



BOARD OF STATE AND COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS

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Chair

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KATHLEEN T. HOWARD
Executive Director



GAVIN NEWSOM
Governor

September 1, 2021



Michael Fisher, Sheriff
Sierra County Sheriff's Department
100 Courthouse Square, 1st Floor
Downieville, CA 95936

2020-2022 BIENNIAL INSPECTION OF SIERRA COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT, SIERRA COUNTY SHERIFF'S TEMPORARY HOLDING FACILITY, PENAL CODE 6031

Dear Sheriff Fisher,

On August 18, 2021, staff of the Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC) conducted the 2020-2022 biennial inspection of the Sierra County Sheriff's Department Temporary Holding Facility. A pre-inspection briefing was held on June 16, 2021.

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 the federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJPDA) for the separation requirements of juveniles from incarcerated adults.

The inspection consisted of a review of applicable written policies and procedures governing the operation of the facility, a site visit, and a review of documentation to verify that regulated practices occur as required.

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 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	February 4, 2020
Medical and Mental Health	June 10, 2020 (Delayed due to COVID)
Environmental Health	June 10, 2020 (Delayed due to COVID)

BSCC INSPECTION

The inspection consisted of a review of the Sierra County Sheriff's Department Policy Manual that apply to Temporary Holding Operations of Adults, interviews with administration, and review physical plant and relevant documentation.

There were no inmates in custody at the time of the inspection.

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.¹ We found no items of noncompliance.

Please refer to the Procedures Checklist for detailed information.

Title 24, CCR Physical Plant

Through interview with the facility manager, BSCC staff confirmed there were no changes made to the physical plant. We found no items of noncompliance.

Please refer to the Physical Plant Checklist for detailed information.

Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act Compliance Monitoring

The BSCC monitors local detention facilities for compliance with the JJDP; No minors are held in this facility.

Corrective Action Plan

There were no areas of non-compliance noted, and no corrective action required.

Technical Assistance

At the conclusion of each inspection, BSCC staff offers an out brief of findings to the facility management. This included an immediate review of the inspection, provided managers with technical assistance in identifying any potential hazards, and relaying current best practices in the correctional field.

¹ 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.

This concludes our inspection report for the 2020-2022 biennial inspection cycle of the Sierra County Sheriff's Department Temporary Holding Facility. We would like to express our gratitude to you, Ms. Autumn Long-McGie, and CO Aaron Stringer who assisted during the inspection. 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) 323-2613 or email at dale.miller@bscc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Dale A. Miller Digitally signed by Dale A. Miller
Date: 2021.09.01 16:46:35 -07'00'

Dale Miller
Field Representative
Facilities Standards and Operations Division

Enclosures

cc: **Chair, Board of Supervisors, Sierra County***
Presiding Judge, Superior Court, County of Sierra*
County Administrator, Sierra County*
Grand Jury Foreman, Superior Court, County of Sierra*
Autumn Long-McGie, Executive Assistant, Sierra County Sheriff's Department

* Complete copies of this inspection are available upon request and at www.bscc.ca.gov

