

**Juvenile Justice Commission
of San Diego County**

Jails and Lockups 2018 Inspection Report

2017 Yearly Statistics (from Log Books)

- * # **Secure** detentions **OVER** 6 hours
- * # **Secure** detentions **UNDER** 6 hours
- * # **Non-secure** detentions **OVER** 6 hours
- * # **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.

Facility Name: La Mesa Police Department Date of Inspection: 11/26/2018
Address: 8085 University Avenue Date of Last Inspection: 12/8/2015
La Mesa, CA 91942 Phone Number: 619-667-1400

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

Presiding Juvenile Court Judge: Hon. Kimberlee A. Lagotta
Commission Chair: Amy Lansing
Phone No.: 858-634-1555

I. GENERAL COMMENTS:

*Data was missing from secure and on-secure detentions from June to December 2017. La Mesa Police Department (LMPD) stated that they do not record detentions for WIC 601 or WIC 300 offenses. LMPD is a large, well-organized facility with a “sally port” entrance, large spaces for juvenile intakes including a “soft” interview room. There are separate adult cells. Between January and May 2017, there were eight (8) non-secure detentions under 6 hours, and two (2) secure detention under 6 hours. There were no records of detentions over 6 hours.

II. RECOMMENDATIONS (if any):

1. BSCC forms and reporting requirements have recently changed. The JJCPA and WIC §206 and §207 prohibit the Secure detention of status offenders (WIC §601) and nonoffenders (WIC §300/WIC §5150). Any violations must be reported to the BSCC on the Monthly Report on the Detention of Minors. For more information, please refer to the section on Youth in Adult Detention Facilities on the BSCC webpage: http://www.bscc.ca.gov/s_fsoservices.php
2. Administrator surmised that representatives from the BSCC took the original logs to Sacramento by accident. Since our visit, she (LMPD staff) has been unable to locate them. She does not have duplicates of the originals. Therefore, JJC recommends that copies should be made of all logs in the future. All inspections by BSCC and other entities should be closely supervised. The forms utilized should conform with the forms supplied by JJC instead of the one-page summary sheet currently utilized by LMPD. All detentions should be included, not to exclude WIC 601 or WIC 300 offenses.

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
Rights are on the wall. Rooms are not locked, but doors are alarmed.
- 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 spaces.*
- B. What is the ability and frequency of staff to supervise minor? *Every 15 minutes.*
- 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**

***Not clear what LMPD would do if more than two youths were detained.*

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?

Medical clearance provided by EMT's from Fire Department.

VIII. DOCUMENTATION:

- A. Are all mandated visual checks documented? Yes No
- B. Are secure/non-secure detention logs used? [But unused forms.](#) 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.

[Not according to the records we have.](#)

X. Minors Interviewed (Comments):

[N/A](#)