# Idaho Sheriffs' Association

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April 9, 2024

Sheriff Andy Creech
Payette County Sheriff's Office
1130 Third Avenue North Room #101
Payette, ID 83661

Re: 2024 Jail Inspection

Dear Sheriff Creech:

I completed the inspection of your jail on April 9, 2024. Thanks to Lt. McDonald and Cpl. Studtmann for their help in completing the inspection paperwork and the tour of the facility.

During my walk-through of the facility, I did not notice any areas in need of repair. The facility was very clean, and I did notice that you plumbing issues that include leaks around one toilet, and a bucket under a sink to catch leaks in the booking area. The temperature was good, and the lighting was good.

Your meal preparation is done by Summit Food Service. Their dietician approved the menu on January 4, 2024.

The Southwest Public Health District inspection dated November 14, 2023, and found no violations.

Commissary services are offered to inmates through Summit. Indigent inmates are given hygiene and writing supplies as needed.

Your rated capacity is sixty-eight (68) without counting holding cells and your inmate population on the day of the inspection was fifty-seven (57). The average daily population over the past year was sixty-nine (69). Your reported average cost per inmate day for fiscal year 2022-2023 was $72.94, well below the state average of $129.93.

During the course of my inspection, I interview Cpl. Studtmann. He told me that he has worked for Payette County for about five years and had not worked in a detention or correctional facility prior to working for Payette County. Cpl. Studtmann said that there are never less than two deputies working in the jail at any one time, but there is not always a male and female deputy on

duty at all times. He added that the female deputies in civil, dispatch and even female officers from Payette P.D. will assist, as necessary.

Cpl. Studtmann noted that they are over capacity about half of the time during calendar year 2023. Lt. McDonald confirmed this.

Cpl. Studtmann was able to describe his response to a fire found in the laundry room that included notifications, attempt to suppress the fire and potential evacuations if necessary. He was also able to describe the policy with regards to strip searches in the facility. He explained that there are no cross-gender strip searches, all strip searches are done on reasonable suspicion and when they are done, the inmate is off camera, and the deputy is on camera throughout the process. He did not believe that strip searches were documented anywhere.

Cpl. Studtmann explained that inmates have access to legal materials to assist in their own defense through the kiosk in each housing unit and the law library accessed through it. He was also able to explain the process that inmates use to access commissary services which is supplied by Summit Services as well as the process for screening incoming inmate mail. The mail is divided into two groups, legal and personal. The personal mail is opened and scanned by staff for contraband, threats, escape attempts, etc. and then logged into the Jail Management System prior to being delivered to the inmates. The legal mail is only opened in front of the inmate and only checked for metallic items, such as staples or paperclips, before the inmate is allowed to possess it.

Cpl. Studtmann told me that he is able to receive his on-going training to maintain his P.O.S.T. certification through a variety of means that include in-service training, outside training classes and on-line training classes.

Cpl. Studtmann said that the complaints he hears from inmates about medical services are that they do not get the medication that they want and the time it takes to get a non-emergency dental appointment. The complaints about the food are centered around the repetitive nature of the menu.

Cpl. Studtmann said that the booking officers do initial inmate classification and Deputy Mackey reviews initial inmate classification documents and does any follow-up classifications, as necessary. Cpl. Studtmann also stated that the holding cells are dry cells and do not have immediate access to potable water or toilet facilities. Deputies must bring water and escort inmates from a holding cell to a restroom when required. Cpl. Studtmann noted that there is no outside perimeter fence around the facility. He closed by saying that plumbing is a problem at the facility.

**STANDARDS SELECTED BY ICRMP FOR THE ICRMP JAIL INSPECTION PROGRAM**

The following is a list of the Idaho Jail Standards adopted by the Idaho Sheriffs' Association that were selected by ICRMP for their underwriting purposes. Failure to comply with these standards

may change the terms of the County's insurance coverage with ICRMP. Please contact Lindsay Dressler at ICRMP for more information.

**Staffing – In compliance with the standard.**

IJS 03.02

There are never less than two deputies on duty at any time. The minimum staffing for the facility is two deputies on duty.

**Training and Staff Development – In compliance with the standard**

IJS 04.01
IJS 04.03
IJS 04.07

Deputies are detention certified within one year of hire. On-going training is maintained through a variety of means so everyone continues to be certified. CPR, PREA, 18-6110 training have all been conducted within the required time frames.

**Fire Safety and Emergency Procedures – In compliance with the standards.**

IJS 06.01
IJS 06.02
IJS 06.03
IJS 06.04

Deputy Crimin is the fire safety officer and your documentation on monthly fire safety inspections reflects applicable areas. He has noted the same fire safety concerns in July, September, and December of 2023. They included extension cords being used permanently, the kitchen bathroom door and laundry room doors that are not shut when not in use and outlet covers not in place. However, the local fire department did a fire inspection on March 7, 2024, and found no violations.

You conducted a fire drills in the jail on September 25, and October 1, 2023. Different scenarios were done with each, and 8 total deputies participated in the fire and partial evacuation drill. This incident was debriefed as tabletop training with all jail staff.

Fire evacuation plans are posted in the housing unit. Both inmates I interviewed were aware of the evacuation plans and were aware of the route.

**Inmate Observation/Security Checks – In compliance with the standards**

IJS 07.02

The dates checked during this time were June 15, August 15, October 12, November 22, and December 2, 2022. The logs show that nearly all security checks were within standard. On June 15, at 1607 hours, all checks except for pods 100-400 were one to nearly 4 minutes over the 60-minute limit. Again, on August 15, at 2139 hours, Pods 100, 200, and 400 showed checks over the 60-minute limit, but less than a minute over the limit. I asked for two additional days, June 26, and August 30 for confirmation. After reviewing these two additional days, I found only one incident that exceeded the 60-minute limit. It was only 33 seconds over time.

There were no special watch security checks during the time frame given.

**Strip Searches and Body Cavity Searches – In compliance with the standard.**

IJS 15.05

Your intake strip searches are done based upon reasonable suspicion, persons who know ahead of time that they are coming to jail. Supervisor permission is required prior to a strip search. All strip searches are documented in an incident report. When interviewing the Cpl. Studtmann, he did not believe that strip searches are documented. Since strip searches require approval from a Sergeant, it is probable that Cpl. Studtmann is not aware of the documentation requirement pursuant to the strip search policy.

No strip searches are done in groups, none are done on camera, and cross gender strip searches are not allowed. The strip search is done in a private room. One deputy conducts the strip search unless the inmate may become combative and, if that is the situation, another deputy stands outside the door to be able to respond quickly.

Body cavity searches are done only with a search warrant and done by a medical professional.

**Health Care Services – In compliance with the standards**

IJS 11.01
IJS 11.03
IJS 11.10
IJS 11.12
IJS 11.13

Medical screening is done at booking. If a serious medical issue is reported, EMS or medical staff will be contacted, or the arresting officer will be asked to take the individual to the emergency room.

To request medical care, inmates can submit a medical request or can ask a deputy.

I verified you have an agreement with Dr. Sean Hacket for inmate medical services. Mental health services are available to inmates through the Region Three Health and Welfare Mental Health Services.

Inmates may send a request to see the medical provider when necessary.

**Inmate Rights, Regarding Rape, Sexual Assault or Sexual Activity – In compliance with the standard**

IJS 12.03
IJS 12.04

Inmates are given a handout on PREA when they are booked. They also have posters in each housing unit explaining PREA. Inmates are also shown a PREA video weekly on Sundays.

Inmates can report sexual abuse or sexual harassment by filing a grievance or kite, telling a deputy, using the kiosk in the housing unit, or telling a family member or third party.

Staff had training on Idaho Statute 18-6110 on March 29, 2023, with PREA training.

**Physical Facility – Not in compliance with the standard**

IJS 18.01

The documentation of your inmate population showed you were over your rated capacity in at least one cell or housing "about half of the time" during calendar year 2023. This was both reported by staff and documented in population reports. Your daily average population for the past fiscal year was one over your maximum rated capacity.

**Summary of ICRMP Selected Standards Compliance**

Total ICRMP selected standards in compliance: 7

Total ICRMP selected standards out of compliance: 1

**Summary of Entire Idaho Jail Standards Compliance**

A total of Mandatory Standards out of compliance: 3

18.01 The facility has a rated capacity established in accordance with these Standards. Except in emergencies, the total number of inmates in each cell or housing unit does not exceed its rated capacity. The number of inmates which may be housed in a particular cell or room, housing unit, or facility is based upon available square footage, sanitary fixtures, and other physical plant features as specified in these Standards.

18.12 Temporary holding cells provide at least twenty-five (25) square feet of floor space per occupant but are not smaller than forty (40) square feet. Occupants have access to toilets, lavatory with hot and cold water, and an immediate source of fresh potable water.

18.13 Detoxification cells shall provide at least twenty-five (25) square feet of floor space per occupant but are no smaller than forty (40) square feet. Occupants have access to toilets, lavatory with hot and cold water, and an immediate source of fresh potable water.

Total of Recommended Standards out of compliance: 1

18.05 All inmate living areas should provide visual access to natural light, unless prohibited by security concerns.

Based upon the jail inspection and finding at least one mandatory standard out of compliance, I must recommend the Payette County Jail for a non-compliance designation for the Idaho Jail Standards for 2024.

Please give me a call if you have any questions or if I can be of assistance to you.

Sincerely,

Ben Wolfinger
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