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STATE OF CALIFORNIA

**BOARD OF STATE AND COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS**

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GAVIN NEWSOM  
*Governor*

May 4, 2020

Sheriff Jim Hart  
Santa Cruz County Sheriff's Office  
5200 Soquel Avenue  
Santa Cruz, Ca 95062

**2018-2020 BIENNIAL INSPECTION OF THE SANTA CRUZ COUNTY JAIL AND COURT HOLDING FACILITIES, PENAL CODE 6031**

Dear Sheriff Hart,

On February 18, 2020, staff of the Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC) conducted the 2018-2020 biennial inspection of the Santa Cruz County Jails and court holding facilities.

Pursuant to Penal Code Section 6031, this inspection was performed to determine compliance with the Minimum Standards for Local Detention Facilities as outlined in Titles 15 and 24, California Code of Regulations (CCR). In addition, BSCC staff conducted compliance monitoring pursuant to Welfare and Institutions Code Section 209(f) for the federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDPa).

The complete BSCC inspection report is enclosed and consists of: this transmittal letter; the Title 15 Procedures Checklist outlining applicable minimum standards; a Physical Plant Evaluation outlining Title 24 requirements for design; and, a Living Area Space Evaluation summarizing the physical plant configuration and showing the capacity of the facility. Refer to the Title 15 Procedures Checklist for indication of compliance status and evidence used to determine compliance.

**LOCAL INSPECTIONS**

In addition to the biennial inspection by the BSCC, inspections are also required annually by the County Health Officer and biennially by the State Fire Marshal or an authorized representative (Health and Safety Code Sections 101045 and 13146.1). Please consider our report in conjunction with the reports from the County Health Officer and the respective fire authorities for a comprehensive perspective of your facilities. Local inspection reports are forwarded to your office under a separate cover.

Inspection	Date
Fire and Life Safety	September 2019
Medical and Mental Health	May 2019
Nutritional Health	May 1, 2019
Environmental Health	September 2019

Each of the local inspections were current and free of any compliance issues.

## **BSCC INSPECTION**

The inspection consisted of a review of the Santa Cruz County Sheriff's Office Custody Policy and Procedures Manual, a site visit to review operations, physical plant and relevant documentation, and interviews with administration, facility staff, inmates and collaborative partners.

### **Title 15, CCR Inspection**

Our evaluation consisted of reviewing only those policies and procedures related specifically to the applicable regulations included in Title 15, CCR.<sup>1</sup> We found the final items of noncompliance at the Main Jail, Rountree Facility, and Blaine Women's Facility:

#### **Title 15, Section 1027.5 Safety Checks:**

*During the inspection, the agency was unable to provide a sampling of safety checks that verified compliance.*

#### **Title 15, Section 1055 Use of Safety Cell:**

*Albeit comprehensive, the policy is lacking the current required timelines for continued retention approvals, mental health opinions and consultation with health care staff.*

#### **Title 15, Section 1058 Use of Restraint Devices:**

*Policy states that a medical opinion will occur within four hours. Regulation requires a medical opinion within one hour of placement.*

Please refer to the Procedures Checklist for detailed information.

### **Title 24, CCR Physical Plant**

There were no changes made to the physical plant and your rated capacity remains at 92. During our inspection of your physical plant, we found no items of noncompliance.

### **Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act Compliance Monitoring**

The BSCC monitors local detention facilities for compliance with the JJDPA; minors are not held at these facilities.

### **Corrective Action Plan**

If you choose to address the noncompliance issues noted above, please provide corrective action so that we may update our files to indicate compliance.

This concludes our inspection report for the 2018-2020 biennial inspection cycle of the Santa Cruz County Jail and Court Holding facilities. We would like to express our gratitude to Chief Ramos and his administrative team for their assistance and dedication to maintaining Title 15

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<sup>1</sup> BSCC does not review all policies and procedures. We do not "approve" policies and procedures nor do we review them for constitutional or legal issues. We recommend agencies seek review through their legal advisor, risk manager and other persons deemed appropriate.

and Title 24 compliance. We look forward to working with you in the future to provide technical assistance. If you should have any questions, please contact me at (916) 916-322-8081 or by email at [Kim.Moule@bscc.ca.gov](mailto:Kim.Moule@bscc.ca.gov).

Sincerely,



Kimberly Moule, CJM  
Field Representative  
Facilities Standards and Operations Division

cc: Presiding Judge, Santa Cruz County\*  
Chair, Board of Supervisors, Santa Cruz County\*  
County Administrator, Santa Cruz County\*

\* Complete copies of this inspection are available upon request and at [www.bscc.ca.gov](http://www.bscc.ca.gov)