

**Juvenile Justice Commission
of San Diego County**

Jails and Lockups 2017 Inspection Report

2016 Yearly Statistics (from Log Books)

0 # **Secure** detentions **OVER** 6 hours
23 # **Secure** detentions **UNDER** 6 hours
0 # **Non-secure** detentions **OVER** 6 hours
114 # **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: SDSO – Vista Station Date of Inspection: 12/22/2017
Address: 325 South Melrose, Ste. 210 Date of Last Inspection: 10/21/2016
Vista, CA 92081 Phone Number: 760-940-4551

Facility Manager: Captain Charles Cinnamo Contact Person: Sgt. Martha Hernandez

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

I. GENERAL COMMENTS:

For CY 2016, the Vista Station (“Station”) was in full compliance with the state standards governing law enforcement facilities in which minors are held in temporary custody. Among the many positive aspects of the Station’s policies and procedures, the Station’s custody logs were exceptionally well-organized. Sgt. Hernandez and her team are to be commended for their diligent record-keeping and commitment to conveying written information with clarity and concision. On a more general note, the Station appears genuinely committed to ensuring minors are held in custody in a way that respects the dignity of the minor, while ensuring officer safety.

II. RECOMMENDATIONS (if any):

The Juvenile Justice Commission offers two recommendations to the Vista Station:

1. We recommend officers consistently annotate in the appropriate call log whether or not a minor in custody declines the second telephone call to which he or she is entitled under Welfare and Institutions Code § 627(b). Although the call logs were for the most part complete, in a few cases it was unclear whether a minor affirmatively declined a second call or was simply released or transferred before completing one.
2. We recommend officers provide a one-sentence written explanation in the secure custody log whenever a minor’s status changes from non-secure to secure custody. Although officers at the Station document the reasons for secure custody by “circling” whichever pre-printed words on the form are relevant, a one-sentence explanation for the secure custody determination will protect against arbitrariness and allow for more meaningful review of the decision.

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?

Approximately 15-20 feet. To the extent minors and adult inmates ever come near other, such contact is incidental, occurring only in passing. The locations where minors and adults are held in custody are out of eyesight of each other.

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

Supervising officer is positioned behind a glass window directly across from the minor(s), providing constant direct visual observation.

- 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
N/A; minors are not placed in cells.
- 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

The general policy is to keep males and females separate whenever possible, although space constraints may, on rare occasion, prevent this. The youth detention areas are in the same large open room, separated by a wall.

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?

When medical clearance is necessary, such clearance is provided by Tri-City Medical Center or the Fire Department.

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.

N/A.

X. Minors Interviewed (Comments):

N/A.