

**Juvenile Justice Commission**  
of San Diego County

**Jails and Lockups 2015 Inspection Report**

**2014 Yearly Statistics (from Log Books)**

0 # **Secure** detentions **OVER** 6 hours  
2 # **Secure** detentions **UNDER** 6 hours  
0 # **Non-secure** detentions **OVER** 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: La Mesa Police Department Date of Inspection: 12/8/15  
Address: 8085 University Avenue Date of Last Inspection: 5/17/13  
La Mesa, CA 91942 Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Facility Manager: Chief Walt Vasquez Contact Person: Christine McMillen, Svcs Mgr

Presiding Juvenile Court Judge: Hon. Carolyn M. Caietti  
Commission Chair: Kim Allan  
Phone No.: 858-634-1555

**I. GENERAL COMMENTS:**

The La Mesa Police Department facility was clean, easy to navigate, accessible and had adequate lighting in all areas. Juvenile inspection logs and Title 15 and Title 24 compliance materials were organized and available for review.

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

It appears that two minors presented to La Mesa Police Department providing information indicating that they were adults and both were briefly placed in secure detention. Once their identities were confirmed as minors, they were placed in non-secure detention. For reporting purposes, however, one minor was counted as secure and the other minor was counted as non-secure. The Juvenile Justice Commission recommends consistency in reporting methods, with such cases being reported as secure.

The following questions are asked to determine compliance with Article 14, *Minors in Temporary Custody of a Lockup/Law Enforcement Facility*, of Title 15 of the California Code of Regulations.

**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?

Separate for minors. Some areas that may be used by minors ('soft' interview rooms, additional interview room in internal breezeway) may also be used for adults, but minors are not in these areas when adult inmates are present.

- B. What is the ability and frequency of staff to supervise minor?

Constant auditory and visual 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

Not noted in procedures. No details found in documentation, though procedurally EMTs/Fire Department called to assess youth. Note that one youth was held at facility for a DUI but no details provided about how youth was assessed.

- 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

Intentionally left blank. No information.

2. Were these detentions documented?  Yes  No

Intentionally left blank. No – on the one clear case, only DUI was noted as the charge.

3. If the detention was secure, were there documented safety checks no less than once every 15 minutes?  Yes  No  N/A

4. If the detention was non-secure, was the minor in the constant presence of staff?

Yes  No

Intentionally left blank. No specific notation for the DUI youth, but all minors in constant supervision.

5. Who provides medical clearance for these minors?

Theoretically, the EMT but no details at all provided in the logs.

**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.**

No holds for six or more hours

**X. MINORS INTERVIEWED (COMMENTS):**

No minors were on the premises.