JB Pritzker
Governor

John Baldwin
Acting Director

The Illinois Department of Corrections

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February 22, 2019

Executive Director Jeff Johnsen
Cook County Department of Corrections
2700 South California Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60608

Dear Director Jeff Johnsen:

Attached are the inspections of the Cook County Department of Corrections including housing units and Cermak Hospital conducted December 12-14 2018: (see attached addenda for housing unit findings). The inspections were conducted by Criminal Justice Specialist Errica Weatherspoon of the Office of Jail and Detention Standards along with Director Debbie Boecker, Jail Standards. In summary, changes, improvements and noncompliance's discovered are as follows: See Addendums for Noncompliance's

Division Changes:

1. Division 2 – Closed: Effective 11/19/17.
2. Division 4 – Male housing unit: Closed Effective 5/06/18
3. Division 6 Annex – (formerly Division 4 Annex)
4. Division 6- No changes
5. Division 08 RTU- No Changes
6. Division 08 RTU Annex – No Changes
7. Division 9- No Changes
8. Division 10- No Changes
9. Division 11- Guard Tower Completed

- Divisions 1, 3, & 17 were closed in 2016 with Divisions 3 & 17 being demolished.

Improvements

Division 6- None

Division 6 Annex - None

Division 8 RTU- None

Division 8RTU Annex-

1. Cermak Dispensary has re-opened.

Division 9- None

Division 10 – None

Division 11

1. Guard tower has been completed and being used.

Noncompliance's

See Addendums for each Division note: ***Illinois County Jail Standards*** for references.

Division 6 Annex

Section 701.40 N.) Cell Assignment 1.) The detainee shall be assigned to suitable quarters.

1. **Shower curtains (torn-sheets) were observed hanging in the shower area.**

Division 9

Section 701.40 N.) Cell Assignment 1.) The detainee shall be assigned to suitable quarters.

1. Bed sheets were observed to be hanging in the shower area. This is a security risk and only a security approved shower curtain should be used.

Division 10- None

Division 11

Section 701.40 N.) Cell Assignment 1.) The detainee shall be assigned to suitable quarterss.

1. Bed sheets were observed to be hanging in the shower area. This is a security risk and only a security approved shower curtain should be used.

2. **Mop sticks were left to dry in the open recreation area. These items should be stored and locked away.**

Cermak Hospital

1. **Bull Pens have been added in the hospital.**

Recommendations/Notes

1. On the inspection dates, it was noted that a movement team for the facility count was implemented in March 2018. In prior inspections, shower curtains made from torn sheets were observed to be hanging in living units. The Cook County Jail has implemented a shower curtain initiative. Security approved shower curtains when made available, will be distributed and used in all living units.

Sincerely

Edwin Bowen
Manager
Jail and Detention Standards Unit

Enclosure

cc: Sheriff Thomas Dart
Cook County Clerk David Orr
Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle
Criminal Justice Specialist Errica Weatherspoon