoli	Doctor Stepp
Correctional Support Personnel Dunn	Doctor Morcos
Correctional Support Personnel Hester	Medical Director Ruth Osborne
Correctional Support Personnel Freeman	Health Services Administrator Krista Shuffett
Correctional Support Personnel Flores	Director of Nursing Sharon Lindner
Correctional Support Personnel Daley	Assistant Director of Nursing Kirkland
Correctional Support Personnel Wells	Nurse Derrick
Correctional Support Personnel Ferguson	Nurse Stephen
Correctional Support Personnel Casapulla	Program Coordinator Price
Correctional Support Personnel Scott	Director of Rebel Recovery Moynihan
Facility Maintenance Thomas	MAPS Supervisor Price
Medical Inspector Ann Juhasz	

Approximately 25 inmates were interviewed in sections of the facility which were not under quarantine.

The exit interview was conducted Thursday, August 5, 2021, with staff attending in person and virtually. The following members were in attendance:

ATTENDING AT THE CORRECTIONS ADMINISTRATION CONFERENCE ROOM:

Colonel Alfonso Starling – Department of Corrections
Major Darlyn Morris – Corrections Operating Bureau
Major Michael Devoter – Corrections Security Bureau
Captain Patrice Quinn – Standards & Staff Development
Lieutenant Meredith Scott – Standards & Staff Development
Sergeant Michael Altemari – Standards & Staff Development
Sergeant Rechina Castro – Standards & Staff Development
Medical Inspector Ann Juhasz – Standards & Staff Development
Procedural Officer Mary Wright – Standards & Staff Development
Captain Ronald Wilson – Corrections Support Services
Captain Kimberly Kinsey – Inmate Management
Captain John Cardaropoli – Main Detention Center
Captain Robert Tutko – Corrections Court Security
Captain Eliecer Ramos – West Detention Center
Captain William Pinto – Main Detention Center
Captain Eddie Jones – West Detention Center
Corporal John Hoffman – Inmate Management

ATTENDING VIA ZOOM:

Supervisor Maribel Williams – Standards & Staff Development
Division Manager Stephanie Peskowitz – Corrections Contract Compliance
Unit Manager Tiffany Wagner – Standards & Staff Development

Unit Manager Jackson – Corrections Contract Compliance
Unit Manager Tara Price – Corrections Contract Compliance
Section Manager Roderick White – Corrections Contract Compliance
Section Manager Juna Thomas – Inmate Management
Section Manager Sally Josef – Corrections Contract Compliance
Lieutenant Camay Curry – Inmate Management
Lieutenant Barrington Buckle – Inmate Management
Lieutenant Gerard Imbert – Correction Court Security
Lieutenant William Kinsey – Main Detention Center
Sergeant Tangernika Ramcharitar – Inmate Management
Faryl Thomas – Corrections Contract Manager
Dr. Morcos – Wellpath
Krista Shuffett – Wellpath, Health Services Administrator
Sharon Lindner – Wellpath, Director of Nursing, Main Detention Center
R. Kirkland – Wellpath, Assistant Director of Nursing

E. Standards Noncompliance Discussion

2.02M

The agency electronically submits an annual accreditation report to the Commission reporting compliance efforts by January 31 of each year.

I. Bullets

II. Proofs of Compliance

- Annual Reports (Qty Initial: N/A) (Qty Reaccred: 1 each year)

V. Accreditation Manager Notes

The annual report form, available on the Florida Accreditation website, is required to be filed for each calendar year, January 1 – December 31.

The annual accreditation report was submitted to the Florida Accreditation Office on February 5, 2019, for the first year of the accreditation cycle. The agency exhibited compliance for the following two annual reports, showing they established a plan to bring the standard into compliance.

F. Corrective Action Discussion: None

G. Standards Elected for Exemption: None

H. Standards Verified by the Team as COVID-19 Waiver Applicable: None

I. Standards Verified by the Team as Not Applicable to the Agency

13.04M (MV) 15.14 (TM) 16.02 (CW)

J. Standards with a Status Changed by Assessors: None

K. Public Information Activities: None

L. Exemplary Policies/Projects/Procedures

Aggression Replacement Training (ART)

ART is a program provided by Choice to Change, Inc. The program concentrates on developing individual skills to address various emotional and social aspects contributing to aggressive juvenile behaviors. The goal of the program is to reduce violent and negative impulsive behaviors and replace them with positive social skills.

Another Way Program

The Another Way Program provides substance abuse education and awareness to individuals who commit to full participation in the program. The intervention program works to educate, motivate, and refer inmates away from addiction. The curriculum includes learning to make better choices and accepting responsibility for their choices.

Reentry Programs

The reentry division utilizes a questionnaire to determine the needs of inmates being released into the community. The American Job Center assists in acquisition of job skills and job placement upon release. Case managers make referrals to outside resources to mental health services, shelters, and public assistance. Bus passes are provided as needed.

M. Summary and Recommendation

The accreditation team conducted a thorough review of files and interviews from various staff to verify compliance with the standards. The assessment presented complex challenges for assessors utilizing multiple previous reports for comparative compliance. The accreditation team, led by Captain Quinn, worked to coordinate observations and interviews for two detention sites. Sergeant Castro, Sergeant Altamari, and Inspector Juhasz were accommodating to assist in providing additional documentation as needed and escort team members throughout the facilities. Palm Beach County staff were courteous and professional. Staff members overseeing the various units were proud of their teams and operations exhibiting knowledge and professionalism throughout the units. The agency maintains high levels of cleanliness, which is beneficial with additional spikes in COVID cases.

The assessment team unanimously recommends Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office Department of Corrections for continued accredited status.

Tammy Matthews
Team Leader