

AUDIT FINDINGS

NARRATIVE:

On January 12-14, 2015, I performed the audit visit of the Spokane County Juvenile Detention Center. Michelle Perrine conducted the tour, and we were accompanied by Rand Trevey. After the initial tour of all areas of the facility, I met briefly with Bonnie Bush, Theresa Stewart, Mark Lewis, Michelle and Rand. We identified staff and youth to be interviewed and went over some general items regarding the audit visit and answered some preliminary questions.

12 staff were interviewed, and 10 residents. Those interviewed were chosen randomly by the auditor. No substitutions needed to be made with the exception of one or two staff that were off duty and not due to come on shift while the audit visit was taking place. Staff from day shift and night shift were interviewed.

Interviews went very well and staff were very supportive of PREA and the changes that the facility had made. All staff seemed well trained and enthusiastic.

Resident interviews went well, also. Youth all felt safe and were very complimentary of staff. The facility has built an environment that seems to foster reporting, and youth said that they would not hesitate to report incidents to almost any staff.

DESCRIPTION OF FACILITY CHARACTERISTICS:

The Spokane County Juvenile Detention Center is located in the heart of Spokane, Washington. At the time of the audit, there were 32 youth in custody. There are 19 line staff employed at the Center. I observed that the Center was very clean. Staff were interacting with juveniles at all times while I observed. Movement was controlled and monitored at all times. School, recreation and other opportunities were observed.

The facility is actually located over two stories, with school and recreation being on the lower level, and the upper level holding housing and program areas. Staff supervision is good and overcomes obvious issues such as blind spots, etc.

The facility seemed very quiet, which I feel is a good indicator of the environment. Youth were very relaxed and spoke without hesitation regarding their safety and the willingness to report any incident.

SUMMARY OF AUDIT FINDINGS:

Interviews with outside advocates revealed that detention staff and administration are very pro-active when it comes to resident safety. One of the advocates works regularly in the center with the kids regarding commercial sexual exploitation, and mentioned that no client has ever said that there was not at least one staff member that they could go to and share confidential information at any time.

At the time of the audit visit, there were items that were deemed to be not in compliance, therefore, a 180-day Corrective Action Plan was initiated. Administrative staff actually worked on correcting some of the items before the audit visit was over.

On April 29, 2015, the last Corrective Action item was forwarded to me. This final item satisfied me to the point that I do not hesitate to declare the Spokane County Juvenile Detention Center to be 100% compliant with the National Standards to Prevent, Detect, and Respond to Prison Rape Under the Prison Rape Elimination Act.

AUDITOR CERTIFICATION:

The auditor certifies that the contents of the report are accurate to the best of his knowledge and no conflict of interest exists with respect to his ability to conduct an audit of the agency under review.



May 5, 2015

Auditor Signature

Date