

**Juvenile Justice Commission  
of San Diego County**

**Jails and Lockups 2021 Inspection Report**

2019

1

7

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40

**2020 Yearly Statistics (from Log Books)**

0 # **Secure** detentions **OVER** 6 hours

10 # **Secure** detentions **UNDER** 6 hours

0 # **Non-secure** detentions **OVER** 6 hours

28 # **Non-secure** detentions **UNDER** 6 hours

Authority: Pursuant to Welfare & Institutions Code Section 209(b), a judge of the juvenile court shall conduct an annual inspection, either in person or through a delegated member of the appropriate county or regional juvenile justice commission, of any law enforcement facility that contains a lockup for adults which, in the preceding year, was used for the secure detention of any minor.

*Please respond to sections that apply to the facility you are inspecting (type or print clearly)*

Facility Name: El Cajon Police Dept.  
Address: 100 Civic Center Way  
El Cajon, CA 92020

Date of Inspection: 9/29/2021  
Date of Last Inspection: 11/26/2019  
Phone Number: 619-579-3311

Facility Manager: Chief Mike Moulton  
Phone No.: 619-579-3311

Contact Person: Off. John Pearsley  
Phone No.: 619-579-3359

Staff Assisting: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone No.: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: jpearsley@cityofelcajon.us  
Alt. Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Presiding Juvenile Court Judge: Hon. Ana España  
Commission Chair: Yvette D. Klepin  
Phone No.: 858-634-1555  
Inspecting Commissioners: Francisco Carbajal and Jean Ramirez

**I. GENERAL COMMENTS:**

This year's lockup inspection included detentions from 2019 and 2020. Due to the COVID outbreak a lockup inspection was not conducted in 2020.

The El Cajon Police Department (ECPD) is housed in a large five-story building next to the East County Courthouse. The facility is well maintained and offers office space to the District Attorney's office and other stakeholders. Regarding juvenile records, there was one month for which juvenile records were missing. It is important for staff to continually perform quality assurance on juvenile records to avoid inconsistencies. This includes having detailed information on the circumstances when youth are held longer than six hours. With Mental Health on the forefront of youth wellness, ECPD should upgrade its juvenile forms to address any wellness needs at the time of arrest. Regarding juvenile services, ECPD needs to identify multiple community-led youth programs that can serve as diversion options. The more diversion options that are available for youth and ECPD, the better chance the youth have of following a better path. Also, ECPD should identify services that victims can receive, in specific, community-led restorative services that hold the youth genuinely accountable and provide healing to all those impacted by the crime.

II. **RECOMMENDATIONS** *(if any)*:

The Juvenile Justice Commission recommends that the Department:

1. Continue improving the maintenance and organization of records.
2. Amend the records for the month of January 2020 (4 secure juvenile records missing).
3. The Department refers juveniles to only one diversion program, a free county program, and it is apparent that the Department does not have a lot of confidence in that program. The Commission recommends that the Department research diversion programs and funding for such programs and perhaps develop their own internally administered diversion program. It may entail opportunity costs, but it would be a real contribution to the community and perhaps not as costly as external programs.
4. Collaborate with the City to provide more diversion opportunities for youth and ensure the diversion service providers are reporting back to the police department recidivism and completion rates.
5. Specifically address mental health and medication issues on Department intake forms. Questions related to those concerns are listed on a yellow sticker attached to the intake form. The Commission recommends adding questions regarding recent substance use and abuse, perhaps limited to the previous 24 hours. This information is important to the short-term and long-term welfare of the juvenile.
6. Ensure circumstances, aside from penal code sections, are noted when documenting youth who are held longer than six hours (re Section IX).

The following questions are used to assess compliance with the state standards governing law enforcement facilities in which minors are held in temporary custody. See Article 9, *Minors in Temporary Custody in a Law Enforcement Facility*, Title 15 of the California Code of Regulations (15 Cal. Code Regs. §§ 1140–1151)

**III. CONDITIONS OF DETENTION:**

- A. Are minors provided with orientation?  Yes  No
- B. Are they informed of the purpose of detention?  Yes  No
- C. Are they told the length of time detention is expected to last?  Yes  No
- D. Are they informed of the six-hour maximum time limit?  Yes  No

**IV. CONDITIONS OF SECURE DETENTION (e.g. cell/locked room):**

- A. What is the proximity of minors to adult inmates? [20 feet in separate areas.](#)
- B. What is the ability and frequency of staff to supervise minor? [Frequent supervision.](#)
- C. Is there constant auditory access to staff?  Yes  No
- D. Are minors provided with a snack if requested?  Yes  No
- E. Do minors have access to toilets and washing facilities?  Yes  No
- F. Do minors have access to a drinking fountain or water?  Yes  No
- G. Are there provisions to provide clothing or blankets to assure comfort?  Yes  No

**V. CONDITIONS OF SECURE DETENTION OUTSIDE A LOCKED ENCLOSURE:**

*(this includes minors who are handcuffed to a fixed object such as a rail, bench, chair or table):*

- A. Are minors assured no “contact” with adult inmates?  Yes  No
- B. Is there constant supervision?  Yes  No
- C. Is there a 30-minute limit and Watch Commander approval every 30 minutes thereafter?  Yes  No
- D. Are minors placed in cell when one becomes available?  Yes  No
- E. Do minors have access to toilet and washing facilities?  Yes  No
- F. Is there access to a drinking fountain?  Yes  No

**VI. CONDITIONS OF NON-SECURE DETENTION:**

- A. Is there direct and constant supervision by staff during the entire custody period?  Yes  No
- B. Are males and females put in same room?  Yes  No

**VII. INTOXICATED MINORS:**

- A. Does the facility have written procedures for the handling of minors under the influence of any intoxicating substances?  Yes  No
- B. Did the facility detain any minors, either secure or non-secure, determined to be under the influence of an intoxicating substance?  Yes  No
- If yes:
1. Was medical clearance obtained?  Yes  No
  2. Were these detentions documented?  Yes  No
  3. If the detention was secure, were there documented safety checks no less than once every 15 minutes?  Yes  No
  4. If the detention was non-secure, was the minor in the constant presence of staff?  Yes  No
  5. Who provides medical clearance for these minors?

**VIII. DOCUMENTATION:**

- A. Are all mandated visual checks documented?  Yes  No
- B. Are secure/non-secure detention logs used?  Yes  No
- C. Do the detention logs list the offense and reason which formed the decision to place the minor in secure detention, as well as the length of time the minor was securely detained?  Yes  No
- D. Does the facility have signage posted explaining the procedures for the handling of secure / non-secure detention of minors?  Yes  No

**IX. ARE THERE INSTANCES IN WHICH A MINOR(S) WAS HELD FOR MORE THAN SIX HOURS? IF YES, LIST THE DATES, STARTING AND ENDING TIME AND CIRCUMSTANCES FOR EACH INSTANCE.**

One minor held for more than six hours.  
PC211  
5:00-12:00 p.m.  
July 19, 2019  
Circumstances unknown

**X. Minors Interviewed (Comments):**

No minors in custody during the inspection.