

Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Commission San Mateo County, California

Adult Facility Inspection Report

Please respond to sections that apply to the facility you are inspecting.
Type or print clearly.

Facility Name: Menlo Park Police Station

Address: 701 Laurel Street, Menlo Park CA 94025

Contact Person: Detective Jeff Cooley

Phone Number: 650-330-6343

Date of Inspection: August 20, 2015

Date of Last Inspection: July 30, 2014

Commission Inspection Team: Mieke Barrows, Nick Jasso

Presiding Juvenile Court Judge: Judge Clifford Cretan

Observations, Concerns, and Recommendations

Detention Log of Minors Reviewed? Yes No

Are detention logs periodically forwarded to the California Division of Juvenile Justice? Yes No

How frequently? Monthly

Are logs current, complete and legible? Yes No Comments: Logs were current and legible but there were portions that were not complete. For a number of the entries, the section that indicates whether the minors were notified of the reason for secure detention, expected length of secure detention and the 6 hour time limit were blank. We do not know if this was a failure to notify or a failure to log notification. Either way, we recommend that staff be reminded of the importance of this notification and the logging of the notification

Do logs reflect entry and exit times? Yes No Comments: _____

Are reasons for secured detention noted? Yes No Comments: There is no place on the form for this. According to Detective Cooley, minors are placed in secure detention if they pose a safety risk. If they pose a danger to themselves, they are usually determined to be a 5150 and taken to the hospital. If they pose a danger to others, they will be placed in secure detention. Usually this

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is related to their charge, which is noted on the form. For example, if they attack an officer that charge will be on the form.

Is the offense noted? Yes No Comments: _____

Fire Inspection Report Reviewed? Yes No Date: 1/13/14

Any recommendations/concerns from last inspection? Have these been implemented?: No recommendations or concerns

Health Department Report Reviewed? Yes No Date: 12/16/14

Any recommendations/concerns from last inspection? Have these been implemented?:

No recommendations or concerns

General Information

Number of minors held in detention during inspective review period:

Secured 2 Non-Secured 9

Are minors given an orientation prior to being detained? (Section 1540): Yes No

Comments: Minors are allowed to make a phone call, told the reason for their detention and told that they will not be held for more than 6 hours.

How are minors in custody supervised?

In a Locked Cell (Section 1547)? There is a staff member in the adjacent room who can see into the cell through a window. There is an intercom that the minor can activate to contact the person supervising them. The minor can also knock on the window to contact the person in the next room. The minor is actively checked (someone goes into the room) every 30 minutes.

In Secure Custody outside of a cell (Section 1548)? Not applicable – they do not do this

In Non-Secure Custody (Section 1550)? Constant supervision

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How often are minors in custody observed? (Section 1548):

In a Locked Cell? Every 30 minutes in the cell – and more frequently through the window from the adjacent room

In Secure Custody outside of a cell? Not applicable – they do not do this

In Non-Secure Custody? Constant

How are minors in custody observed (video, audio device, personal observation, Section 1547)?:

Through the window (someone is sitting in the next room on the computer); every 30 minutes a check is done in the cell.

Is the observation logged?: Yes No Comments: Sometimes. Other times, they consider the observation to be constant because they are looking through the window.

Is there constant auditory access to staff at all times?: Yes No Comments: There is an intercom that youth need to press to access staff. They can also knock on the window to get the attention of staff. This is not a voice activated system – the minor must press a button to activate the intercom. The Commission has a question as to whether this was sufficient according to regulations. Repeated attempts via phone and email to get clarification from BSCC have gone unanswered.

Is there any contact with adult inmates?: Yes No Comments: Adults and youth are kept separate.

Are males and females kept in the same room/area? Yes No Comments: They are kept separate.

Are drinks (water) and snacks available, if requested?: Yes No Comments: Staff will get food/drink for the minors if requested.

Is there access to toilets and washing facilities: Yes No Comments: There is a sink and a toilet in the secure cell.

Are there provisions available for clothing, blankets, etc.?: Yes No Comments: They have sweatshirts and sweatpants available. There is also a reflective camping blanket available. We recommend that they have a regular fleece blanket available for minors.

List the names, dates, intake and release times, and circumstances for all minors held for longer than six hours. (Attach any additional documents if necessary. **Names will be redacted prior to publication.**): _____

None held longer than 6 hours in 2014

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Secured Detention

Was the secured detention area observed? Yes No

Is the secured detention area a locked room? Yes No

Is a cuffing rail used for secured detention? Yes No

Comments: _____

Are minors in secured detention informed of the following?:

The purpose/reason for being placed in secured detention: Yes No

The length of time the secure detention is expected to last: Yes No

Informed of the six-hour limit of being held in secured detention: Yes No

Comments: According to Detective Cooley, minors are informed of these items when they are brought in. In looking through the records, we found that there were a number of blank entries where the officer was supposed to initial that they had done this. We do not know if this was a failure to notify or a failure to log notification. Either way, we recommend that staff be reminded of the importance of this notification and the logging of the notification.

For what purpose/reasons would a minor would be placed in secured detention?: Danger to self or others.

How often is secured detention reviewed and by whom? Every 30 minutes by supervisor

Have any minors been held in secured detention for more than six hours?: Yes No

What is the proximity of the secured detention area to adult inmates? The secure detention area is next to the adult area, but there is a door in between that would be closed if there were both adults and minors in the facility.

Describe the procedure for intoxicated or substance abusing minors: They would be taken to the hospital

How frequently are intoxicated/impaired minors observed? They would only be in the facility if they were cleared by medics. And then they would be treated like regular minors.

Is this observation documented in the logs? Yes No n/a

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If cuffing rail is used: NOT USED

Was cuffing rail observed and procedure explained? Yes No

How are youth secured? _____

Who approves the use of a cuffing rail? (e.g. Watch Commander): _____

How is the minor supervised? How frequently?: _____

What time limit is used when using cuffing rails? (30 min. limit): _____

Does the detention log note the use of cuffing rails?: Yes No

Comments

General comments or concerns that should be noted that haven't already been addressed?: We also reviewed the secure detention logs that were available for 2015. In January of 2015, there was an incident where there were 4 minors in detention at the same time. There was a 13 year old in secure detention because they ran out of space to put the minors. Only youth 14 years old or older should be in secure detention.

We asked Detective Cooley about trends that they have seen over the past year. He said that there was an increase in sexual activity (both consensual and non-consensual) related to party scenes involving drugs and alcohol. The crime that they see is mostly burglary and property crime. Cyberbullying was also increasing – especially where an individual gets access to nude photos of young females and distributes them.

Detective Cooley also gave us a copy of the BSCC 2012-2014 Biennial Inspection. It indicated that in that time period there had been at least one youth held for more than 6 hours in secure detention. We have not seen this in our inspections and could not find the incident in the logs that were at the station. In other inspections, we have found discrepancies between what BSCC reported to us and what we found at the police stations. BSCC has told us that there were data entry mistakes on their end and they are reviewing their processes to ensure correct information in the future.

Summary

Detective Cooley was very helpful and provided us with all the information that we needed. We recommend continued education of officers to ensure that the logs are filled out properly. We are also concerned that a 13 year old youth was held in secure detention in 2015 and recommend that the department look at their policies to ensure this does not happen again.

Signature of Commissioner(s) preparing this report:

/s/ Mieke Barrows _____ Date: 8/20/15 _____

/s/ Nick Jasso _____ Date: 8/20/15 _____

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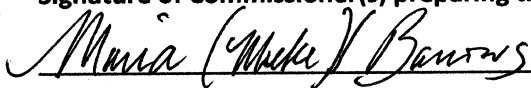
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Signature of Commissioner(s) preparing this report:



Nick Jasso

Date: 12/8/15

Date: 12/8/15