

**Sonoma County Juvenile Hall  
Inspection Report  
Site Inspection: December 14, 2023**

**Submitted by Sonoma County Juvenile Justice Commission (JJC)**

**Inspection conducted by Commissioners Gina Crozier, Stacy Spector, and Greg Schmid**

**Los Guilicos Juvenile Justice Center  
Sonoma County Juvenile Hall  
7425 Los Guilicos Road, Santa Rosa CA 95409  
(707) 565-6210**

**Superintendent/Director: Kilee Willson  
Assistant Director: Dan Flamson  
Presiding Judge: Hon. Judge Kenneth Gness**

**Inspection Report:**

**Inspection date: December 14, 2023**  
Last inspection date: November 17, 2022

**Occupancy: 57**

**Facility Capacity: 147**

**The following was submitted by:** Commissioner Greg Schmid. Accompanied by Commissioners Gina Crozier and Stacy Spector.

**Diversity of Staff:** Numerous staff personnel were observed during the inspection. Currently there are 34 female staff and 55 male staff. Caucasian 40%, Latin 37%, African American 9%, Asian 6%. Mandatory overtime is still in effect while hiring is continuous, with a number of candidates in the hiring process. There is professional development mandated for all JCC staff.

**Staff to Youth Ratio:** Day 1:3 Night 1:5 - Well above the required 1:10 and 1:30 mandated by Title 15. The needs of the youth have changed with ongoing legislation. There is individualized case planning and educational goals, with staff being involved in rehabilitation in addition to general supervision needs.

**Conditions of the Grounds:** All outside areas are clean, well-maintained and attended to. The blacktop and covered recreation yards are also in excellent condition. A greenhouse is being erected in the garden area on the east side of the facility.

**Exterior of Building:** General conditions, paint, and roof: The exterior of the building is in good condition. There is some scarring of the hillside on the East side of the facility, still visible from the wildfire that occurred in the past. No leakage has been reported from previous rains.

**Interior of Building, Hallways and Doors:** Wall paints, floors, drains: The walls in the housing units are painted and murals are being slowly added. The hallways are highly polished and extremely clean and free from any and all rubbish. All doors are opened and closed via central control through camera contact.

**Cleaning products/Chemicals storage:** The kitchen and warehouse areas are off-limits to youth. The cleaning supplies are kept secure in the kitchen and warehouse area, accessible only to those adults assigned to those areas.

**Weapons Locker:** Weapons lockers are located outside the facility, available to law enforcement personnel. Lockers are also available to visitors for storage of valuables when visiting youth. An “armory” is located inside the control center, mostly containing restraints.

**Recreation/sports, Equipment:** Youth have access to recreational equipment – volleyball, basketball, soccer, badminton, etc. In the Boys and Girls Club area, there is access to weight machines, ping pong, and other activities.

**Other recreational activities:** Writing/drawing, card games/board games, puzzles, television/movies, recreation yards, video games, letter writing, phone use.

**Sleeping Quarters and Beds:** The rooms are simple, clean and there is an area provided for the resident’s personal items.

**Study Area:** Inside each unit there are separate areas that allow residents to sit comfortably and complete school work and other activities.

**Temperature:** Although primarily cinderblock construction, the hallways and housing units were comfortable temperature-wise. Lighting is adequate throughout the facility.

**Orientation:** Orientation of youth begins at Intake, including Title 15 orientation criteria, facility rules/procedures. Inside the housing unit, the JCC (Juvenile Correctional Counselor) verifies the resident has received and understand the information provided in the handbook provided. Rules breakout into themes: Be Accountable, Be Respectful, and Be Safe.

**Rules and Grievances Posted:** Rules are explained in the handbook and discussed with the JCC. Weekly lesson plans occur on each unit at the start of the afternoon shift and focus on an area of the facility, specific rules, why they are important, and how abiding by these rules can assist when re-entering the community. There is a central bulletin board in each unit that has rules and how to dialogue grievances.

### **Discipline of Residents:**

Sonoma County Juvenile Hall has a detailed behavior management system that is inspired by Positive Behavior and Support Interventions (PBIS). The idea is to immediately recognize and praise appropriate, pro-social behavior and address undesired behavior. It incorporates daily, weekly, and long-term incentives to motivate and reward youth. Residents that are displaying behavior that needs additional attention are generally placed on a Special Program for more assistance and tools. This allows for a functional behavior assessment (FBA) to identify the relationship between the behavior and the environment and a behavioral intervention plan (BIP) to help the youth appropriately respond in similar scenarios moving forward. There are point values throughout the day which determine daily and weekly incentives. Restorative justice groups are also utilized.

**Kitchen and Meals:** Youth do not have access to knives or chemicals. Knives are only used in the kitchen (outside of the secure corridor, therefore not accessible to youth). Chemicals are secured in the warehouse or supply closet. Menus are posted on each unit's bulletin board.

**Meals** are prepared on site and served inside the housing units using heated carts that are wheeled into each unit. They receive a minimum of 20 minutes to eat.

**Showers, Clothing:** Personal items are allowed in sleeping quarters. Those items allowed are based on behavior (Behavior Management System). There are four shower stalls in each unit. All stalls are private and can only see head and feet. Haircuts are offered to residents every 2 weeks when a barber is available.

**Graffiti Present:** Graffiti was not observed during the inspection.

**Programs available:** Multiple programs are available for youth. Family Reunification, Substance Abuse, Victim Awareness, Gang Awareness, Sexual Harassment, Parenting, Vocational, Community Service, Work Program. A full list of Sonoma County Juvenile Hall Programming 2023 is attached.

**Visiting procedures/guidelines, access to telephone, mail:** Part of the orientation process explains visitation, access to telephone and Mail Policy. All residents have the opportunity for visits.

**Court holding areas:** The court holding area is well-maintained with toilet facility. Outside of the holding facilities, there are tables and conference rooms available for youth and their advocates.

**School:** There are three PODs with a rotation facilitating priority in English and Math. There is an ELD Teacher 2 times weekly, and an IEP Teacher 3 times weekly. SCOE does school from 0830-1230 for youth working towards their high school diploma. 42 youth are in classes at this time. Currently there are a number of youth enrolled in Santa Rosa Junior College and/or working on career technical education with a dedicated SRJC Teacher who is at the facility on a weekly basis. The youth are supervised by JCC staff. There is a classroom in each unit. Housing units 1 and 2 have higher education youth who are working on SRJC, SSU, or online career technical educational classes. Students who are taking SRJC classes have access to "cubicles" to do their work, away from other residents. Each youth has a Chromebook and a workspace. Computers are monitored and "Line Wise" is the software being utilized. There is a small library on site offering books for residents.

**Health, Mental Health counseling, and Medical Services:** Youth receive regular medical, dental and mental health services. There is a separate examination room where general physicals are completed, and an area where medications are stored and distributed by nurses. All youth are examined and interviewed upon admission to determine medical history and needs. The area is clean, organized, and in good repair. A functioning dental office is present on campus as well.

**Housing Units:** There are currently 7 self-contained housing units, each with a capacity of 20 beds. Each unit has space for education, program and leisure as well as a small outdoor recreation area, and kitchen where meals are served. There are currently 4 occupied housing units which includes co-ed units. The Boys and Girls Club is a dormitory unit that was

converted where residents attend four days per week. There are three large covered outdoor gymnasium-sized courts for group sports in all weather conditions and an outdoor recreation field for soccer, running, and other active sports. There is also a garden and orchard area, and a greenhouse currently being constructed.

Commissioners met with Director Kilee Willson and Assistant Director Dan Flamson in the conference room before the inspection. We were introduced to Angela Scardina, the Director of Alternative Education, Student Support Services at Sonoma County Office of Education. Angela provided us with information on how SCOE's Student Support Services is facilitating youth at Juvenile Hall with much needed assistance in their educational objectives. Also present was Kristen Vela, Health Program Manager, Special Clinical Services at Sonoma County Public Health. Kristen discussed the current medical and mental health services presently available to youth at Juvenile Hall, how they are processed and the continual support provided to them.

All youth were presently in class during the inspection. No youth were interviewed at this time due to time constraints. Youth were interviewed prior to this inspection by Commissioner Schmid.