



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
Telephone: 651-361-7146 Fax: 651-642-0314 Email: ie-support.doc@state.mn.us

INSPECTION DETAILS FOR:

Steele County Jail

Address: 2500 Alexander Street, Owatonna, MN 55060

MN Governing Rule: 2911 Local Adult Detention Facilities

Inspection Type: Biennial **Inspected By:** Lori Schopf – Detention Facility Inspector **Inspected on:** 04/07/2022

Inspection Method: Facility tour, staff and resident interviews, employee and resident file reviews, and related documentation reviews.

Officials Present During Inspection: Jail Administrator Anthony Buttera

Officials Present for Exit Interview: Jail Administrator Anthony Buttera

Issued Inspection Report to: Jail Administrator Anthony Buttera; Sheriff Lon Thiele; County Administrator Scott Golberg; Regional Manager Dayna Burmeister

RULE COMPLIANCE SUMMARY

Rule Chapter	Requirement Type	Total Applicable	Total Compliance	Total Non Compliance	Total Compliance With Concerns	Compliance Rating	Substantial Compliance Result/Criteria
2911	Mandatory	126	122	2	2	98.41%	Compliance rating of 100%
2911	Essential	99	98	1	0	98.99%	Compliance rating of 90%

TERMS OF OPERATION

Authority to Operate: approval **Begins On:** 05/01/2022 **Ends On:** 04/30/2024 **Facility Type:** Jail
Placed on Biennial Status: Yes **Biennial Status Annual Compliance Form Due On:** 04/30/2023
Delinquent Juvenile Hold Approval: 24 hrs exclusive of weekends and holidays **Certificate Holder:** Steele County Sheriff's Office
Special Conditions: None.

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

Bed Type	Gender	Approved Capacity	%Operating Capacity	Operational Capacity	Bed Details	Conditions
Secure	Coed	154	90	138.60	138.6 operational capacity beds.	None.

RULE COMPLIANCE DETAILS

Chapter 2911 - Mandatory Rules Not In Compliance**Total: 2**

1. 2911.3700 EMERGENCIES AND UNUSUAL OCCURRENCES. Subpart 1. Emergency plan.

A facility shall have a written disaster plan. The plan shall include policies and procedures designed to protect the public by securely detaining inmates who represent a danger to the community or to themselves when the facility must be evacuated in total. The plan shall also include: A. location of alarms and fire fighting equipment; B. an emergency drill policy as follows: (1) at least annual drills at all facility locations; and (2) drills shall be conducted even when evacuation of extremely dangerous inmates may not be included; C. specific assignments and tasks for personnel; D. persons and emergency departments to be notified; E. procedure for evacuation of inmates; and F. arrangements for temporary confinement of inmates.

Inspection Findings:

The facility has not completed an annual emergency evacuation drill for the jail. The last drill was completed in December of 2020.

Corrective Actions:

Conduct an emergency evacuation drill to include all staff. Try to incorporate other county agencies that would be involved in an emergency drill. It is vital for staff to know how to respond to an evacuation emergency at the jail. Once completed submit documentation to the Department of Corrections.

Response Needed By: 07/31/2022

2. 2911.5000 POST ORDERS; FORMAL INMATE COUNT; WELL-BEING CHECKS. Subpart 5. Well-being.

A facility shall have a system providing for well-being checks of inmates. A written policy and procedure shall provide that all inmates are personally observed by a custody staff person at least once every 30 minutes. Thirty-minute checks should be staggered. If a well-being check does not occur due to an emergency, it must be documented in the jail log and have supervisory review and approval. More frequent observation is required for those inmates of a special need classification who may be harmful to themselves. Examples of inmates of a special need classification include those classified as potentially suicidal, or as mentally ill, or those experiencing withdrawal from drugs or alcohol.

Inspection Findings:

A video review of well-being checks showed one well-being check past the 30 minute time frame allowed in the rule. Date/time of late well-being check: 3/23/22 1658 hours-1743 hours.

Corrective Actions:

Although there was a check observed to be out of compliance, the Jail Administrator has a well documented audit process in place for all Correctional Staff, including a documented follow up with staff. The facility inspector will continue to monitor for continuance of compliance for well-being checks.

Response Needed By: 07/31/2022**Chapter 2911 - Essential Rules Not In Compliance****Total: 1**

1. 2911.5000 POST ORDERS; FORMAL INMATE COUNT; WELL-BEING CHECKS. Subpart 1. Post orders and accountability.

There shall be written orders for every security post that are reviewed annually and updated if necessary. A written policy and procedure shall require that personnel read, sign, and date applicable post orders at least annually, or as needed for new posts or revisions. Medium and large facilities with multiple posts may need to conduct these reviews more often.

Inspection Findings:

There was no documentation that post orders have been reviewed and signed by staff.

Corrective Actions:

All staff must review post orders annually. Once this is completed submit documentation to the Department of Corrections.

Response Needed By: 07/31/2022**Chapter 2911 - Mandatory Rules In Compliance With Concerns****Total: 2**

1. 2911.5800 AVAILABILITY OF MEDICAL AND DENTAL RESOURCES. Subpart 6. Medical screening.

A facility shall have a written policy and procedure that requires medical screening is performed and recorded by trained staff on all inmates on admission to the facility. The findings are to be recorded in a manner approved by the health authority. The screening process shall include procedures relating to: A. Inquiry into: (1) current illness and health problems, including dental emergencies, and other infectious diseases; (2) medication taken and special health requirements; (3) use of alcohol and other drugs that include types of drugs used, mode of use, amounts used, frequency used, date or time of last use, and history of problems that may have occurred after ceasing use, for example, convulsions; (4) past and present treatment or hospitalization for mental illness or attempted suicide; (5) other health problems designated by the health authority; and (6) signs and symptoms of active tuberculosis to include weight loss, night sweats, persistent cough lasting three weeks or longer, coughing up blood, low grade fever, fatigue, chest pain, prior history of active tuberculosis disease, and results of previous tuberculin skin or blood testing. B. Observations of: (1) behavior that includes state of consciousness, mental status, appearance, conduct, tremor, and sweating; and (2) body deformities, trauma markings, body piercings, bruises, lesions, and jaundice. C. Disposition to: (1) general population; (2) general population and referral to appropriate health care service; (3) referral to appropriate health care service on an emergency basis; and (4) other.

Inspection Findings:

The initial medical screening did not incorporate all areas of the rule. Specifically, there was no question for date or time of last use regarding alcohol or drugs.

Corrective Actions:

Since the time of the inspection Steele County has updated and submitted the medical screening to the Department.

Response Needed By: 04/29/2022

2. 2911.6800 CONTROL. Subpart 3. Prescribed medications upon transfer or release.

Prescribed medication shall be given to an inmate or to the appropriate authority upon transfer or release, unless the attending physician decides that in the medical interest of the inmate the medications should not be released with the inmate. The action taken shall be documented.

Inspection Findings:

Not all medications are being released with Inmates upon release or transfer from the facility, and there is no documentation provided from the medical provider as to why.

Corrective Actions:

If the medical provider decides that in the medical interest of the inmate the medications should not be released with the inmate, this must be documented. Review the policy with the medical provider.

Response Needed By:

INSPECTION COMMENTS

Facility is well maintained and continues to run at a high level of compliance. Inmates were complimentary of the staff, programs, and the jail overall. The facility will remain on a biennial inspection status.

The policy manual has been updated with the changes from the new statutory language added in July of 2021. There were a few minor things missing regarding the Chapter 2911 Rules. This was discussed with the Jail Administrator at the time of the inspection. Submit these changes to the Department by 10/1/2022.

Since the start of the pandemic, Steele County's program staff have implemented zoom programming for their inmates. The program staff work with local volunteers and surrounding county jails allowing inmates from each jail to attend programs together via zoom. Examples of programs offered are a parenting class, meditation yoga, and starting your own business. Research has shown that programs, whether educational, vocational, or recreational, help reduce negative inmate behavior, as well as reduce recidivism.

JJDPA Compliance

Compliance Report for the monitoring Facilities Pursuant to the Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention Act of 2002.

On April 7 2022, a Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act audit was conducted. The Steele County Jail has received a "Rural Exception" to the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDP). This allows the facility to hold a delinquent juvenile up to 24 hours, excluding weekends and holiday. There are three core requirements that are looked at during our facility review. Those core requirements are Deinstitutionalization of Status Offenders (DSO), Removal of Juveniles for Adult Jail and Adult Lockups (Jail Removal), and Sight and Sound separation.

According to the DOC Portal System, the Steele County Jail held or processed no juveniles during the federal fiscal year 2022. The findings are as follows:

DSO: No violations were found for the facility holding status offenders in the jail. Upon review of the files, indication was that children that were brought into the facility were indeed there for delinquent offenses.

Jail Removal: Files and The DOC Portal data indicate that any children brought into the jail are removed well within the 24 hour time frame allowed per the "Rural Exception."

Sight and Sound Separation: The facility design and policies allow for proper sight and sound separation. Steele County does not hold delinquent juveniles in the facility for anything other than court ordered book and release. Steele County uses Olmsted County Juvenile Detention Center for immediate placement.

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

Court holding: There are two secure court holding at Steele County. Juvenile court times are separated from adults to assure proper sight and sound separation from adult inmates. Court holding is not regularly used unless both courtrooms are in use.

Based on the documentation reviewed, no violations of the JJDP act were found during the Steele County inspection.

Report completed By: Lori Schopf – Detention Facility Inspector

Signature:

