

**Juvenile Justice Commission**  
of San Diego County

**Jails and Lockups 2013 Inspection Report**

**2012 Yearly Statistics (from Log Books)**

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

9 # **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: National City Police Dept Date of Inspection: 8/7/13  
Address: 1200 National City Blvd. Date of Last Inspection: 6-6-12 (A. Lansing)  
National City, CA 91950 Phone Number: 619-336-4400

Facility Manager: Chief Manuel Rodriguez Contact Person: Sgt. Jeff Etzler  
Phone No.: 619-336-4400, Phone No.: 619-336-4437  
Staff Assisting: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: jetzler@nationalcity.ca.gov  
Phone No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Alt. Contact: Captain Jose Tellez  
619-336-4513

Presiding Juvenile Court Judge: Hon. Carolyn Caietti  
Commission Chair: Kimberly Allan  
Phone No.: 858-694-4422  
Inspecting Commissioner: Amy Lansing

**I. GENERAL COMMENTS:**

- Facility is clean and well maintained. Signs related to minor's rights are clearly displayed.*
- Minors have a completely separate entrance and processing area from adults.*
- Annual daily and monthly logs are well organized and accessible in a single binder.*

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

- Create a written policy with regards to processing intoxicated minors. The policy appears to be an immediate placement in a hospital (e.g., UCSD) or the paramedics are called for seriously intoxicated minors. No information about intoxicated minors was available in the log books for 2011 or 2012.*
- A number of youth with non-secure detentions under 6 hours had acronyms such as "RAJ" (for runaway juvenile) listed under their charge on the daily logs. All these youth were counted under the Section III: Delinquent Minors (WIC 602) yet most were released to Polinsky or family. Thus, it is not clear whether these "RAJ" type notations truly reflected Delinquent Acts or were actually non-offenses or Status Offenses that should not be captured under Section III of the monthly reported statistics. Specific charges should be listed on the daily logs and the correct classification clearly indicated on the monthly reports.*
- The reasons informing the decision to place the minor in secure detention should be listed on the daily logs for secure detentions.*

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?  
*Minors held on a different floor, above adult processing floor. There are separate entrances for adults and minors as well.*
- B. What is the ability and frequency of staff to supervise minor?  
*There is essentially constant supervision of minors by an adult.*
- 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  
*No specific clothing provisions are available beyond paper suits. Due to the brief stay, but blankets are available to youth.*

**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  
*Welfare checks occur every 15 to 30 minutes: 30 minute welfare checks occur unless minor is intoxicated and daily logs are initialed in 30 minute intervals. If an intoxicated youth is not immediately transported to the hospital, the welfare checks occur every 15 minutes.*
- D. Are minors placed in cell when one becomes available?  Yes  No  N/A  
*Youth are often with an officer in the interview room but may be placed in a holding room next to, and fully visible from the interview room.*
- 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  
*See IV. B., V. B. and V. C. above*

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

*Not known as no notations on any daily logs or monthly reports. The following questions cannot be answered based on the logs:*

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

*Note: 30 minute visual checks are documented, however there is no place on the form to reflect 15 minute visual checks required if a minor is intoxicated.*

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

*Note: The length of detention and offense are listed (although as noted under recommendations, sometimes abbreviations are used for behaviors such as running away which may or may not be delinquent acts) on the logs, however the reasons informing the decision to place the minor in secure detention are not listed.*

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*

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

*None available at time of inspection*