

Jail Inspection Reports for the Houghton County Jail

Years covered: 2017-2025. There was no inspection in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Under Michigan Compiled Law Section 791.262:

(3) The department shall supervise and inspect jails and lockups that are under the jurisdiction of the county sheriff to obtain facts concerning the proper management of the jails and lockups and their usefulness. The department shall promulgate rules and standards promoting the proper, efficient, and humane administration of jails and lockups that are under the jurisdiction of the county sheriff pursuant to the administrative procedures act of 1969, Act No. 306 of the Public Acts of 1969, being sections 24.201 to 24.315 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

2017
Inspection.



Rick Snyder
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
LANSING

Heidi Washington
DIRECTOR

August 28, 2017
Sheriff Brian Mclean
Houghton County Sheriff's Office
403 E. Houghton Ave.
Houghton, Mi. 49931

RE: MDOC Inspection Report

Dear Sheriff Mclean,

Enclosed is a copy of the final inspection report for the Houghton County Jail that was conducted on August 23, 2017 by the County Jail Services Unit of the Michigan Department of Corrections.

If you have questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Trever LeBarre, Manager
Environmental Health, Fire Safety, and County Jail Services Unit.
Michigan Department of Corrections
Physical Plant Division
517-643-6518



RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
LANSING

HEIDI E. WASHINGTON
DIRECTOR

August 28, 2017
Houghton County Sheriff's Office
403 E. Houghton Ave.
Houghton, Mi. 49931

RE: MDOC Inspection

Dear Sheriff Mclean,

An inspection of the Houghton County Jail was conducted on August 23rd, 2017 by the Michigan Department of Corrections, County Jail Services Unit, as provided for by Act No. 232 of the Public Acts of 1953, as amended, being section 791.262 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

The inspection was conducted by Larry Abraham, Regulation Agent with the County Jail Services Unit. The exit conference was conducted with Captain Hebner.

Inspection Findings:

Upon inspection, your jail was found to be in non-compliance with the Administrative Rules for Jails and Lock-ups.

Findings:

791.715

A facility shall establish and maintain a written evacuation plan to be used in the event of fire or major emergency. The plan is approved in writing by an independent, outside inspector trained in the application of national fire safety codes and is reviewed annually, updated if necessary, and reissued. The plan shall provide for all of the following:

- (a) Location of building/room floor plans.
- (b) Use of exit signs and directional arrows for traffic flow.
- (c) Location of the publicly posted evacuation plan.
- (d) At least quarterly drills in all facility locations, which may include staff drills.

Quarterly drills are not being conducted by all staff.

Recommendations:

1. Increase the level of lighting in the cells.
2. Complete the health appraisals before the 14th day.
3. Add cameras in the kitchen and dry storage areas.
4. Lock up caustics/bleach.
5. Increase the height of the fence in the recreation area.

Sincerely,

Larry Abraham
Regulation Agent
County Jail Services Unit
(517) 582-4197
AbrahamL@Michigan.gov



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
LANSING

Rick Snyder
GOVERNOR

Heidi Washington
DIRECTOR

January 23, 2017

Sheriff Brian McLean
Houghton County Sheriff's Office
403 E. Houghton Avenue
Houghton, Michigan 49931

Re: Self Audit

Dear Sheriff McLean:

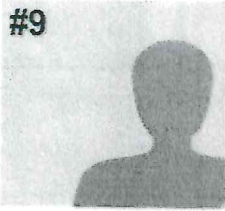
The report submitted by your staff indicates that your jail is in compliance with the Administrative Rules for Jails and Lock-ups for 2015.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at (517) 582-4197.

Sincerely,

Larry Abraham
Correctional Facility Specialist
County Jail Services Unit

#9



COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link (Web Link)

Started: Monday, December 07, 2015 9:20:52 AM

Last Modified: Monday, December 07, 2015 9:44:18 AM

Time Spent: 00:23:26

IP Address: 24.213.21.226

Save

PAGE 3: Your Facility Information

Q1: Facility Name and Address:

Houghton County Sheriff Office
403 E. Houghton Ave.
Houghton, MI 49931

Q2: Sheriff:

Brian McLean

Q3: Jail Administrator:

Captain Kevin Coppo

Q4: Audit Completed By: (Please include Name, Phone Number and Email Address)

Kevin Coppo
906-482-0055
kcoppo@houghtonsheriff.com

PAGE 4: Administrative Rules for Jails and Lockups - Compliance Check

Q5: R 791.702 Firearms; training. Has your facility established and maintained written policy and practice which provide that all personnel authorized to use firearms receive appropriate training before being assigned to a post involving the possible use of firearms? Does your firearms training cover the use, safety, and care of firearms and the constraints on their use? Have all personnel authorized to use firearms demonstrated competency in the use of firearms at least annually?

YES,

If NO, please explain:

Policy #207 207.5 207.13 and 207.12.1 covers the first part of the question. All personnel have successfully completed the MCOLES Qualification course

Q6: R 791.703 Chemical agents; training. Have personnel authorized to use chemical agents received appropriate training in their use and in the treatment of individuals exposed to a chemical agent?

YES,

If NO, please explain:

Policy 206-05.4 B 1 and 206.05.4 B42 covers the use and training of chemical agent.

Self-Audit for MI County Jail and Lockups

Q7: R 791.704 Exits Does your facility have exits that are properly positioned, clear, and distinctly and permanently marked to ensure the timely evacuation of inmates and staff in the event of fire or other emergency? Do all housing areas and places of assembly have two (2) exits?

YES,

If NO, please explain:

Exit lights are placed on all exits and are in working order.

Q8: R 791.705 Medical treatment Has your facility established and maintained written policy, procedure and practice which provide that all persons injured in an incident receive immediate medical examination and treatment?

YES,

If NO, please explain:

Policy # 225.01 through 225.09 covers all requirements for medical examination and treatment. Houghton County contracts with Correct Care Solutions.

Q9: R 791.706 Use of Force Has your facility established and maintained written policy, procedure and practice which restrict the use of physical force to instances of justifiable self defense, protection of others, protection of property, and prevention of escapes, and then only as a last resort and in accordance with appropriate statutory authority? Is it clear that physical force shall not be used as punishment? Is a written report prepared after force is used and is it submitted to administrative staff for review?

YES,

If NO, please explain:

Policy # 206.1 through 206.6 and 206.05.4 5 covers the use of force. Yes its clear physical force is not to be used as punishment. All use of force requires a written report for command staff to review.

Q10: R 791.707 Firearms Has your facility established and maintained written policy and procedure which govern the use of firearms, including ALL of the following requirements? (a) Weapons are subjected to safety regulations and inspections (b) A secure weapons locker is located outside the security perimeter of the facility (c) Except in emergency situations, firearms and impact weapons are permitted only in designated areas within the secured confines of the facility (d) Employees supervising inmates outside the facility perimeter shall follow facility procedures for the security of weapons and the use of force (e) Employees on duty shall only use firearms or other security equipment that has been approved through facility policies

YES,

If NO, please explain:

Policy 207.11.02, 228.04.2, 207.05.09, 204.04 and 207.08.1 and 2 covers all questions a - e.

Q11: R 791.708 Fire safety Does your facility conform to applicable federal, state, and local fire safety codes? (refer to Fire Safety Inspection from Rule for Fire Prevention R 791.709 (c)). Does your facility have a fire alarm and automatic detection system as required and as approved by the authority having jurisdiction? If your facility is not equipped with a fire alarm and automatic detection system, did your facility establish a plan, within a reasonable time period, to address the lack of an alarm and detection system and to address any deficiencies?

YES - please provide details below ,

Date of your annual Fire Inspection, Name and Certification No. of Inspector, and Fire Codes used for inspection ie. NFPA 101, International Fire Code, etc. If NO, please explain; if your facility does not have an approved fire alarm and automatic detection system, describe plan and schedule to provide a system:

Policy 238.238.07c address all fire safety codes. The sheriff's office has been inspected Nov 10, 2015 by a certified fire inspector Mark Aho. Fire Codes NFPA 101-23. All areas with in the jail have operating battery operated fire alarms. All alarms are tested and inspected monthly

Self-Audit for MI County Jail and Lockups

Q12: R 791.709 Fire preventionHas your facility established and maintained written policy and procedure that specify the facility's fire prevention regulations and practices to provide for the safety of staff, inmates, and visitors? Does your policy and procedure include, but not be limited to, ALL of the following?(a) Provision for accessible, timely, and responsive fire protection service(b) A system of fire inspection and testing of equipment at least QUARTERLY(c) An ANNUAL inspection by local or state fire officials or other qualified person or persons(d) The availability of fire hoses or extinguishers at appropriate locations throughout the facility	YES - please provide details below , What was the date of your annual fire inspection; Name and Certification No. of Inspector; and Fire Codes used for inspection ie. NFPA 101, International Fire Code, etc: If NO, please explain. Policy # 238 and 239 is maintained. A) 238.07 B) Safety inspections and done weekly, monthly and yearly. C) Nov 10, 2015 by Mark Aho. D) yes
Q13: R 791.710 Fire inspectionsHas your facility established and maintained written policy, procedure, and practice that provide for a comprehensive MONTHLY inspection of the facility by a trained person designated by the facility administrator? AND, is the policy and procedure reviewed ANNUALLY and updated as needed?	YES, If NO, please explain: Policy # 228.10 and yes inspected annually.
Q14: R 791.711 Fire safety; furnishingsDo the specifications for the selection and purchase of facility furnishings indicate the fire safety performance requirements of the materials selected?	YES, If NO, please explain: All jail furnishings are made from a fire retardant material.
Q15: R 791.712 AshtraysIf smoking is permitted, is your facility equipped with noncombustible receptacles for smoking materials and separate containers for other combustible refuse at accessible locations throughout living quarters in the facility? Are all receptacles and containers emptied and cleaned daily?	N/A - Smoking Not Permitted
Q16: R 791.713 Flammable, toxic, and caustic materialsHas your facility established and maintained written policy, procedure, and practice that govern the control and use of all flammable, toxic, and caustic materials? Are special containers provided for flammable liquids and for rags used with flammable liquids?	YES, If NO, please explain: Policy 228.10 is maintained. Flammable liquids and rags used in the facility are not kept in this building.
Q17: R 791.714 Written emergency plansHas all staff been trained to respond to emergencies in accordance with written emergency plans?	YES, If NO, please explain: Policy 234 covers emergencies and the staff has been trained.
Q18: R 791.715 Evacuation plansHas your facility established and maintained a written evacuation plan to be used in the event of fire or major emergency? Has your plan been approved in writing by an independent, outside inspector trained in the application of national fire safety codes? Is it reviewed annually, updated if necessary, and reissued? Does your plan provide for ALL of the following?(a) Location of building/room floor plans(b) Use of exit signs and directional arrows for traffic flow(c) Location of the publicly posted evacuation plan(d) At least QUARTERLY drills in all facility locations, which may include staff drills	YES - please provide details below , What was the date that your plan was approved and had its annual review and the Name and Certification No. of the Inspector: If NO, please explain. Policy # 239 is maintained. A) Floor plans are placed throughout the facility. B) All exit signs are operational and maintained on all exits. C) Posted clearly for public. D) Quarterly table top evacuation drills done.

Self-Audit for MI County Jail and Lockups

Q19: R 791.716 Emergency release of inmatesHas your facility established and maintained written policy, procedure, and practice that specify the means for the expeditious release of inmates from locked areas in case of emergency AND provide for a backup system regarding the placement of inmates?	YES, If NO, please explain: Policy 239 is maintained. A plan was formed with the City PD, City Fire and City Transit to assist with an emergency release.
Q20: R 791.717 Security threatsHas your facility established and maintained written plans that specify the procedures to be followed in situations that threaten facility security, including AND of the following?(a) Riots(b) Hunger strikes(c) Disturbances(d) The taking of hostagesANDHave the plans been made available to all applicable personnel, reviewed at least annually, and updated as needed?	YES, If NO, please explain: A) 237.0.02 B) 237.03.05 C) 237.03.01 D) 237.06 are maintained and are reviewed annually.
Q21: R 791.718 Inmate rightsHas your facility established and maintained written policy, procedure, and practice that protect inmates from ALL of the following that would constitute a civil or criminal violation?(a) Personal abuse(b) Corporal punishment(c) Personal injury(d) Disease(e) Property damage(f) Harassment	YES, If NO, please explain: Policy # 236.09.1 A through F All inmates have the right to grieve any of the above issues through the jails grievance procedure.
Q22: R 791.719 Dietary AllowancesHas your facility maintained documentation that the facility's dietary allowances are reviewed at least ANNUALLY by a dietician? Are menu evaluations conducted at least QUARTERLY by facility food service supervisory staff to verify adherence to the established basic daily servings?	YES - please provide details below , Name of Dietician, License or Certification No., and Date of Review: If NO, please explain: Laura Hembroff #879390
Q23: R 791.720 Special dietsHas your facility established and maintained written policy, procedure, and practice that provide for special diets as prescribed by appropriate medical or dental personnel?	YES, If NO, please explain: Policy # 203.04.01 ABC are maintained. All requests have to go through medical staff for approval.
Q24: R 791.721 Food service health safetyMichigan Food Law exempts jails from STATE licensure and inspection. However, was your facility certified to be in compliance with applicable FEDERAL law by a trained health inspector?	YES - please provide details below , Date of inspection, Name of Inspector and License or Certification No.: If NO, please explain: Policy 203.05.1 and 203.05.3 are maintained. Facility was inspected by Western Upper Peninsula Health Department by Jackson Caskey.
Q25: R 791.722 Food service health policyHas your facility established and maintained written policy, procedure, and practice that provide for adequate health protection for all inmates and staff in the facility and for inmates and other persons who work in food service where required by laws and regulations applicable to food service employees in the community where the facility is located?	YES, If NO, please explain: Policy 203 is maintained and adequate training is provided.

Self-Audit for MI County Jail and Lockups

Q26: R 791.723 Food service inspectionsHas your facility established and maintained written policy, procedure, and practice that require WEEKLY inspections by administrative, medical, or dietary personnel of all food service areas, including dining and food preparation areas and equipment? Inspection personnel may include the person who supervises food service operations or his or her designee. Are the refrigerator and dishwashing water temperatures checked DAILY by administrative, medical, or dietary personnel?

YES,

If NO, please explain:

Policy 203 is maintained. Daily logs are kept for all refrigerators and dishwashing temperatures. 5

Q27: R 791.724 Sanitation inspectionsHas your facility established and maintained written policy, procedure and practice that require BOTH of the following inspections?(a) WEEKLY sanitation inspections of all facility areas by a trained person designated by the facility administrator(b) At least ANNUAL inspections by federal, state, or local sanitation and health officials if federal, state, or local standards are applicable.

YES,

If NO, please explain:

Policy 203 is maintained. A) Weekly inspections are done by a trained staff member. B) Inspected by Upper Peninsula Health Department.

Q28: R 791.725 Water supplyIs your facility's potable water source and supply in compliance with the standards of Act No. 399 of the Public Acts of 1976, as amended, being §325.1001 et seq. of the Michigan Compiled Laws?

YES,

If NO, please explain:

Policy # 203 covers the potable water. Water is inspected by the City of Houghton.

Q29: R 791.726 Waste disposal planHas your facility established and maintained a written plan that provides for the appropriate disposal of liquid, solid, and toxic wastes?

YES,

If NO, please explain: Policy # 203 is maintained.

Q30: R 791.727 Vermin and pest control planHas your facility established and maintained a written plan for the control of vermin and pests that includes, at a minimum, MONTHLY inspections by a trained person designated by the facility administrator?

YES,

If NO, please explain:

Policy # 203 is maintained and contracted through Guardian Pest Control.

Q31: R 791.728 Health careHas your facility established and maintained written policy, procedure, and practice which provide that all medical, psychiatric, and dental inmate matters involving medical judgment are the sole province of the responsible physician, dentist or other qualified health professional?

YES,

If NO, please explain: 225.01

Policy # 223 is maintained. Sheriff's Office has contracted with Correct Care Solutions. Sheriff's provided with 16hrs of R.N.

Q32: R 791.729 Health care personnel qualificationsAre personnel who provide health care services to inmates licensed by the State of Michigan when required? Are verification of current credentials and job descriptions on file at the facility?

YES,

If NO, please explain:

Policy # 225 covers this through Correct Care Solutions and a certified MI R.N. is provided through the contract.

Self-Audit for MI County Jail and Lockups

Q33: R 791.730 PharmaceuticalsHas the administrator or medical director, or both, of your facility established policies and procedures that are in compliance with local, state, and federal regulations governing the distribution, dispensing, prescribing, administering, or disposing of any controlled substance or prescribed medication affecting an inmate?ANDAre drugs dispensed for patients only pursuant to the written orders of a licensed practitioner acting within the scope of his or her license?

YES,

If NO, please explain:

Policy # 225 is maintained and policies and procedures are in place. Medications are administered by Correct Care Solutions R.N.

Q34: R 791.731 Health screeningHas your facility established and maintained written policy, procedure, and practice that require medical, dental, and mental health screening to be performed on all inmates by a trained staff member designated by the facility administrator? Are all findings recorded on a form approved by the facility's designated health authority? Did the screenings include at least all of the following? (A) Inquiry into all of the following: - Current illness and health problems, including venereal diseases and other infectious diseases - Dental problems - Mental health problems - Use of alcohol and other drugs, including ALL of the following information: type of types of drugs used; mode of use; amounts used; frequency used; date or time of last use - History of any problems that may have occurred after ceasing use, for example, convulsions - Past and present treatment or hospitalization for mental disturbance or suicide - Possibility of pregnancy - Other health problems designated by the responsible physician (B) Observation of all of the following: - Behavior, including all of the following--state of consciousness, mental status, appearance, conduct, tremor, sweating - Body deformities and ease of movement - Condition of skin, including any of the following--trauma markings, bruises, lesions, jaundice, rashes and infestations, needle marks or other indications of drug abuse(C) The medical disposition of inmate shall be to ONE of the following: - General population - General population with prompt referral to appropriate health care service - Referral to appropriate health care service for emergency treatment

YES,

If NO, please explain:

Policy # 225 is maintained. Records are kept and secured by Correct Care Solutions R.N. A) An initial health screening is done at booking and documented through the Jail Management System. B) All questions are asked and answered by correctional staff and maintained by the Jail Management System. C) This is determined at time of booking and adequate determination is made and the appropriate housing is assigned.

Self-Audit for MI County Jail and Lockups

Q35: R 791.732 Health Appraisals1. Has your facility established and maintained written policy, procedure, and practice which require that a health appraisal for each inmate be completed by a trained health care person within 14 days after arrival at the facility? If there is documented evidence of a health appraisal within the previous 90 days, then a new health appraisal is not required, except as determined by the designated health authority. Do completed health appraisals include at least ALL of the following?- Review screening performed under R 791.731- Collection of additional data to complete the medical, dental, mental health, and immunization histories- Laboratory or diagnostic tests, or both, to detect communicable disease, including venereal disease and tuberculosis- Recording of all of the following--height, weight, pulse, blood pressure, temperature- Other tests and examinations, as appropriate- Medical examination, including review of mental and dental status- Review of the results of the medical examination and tests and identification of problems by a physician or other qualified health care personnel- Initiation of therapy when appropriate- Development and implementation of a treatment plan, including recommendations concerning housing, job assignment, and program participation2. Have inmates diagnosed as being contagious been removed from the facility or quarantined in well-ventilated quarters and separate from other inmates? In cases of suspected contagion, did the administrator consult with the facility's designated health authority or the local health department?3. If, in the opinion of a licensed physician, an inmate needed hospitalization, did the administrator, as directed by the physician, deliver the inmate to the nearest hospital or to any hospital designated by the county?

YES,

If NO, please explain:

Policy # 225 is maintained. Correct Care Solutions R.N. does all exams within the 14 days after arrival into the facility. All of the above questions are asked and answered and all documentation is placed into the inmates medical file and secured within a locked cabinet. All inmates that are contagious were quarantined and kept separate from other inmates. Correct Care Solutions is advised and documented. All inmates that Correct Care Solutions needs hospitalized are transported to the appropriate facility either by deputy or ambulance.

Q36: R 791.733 Inmate participation in researchHas your facility established and maintained written policy and practice that prohibit the use of inmates for medical, pharmaceutical, or cosmetic experiments? This rule does not preclude individual treatment of an inmate based on the need for a specific medical procedure that is not generally available.

YES,

If NO, please explain:

Policy # 225.08.1 is maintained. At no time is an inmate allowed to participate in this type of research.

Q37: R 791.734 Detoxification cellsHas your facility maintained a detoxification cell that allows for unobstructed supervision and observation of the entire detoxification cell area, which shall be accomplished by complying with EITHER of the following provisions?(a) Locating the detoxification cell near an officer duty station which is staffed 24 hours a day and which is constructed to provide personal visual observation of the entire detoxification cell(b) Installing an electronic camera or cameras that are continuously monitored in the officer's duty station.

NO,

If NO, please explain:

This department maintains a detoxification cell with in the facility and has an obstructed view to the cell. A) The cell is near the officer duty station which is staffed 24hrs a day. The cell is a half block half window room. B) The cell has an electronic camera that is continuously monitored and is recorded.

Self-Audit for MI County Jail and Lockups

Q38: R 791.735 Holding Cells1. Does your jail or lockup have one group holding cell that has not less than 150 square feet of floor area? The capacities of a group holding cell is determined at 15 square feet of floor space per inmate, excluding benches.AND2. Does your holding cell provide for unobstructed supervision and observation of the entire holding cell area, which can be accomplished by complying with EITHER of the following provisions?(a) Locating the holding cell near an officer duty station that is staffed 24 hours a day(b) Installing an electronic camera or cameras that are continuously monitored in the officer's duty station

NO,

If NO, please explain:

The holding cell has an obstructed view. A) Location of the cell is near the officer duty station and is staffed 24hrs. B) The holding cell has a camera that is continuously monitored and is recorded.

Q39: R 791.736 Staffing1. When housing inmates, is your facility staffed to provide proper security and correctional control?AND2. Does the administrator supervise, schedule, and control all personnel working in the facility?AND3. Is at least one (1) corrections officer provided for each floor or security area that is occupied?AND4. Is the duty station for a detoxification or holding cell staffed continually when the detoxification cell or holding cell is occupied?AND5. Is a sufficient number of personnel provided to perform ancillary functions, whether scheduled or unscheduled, such as moving inmates to medical, visitation, recreation, or other inmate programs?

NO,

If NO, please explain:

1) yes 2) Scheduling done by the undersheriff. 3) yes 4) no 5) yes

Q40: R 791.737 Safety and maintenance of equipment and structures1. Has the administrator developed and implemented safety standards that will protect the health and welfare of inmates and staff?AND 2. Has the administrator ensured that inmate and staff equipment and structures are maintained?

YES,

If NO, please explain:

Policy # 228 is maintained. 1) Policy, procedures and training is in place to protect the health and welfare of inmates with in the facility. 2) Administration have provide adequate staff equipment and structures are maintained.

Q41: R 791.738 Inmate classification planHas your facility established and maintained written policy, procedure, and practice that provide for a written inmate classification plan which defines the level of custody required, housing assignment, and participation in correctional programs? Is this plan reviewed at least annually and updated if necessary?

YES,

If NO, please explain:

Policy # 221 is maintained. This plan is reviewed annually and updated as needed.

Q42: Non-Administrative Rule Q: Has the Sheriff reviewed and approved the responses to this Self-Audit?

Yes



Rick Snyder
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
LANSING

Heidi Washington
DIRECTOR

August 20, 2018

Houghton County Sheriff's Office
403 E. Houghton Ave.
Houghton, MI 49931

RE: MDOC Inspection

Dear Sheriff Mclean,

An inspection of the Houghton County Jail was conducted on August 8th, 2018 by the Michigan Department of Corrections, County Jail Services Unit, as provided for by Act No. 232 of the Public Acts of 1953, as amended, being section 791.262 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call.

Sincerely,

Trever LeBarre, Manager
Environmental Health, Fire Safety, and County Jail Services Unit
Michigan Department of Corrections
Physical Plant Division
517-335-2069



RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
LANSING

HEIDI E. WASHINGTON
DIRECTOR

August 20, 2018
Houghton County Sheriff's Office
403 E. Houghton Ave.
Houghton, MI 49931

RE: MDOC Inspection

Dear Sheriff Mclean,

An inspection of the Houghton County Jail was conducted on August 8th, 2018 by the Michigan Department of Corrections, County Jail Services Unit, as provided for by Act No. 232 of the Public Acts of 1953, as amended, being section 791.262 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

The inspection was conducted by Ron Trachet, Regulation Agent with the County Jail Services Unit. The exit conference was conducted with Captain Hebner.

Inspection Findings

On the day of inspection, the Houghton County Jail was found to be in full **COMPLIANCE** with the Administrative Rules for Jails and Lock-ups.

Change recommendations from the 2017 inspection have been completed including policy change to (791.715 Evacuation Plans) show quarterly drills in all locations, securing caustics/bleach, raising the fence height in the recreation area, and addressing cameras in food service. This Agent found excellent documentation and preparation for inspection. Significant improvement toward achieving compliance for 2018.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Ron Trachet
Regulation Agent
Michigan Department of Corrections
County Jail Services Unit
(517) 582-4197
TrachetR@Michigan.gov



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
LANSING

Gretchen Whitmer
GOVERNOR

Heidi Washington
DIRECTOR

October 9, 2019

Sheriff B. Mclean
Houghton County Sheriff's Office
403 E. Houghton Ave
Houghton, MI 48931

RE: MDOC Inspection

Dear Sheriff Mclean,

An inspection of the Houghton County Jail was conducted on October 9, 2019 by the County Jail Services Unit of the Michigan Department of Corrections.

If you have questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Trever LeBarre, Manager
Environmental Health, Fire Safety, and County Jail Services Unit
Michigan Department of Corrections
Physical Plant Division
517-643-6518



Gretchen Whitmer
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
LANSING

HEIDI E. WASHINGTON
DIRECTOR

October 9, 2019
Houghton County Sheriff's Office
403 E. Houghton Ave.
Houghton, MI 49931

RE: MDOC Inspection

Dear Sheriff Mclean,

An inspection of the Houghton County Jail was conducted on October 9, 2019 by the Michigan Department of Corrections, County Jail Services Unit, as provided for by Act No. 232 of the Public Acts of 1953, as amended, being section 791.262 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

The inspection was conducted by Larry Abraham, Regulation Agent with the County Jail Services Unit. The exit conference was conducted with Captain Hebner.

Inspection Findings

On the day of inspection, the Houghton County Jail was found to be in full **COMPLIANCE** with the Administrative Rules for Jails and Lock-ups.

Recommendation

1. Install an additional set of gun lockers outside the secure perimeter door.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Larry Abraham
Regulation Agent
Michigan Department of Corrections
County Jail Services Unit
(517) 582-4197
abrahaml@michigan.gov

2020 Jail Inspection Report

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, no jail inspections were held in 2020.



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
LANSING

Gretchen Whitmer
GOVERNOR

Heidi Washington
DIRECTOR

October 5, 2021

Sheriff Josh Saraanen
Houghton County Sheriff's Office
403 E. Houghton Ave
Houghton MI, 48931

RE: MDOC Inspection

Dear Sheriff Saraanen,

An inspection of the Houghton County Jail was conducted on October 5, 2021 by the Michigan Department of Corrections, County Jail Services Unit, as provided for by Act No. 232 of the Public Acts of 1953, as amended, being section 791.262 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

The inspection was conducted by Larry Abraham, Regulation Agent with the County Jail Services Unit.

Inspection Findings

On the day of inspection, the Houghton County jail was in compliance with the Administrative Rules for Jails and Lockups.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Larry Abraham", is positioned below the "Sincerely," text.

Larry Abraham
Regulation Agent
County Jail Services Unit
517-582-4197
Abrahaml@michigan.gov



Gretchen Whitmer
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
LANSING

Heidi Washington
DIRECTOR

August 15, 2022

Sheriff Josh Saaranen
Houghton County Sheriff's Office
403 E. Houghton Ave
Houghton MI, 48931

RE: MDOC Inspection

Sheriff Saaranen,

An inspection of the Houghton County Jail was conducted on August 8, 2022, by the Michigan Department of Corrections, County Jail Services Unit, as provided for by Act No. 232 of the Public Acts of 1953, as amended, being section 791.262 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to call.

Sincerely,

Gene Wood, R.S.
Manager, Environmental Health, Fire Safety, and County Jail Services
Michigan Department of Corrections
(810) 240-3609
Woodg4@michigan.gov



Gretchen Whitmer
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
LANSING

Heidi Washington
DIRECTOR

August 15, 2022

Sheriff Josh Saaranen
Houghton County Sheriff's Office
403 E. Houghton Ave
Houghton MI, 48931

RE: MDOC Inspection

Sheriff Saaranen-

An inspection of the Houghton County Jail was conducted on August 8, 2022, by the Michigan Department of Corrections, County Jail Services Unit, as provided for by Act No. 232 of the Public Acts of 1953, as amended, being section 791.262 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

The inspection was conducted by Ron Trachet, Regulation Agent with the County Jail Services Unit. The exit conference was conducted with Jail Administrator Captain Doug Hebner.

Inspection Findings

On the day of inspection, the Houghton County Jail was in **FULL COMPLIANCE** with the Administrative Rules for Jails and Lockups.

It should be noted that his Agent found that the facility is limited as far as capacity for housing and separation by classification due to limited space.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Ron Trachet

Ron Trachet, Regulation Agent
Michigan Department of Corrections
County Jail Services Unit
517-282-6096
TrachetR@michigan.gov



Gretchen Whitmer
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
LANSING

Heidi Washington
DIRECTOR

June 26, 2023

Sheriff Joshua Saaranen
Houghton County Sheriff's Office
403 E. Houghton Ave
Houghton, MI. 49931

RE: MDOC Inspection

Dear Sheriff Saaranen,

An inspection of the Houghton County Jail was conducted on June 22, 2023 by the Michigan Department of Corrections, County Jail Services Unit, as provided for by Act No. 232 of the Public Acts of 1953, as amended, being section 791.262 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

The inspection was conducted by Larry Abraham, Regulation Agent with the County Jail Services Unit.

Inspection Findings

On the day of inspection, the Houghton County jail was in compliance with the Administrative Rules for Jails and Lockups.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Larry Abraham".

Larry Abraham
Regulation Agent
County Jail Services Unit
517-582-4197
Abrahaml@michigan.gov



Gretchen Whitmer
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
LANSING

Heidi Washington
DIRECTOR

July 1, 2024

Sheriff Josh Saaranen
Houghton County Sheriff's Office
403 E. Houghton Ave
Houghton MI, 48931

RE: MDOC Inspection

Sheriff Saaranen-

An inspection of the Houghton County Jail was conducted on June 26, 2024, by the Michigan Department of Corrections, County Jail Services Unit, as provided for by Act No. 232 of the Public Acts of 1953, as amended, being section 791.262 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to call.

Sincerely,

Genie Wood, R.S

Genie Wood, R.S
Manager, Environmental Health, Fire Safety, and County Jail Services
Michigan Department of Corrections
(810) 240-3609
Woodg4@michigan.gov



Gretchen Whitmer
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
LANSING

Heidi Washington
DIRECTOR

July 1, 2024

Sheriff Josh Saaranen
Houghton County Sheriff's Office
403 E. Houghton Ave
Houghton MI, 48931

RE: MDOC Inspection

Sheriff Saaranen-

An inspection of the Houghton County Jail was conducted on June 26, 2024, by the Michigan Department of Corrections, County Jail Services Unit, as provided for by Act No. 232 of the Public Acts of 1953, as amended, being section 791.262 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

The inspection was conducted by Ron Trachet, Regulation Agent with the County Jail Services Unit. The exit conference was conducted with Jail Administrator Captain Travis Dessellier.

Inspection Findings

On the day of inspection, the Houghton County Jail was in **NON-COMPLIANCE** with the Administrative Rules for Jails and Lockups.

R 791.732 Health Appraisals.

(1) A facility shall establish and maintain written policy, procedure, and practice which require that a health appraisal for each inmate be completed by a trained health care person within 14 days after arrival at the facility. If there is documented evidence of a health appraisal within the previous 90 days, then a new health appraisal is not required, except as determined by the designated health authority. A health appraisal includes at least all of the following:

- (a) Review screening performed under R 791.731.
- (b) Collection of additional data to complete the medical, dental, mental health, and immunization histories.
- (c) Laboratory or diagnostic tests, or both, to detect communicable disease, including venereal disease and tuberculosis.
- (d) Recording of all of the following:
 - (i) Height.
 - (ii) Weight.
 - (iii) Pulse.

- (iv) Blood pressure.
- (v) Temperature.
- (e) Other tests and examinations, as appropriate.
- (f) Medical examination, including review of mental and dental status.
- (g) Review of the results of the medical examination and tests and identification of problems by a physician or other qualified health care personnel.
- (h) Initiation of therapy when appropriate.
- (i) Development and implementation of a treatment plan, including recommendations concerning housing, job assignment, and program participation.
- (2) An inmate diagnosed as being contagious shall be removed from the facility or quarantined in well-ventilated quarters and separate from other inmates. In a case of suspected contagion, the administrator shall consult with the facility's designated health authority or the local health department.
- (3) If, in the opinion of a licensed physician, an inmate needs hospitalization, the administrator, as directed by the physician, shall deliver the inmate to the nearest hospital or to any hospital designated by the county.

Findings: Ten percent of the current population was pulled at random for the audit and found that files were not being reviewed by the physician or not dated.

You must submit an action plan to correct these deficiencies noted. The required policies and supporting documentation must be submitted to the Michigan Department of Corrections, County Jail Services Unit within 30 days of receipt of this letter.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Ron Trachet

Ron Trachet, Regulation Agent
Michigan Department of Corrections
County Jail Services Unit
517-282-6096
TrachetR@michigan.gov



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
LANSING

Gretchen Whitmer
GOVERNOR

Heidi Washington
DIRECTOR

June 25, 2025

Sheriff Joshua Saaranen
Houghton County Sheriff's Office
403 East Houghton Avenue
Houghton, MI. 49931

RE: MDOC Inspection

Dear Sheriff Saaranen,

An inspection of the Houghton County Jail was conducted on June 25th, 2025 by the Michigan Department of Corrections, County Jail Services Unit, as provided for by Act No. 232 of the Public Acts of 1953, as amended, being section 791.262 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

The inspection was conducted by Larry Abraham, Regulation Agent with the County Jail Services Unit.

Inspection Findings

On the day of inspection, the Houghton County jail was in compliance with the Administrative Rules for Jails and Lockups.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Larry Abraham", is positioned below the "Sincerely," text.

Larry Abraham
Regulation Agent
County Jail Services Unit
517-582-4197
Abrahaml@michigan.gov