



Facility Inspection Report Issued By The Minnesota Department of Corrections Pursuant to MN Statute 241.021, Subdivision 1

Inspection and Enforcement Unit, 1450 Energy Park Drive, Suite 200, St.Paul MN 55108
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INSPECTION DETAILS FOR:

Dakota County Jail

Address: 1580 W Highway 55, PO BOX 247-J, Hastings, MN 55033

MN Governing Rule: 2911 Local Adult Detention Facilities

Inspection Type: Biennial **Inspected By:** Rachel Dotseth – Detention Facility Inspector **Inspected on:** 06/24/2025

Inspection Method: Facility walk-through, staff and inmate interviews, staff and inmate file reviews, facility documentation reviews, and video footage review.

Officials Present During Inspection: Assistant Jail Administrator Kevin Engel; Jail Administrator Benjamin Verby

Officials Present for Exit Interview: Assistant Jail Administrator Kevin Engel; Commander James Gabriel; Jail Administrator Benjamin Verby

Issued Inspection Report to: Assistant Jail Administrator Kevin Engel; Chief Deputy Dan Bianconi ; Commander James Gabriel; Jail Administrator Benjamin Verby; Sheriff Joe Leko; County Administrator Heidi Welsch; Regional Manager Dayna Burmeister

RULE COMPLIANCE SUMMARY

Rule Chapter	Requirement Type	Total Applicable	Total Compliance	Total Non Compliance	Total Compliance With Recommendations	Compliance Rating	Substantial Compliance Result/Criteria
2911	Mandatory	128	127	1	0	99.22%	Compliance rating of 100%
2911	Essential	111	110	1	0	99.10%	Compliance rating of 90%

TERMS OF OPERATION

Authority to Operate: approval **Begins On:** 08/01/2025 **Ends On:** 07/31/2027 **Facility Type:** Jail
Placed on Biennial Status: Yes **Biennial Status Annual Compliance Form Due On:** 07/31/2026
Delinquent Juvenile Hold Approval: no approval **Certificate Holder:** Dakota County Sheriff's Office
Special Conditions:

Approved Capacity Details *Operational Capacity is calculated as a percent of Approved Capacity beds.

Bed Type	Gender	Approved Capacity	Effective Date	%Operating Capacity	Operational Capacity	Bed Details	Conditions
Secure	Coed	270	4/4/2025	95	256.50	The facility's previous capacity was listed as 245; however, there was an error by 1 bed. The actual approved capacity was 244 beds. With the IHU addition of 26 beds, the new approved capacity is 270 beds. Although the new beds in the IHU are special management beds, it was designed with the intent to be long term housing similar to general population. Because of this the 26 beds were added to the approved capacity total. The facility remains at a 95% operational capacity which will be 256	

RULE COMPLIANCE DETAILS**Chapter 2911 - Mandatory Rules Not In Compliance****Total: 1**

1. 2911.6500 STORAGE. Subpart 2. Refrigeration.

Medication requiring refrigeration shall be refrigerated and secured and the temperature checked daily. There must be separate refrigeration for medications only.

Inspection Findings:

Documentation showed that the temperature was not checked or logged for 22 different days from 01/01/25 thru 05/11/25.

Corrective Actions:

The facility is in the process of developing a plan to ensure the temperature is checked daily. The facility shall submit the plan to the inspector. The inspector will continue to monitor for compliance.

Response Needed By: 07/31/2025

Chapter 2911 - Essential Rules Not In Compliance**Total: 1****1. 2911.3500 VOLUNTEERS.**

When volunteers are used in facility programs, a written policy and procedure shall provide that a staff member is responsible for coordinating the volunteer service program. The policy includes the following elements: A. lines of authority, responsibility, and accountability for the volunteer services; B. a procedure for the screening and selection of volunteers; C. an orientation training program appropriate to the nature of the assignment; D. a requirement that volunteers agree in writing to abide by all facility rules and policies, with emphasis on security and confidentiality of information; and E. a statement that the administrator may discontinue a volunteer activity at any time by written notice.

Inspection Findings:

The volunteer agreement packet was missing a written statement indicating that the administrator may discontinue a volunteer activity at any time by providing written notice. While this statement was included in the contractor agreement packet, it was not present in the volunteer agreement packet.

Corrective Actions:

The facility has updated the volunteer agreement packet, and no further action is required at this time. The Inspector will continue to monitor for compliance.

Response Needed By: 07/31/2025**INSPECTION COMMENTS**

The Dakota County Jail has established a new 26-person Integrative Health Unit, designed to support individuals experiencing mental health or chemical dependency crises. This specialized unit features trauma-informed design elements that foster wellness, recovery, and a more therapeutic environment.

The jail will remain on biennial inspection.

JJDPA Compliance

On June 23, 2025, a Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act audit was conducted. Dakota County Jail does not have authorization to hold juveniles. The Dakota County Jail did not book any juveniles between October 1, 2024, and the inspection date.

The facility does not participate in any "Scared straight" programs for any youth that are under public authority.

Based on the information that I received and reviewed, I did not find any violations of the JJDP act during the Dakota County inspection.

Report completed By: Rachel Dotseth – Detention Facility Inspector**Signature:**