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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Executive Office of Health and Human Services

Department of Public Health

Bureau of Environmental Health

Community Sanitation Program

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December 31, 2014

Thomas Bowler, Sheriff
Berkshire County Jail and House of Corrections
467 Cheshire Road
Pittsfield, MA 01201

Re: Facility Inspection - Berkshire County Jail and House of Corrections, Pittsfield

Dear Sheriff Bowler:

In accordance with M.G.L. c. 111, §§ 5, 20, and 21, as well as Massachusetts Department of Public Health (Department) Regulations 105 CMR 451.000: Minimum Health and Sanitation Standards and Inspection Procedures for Correctional Facilities; 105 CMR 480.000: Storage and Disposal of Infectious or Physically Dangerous Medical or Biological Waste (State Sanitary Code, Chapter VIII); 105 CMR 590.000: Minimum Sanitation Standards for Food Establishments (State Sanitary Code Chapter X); the 1999 Food Code; 105 CMR 520.000 Labeling; and 105 CMR 205.000 Minimum Standards Governing Medical Records and the Conduct of Physical Examinations in Correctional Facilities; I conducted an inspection of the Berkshire County Jail and House of Corrections on December 2, 2014 accompanied by Captain Katherine Sonsini. Violations noted during the inspection are listed below including 152 repeat violations:

HEALTH AND SAFETY VIOLATIONS

(* indicates conditions documented on previous inspection reports)

Front Entry

Female Bathroom

105 CMR 451.123 Maintenance: Ceiling vent dusty

Male Bathroom

No Violations Noted

Kitchen

Walk-in Freezer

No Violations Noted

Walk-in Cooler

No Violations Noted

<i>Reach-in Freezer</i> FC 4-501.11(A)	Maintenance and Operation, Equipment: Equipment not maintained in a state of good repair, condenser was leaking
<i>Changing Room</i>	No Violations Noted
<i>Dry Storage</i>	No Violations Noted
<i>Inmate Bathroom</i>	No Violations Noted
<i>Storage Room</i>	No Violations Noted
<i>Chemical Storage</i>	No Violations Noted
<i>Inmate Dining</i>	No Violations Noted
<u>Staff Dining</u> FC 4-501.11(A)	Maintenance and Operation, Equipment: Equipment not maintained in a state of good repair, refrigerator out-of-service
<u>Bakery</u>	No Violations Noted
<u>Visitation Area</u>	No Violations Noted
<u>Property</u>	No Violations Noted
<u>Laundry</u>	No Violations Noted
<u>Commissary</u>	No Violations Noted
<u>Vocational Education</u>	
<i>Inmate Bathroom</i>	No Violations Noted
<i>Staff Bathroom</i>	No Violations Noted
<i>Classrooms</i>	No Violations Noted
<u>Recreational Area</u>	No Violations Noted

Intake/Booking

Medical Triage

105 CMR 451.353

Interior Maintenance: Examination table bench cushion damaged

Transportation Room

No Violations Noted

Cells

No Violations Noted

HSU

Medical Waste Storage

No Violations Noted

Dental Office

No Violations Noted

Exam Rooms

No Violations Noted

Tub Room

No Violations Noted

Staff Bathroom

105 CMR 451.126

Hot Water: Hot water temperature recorded at 106°F

A Pod

Staff Bathroom

No Violations Noted

Cells

105 CMR 451.103

Mattresses: Mattress damaged in cell # 209

Day Room

105 CMR 451.353*

Interior Maintenance: Ceiling stained in common area

Showers

105 CMR 451.123*

Maintenance: Floor not easily cleanable in shower # 1-7

105 CMR 451.123*

Maintenance: Showers leaking into back chase area

105 CMR 451.123*

Maintenance: Expansion joints hold stagnant water in shower # 1, 2, and 3

Sub Dayroom Shower

105 CMR 451.123*

Maintenance: Floor not easily cleanable

105 CMR 451.123*

Maintenance: Air vent dusty

Janitor Closet

No Violations Noted

B Pod

Staff Bathroom

105 CMR 451.123

Interior Maintenance: Air vent rusted

Cells

105 CMR 451.353*

Interior Maintenance: Air vent blocked in cell # 105 and 205

105 CMR 451.353

Interior Maintenance: Air vent blocked in cell # 106

105 CMR 451.353*

Interior Maintenance: Air vent rusted in cell # 106, 107, 109, 110, 202, 203, 204, 207, 208, 211, 212, 214, 215, and 217

Day Room

No Violations Noted

Showers

105 CMR 451.123*

Maintenance: Floor not easily cleanable in shower # 1-7

105 CMR 451.123*

Maintenance: Black substance on shower walls # 1-7

105 CMR 451.123*

Maintenance: Showers were leaking into back chase area

Sub Dayroom Shower

105 CMR 451.123*

Maintenance: Floor not easily cleanable

105 CMR 451.123

Maintenance: Soap scum on shower walls

105 CMR 451.123*

Maintenance: Shower were leaking into back chase area

Janitor's Closet

No Violations Noted

C Pod

Staff Bathroom

105 CMR 451.123

Maintenance: Ceiling vent dusty

105 CMR 451.126

Hot Water: Hot water temperature recorded at 106°F

Cells

105 CMR 451.353*

Interior Maintenance: Debris in air vent in cell # 104, 105, 108, 110, 112, 213, and 214

105 CMR 451.353*

Interior Maintenance: Air vent rusted in cell # 107, 109, 110, 111, 114, 115, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 215, 216, 217, and 218

Showers

105 CMR 451.123*

Maintenance: Floor not easily cleanable in shower # 1-7

105 CMR 451.123

Maintenance: Soap scum on shower walls # 1-7

105 CMR 451.123*

Maintenance: Showers were leaking into back chase area

105 CMR 451.123*

Maintenance: Expansion joints hold stagnant water in showers # 1, 2, and 3

Sub Dayroom Shower

105 CMR 451.123*

Maintenance: Floor not easily cleanable

105 CMR 451.123*

Maintenance: Black substance on shower walls

Janitor's Closet

FC 6-501.11

Maintenance and Operation; Repairing: Facility not in good repair, rusted door jamb

D Pod

Staff Bathroom

No Violations Noted

Cells

No Violations Noted

Showers

105 CMR 451.123

Maintenance: Soap scum on shower walls # 1-7

105 CMR 451.123

Maintenance: Ceiling light rusted shower # 1-7

105 CMR 451.123*

Maintenance: Showers were leaking into back chase area

Sub Dayroom Shower

105 CMR 451.123*

Maintenance: Floor not easily cleanable

105 CMR 451.123*

Maintenance: Shower was leaking into back chase area

Janitor's Closet

No Violations Noted

E Pod

Staff Bathroom

105 CMR 451.126

Hot Water: Hot water temperature recorded at 102⁰F

Cells

105 CMR 451.353*

Interior Maintenance: Air vent rusted in cell # 101, 103, 105, 106, 107, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 117, 204, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 214, 215, 216, and 217

105 CMR 451.353*

Interior Maintenance: Air vent rusted in cell # 116, 202, 205, and 212

Showers

105 CMR 451.123*

Maintenance: Floor not easily cleanable in shower # 1-7

105 CMR 451.123

Maintenance: Black substance on shower walls # 1-7

Sub Dayroom Shower

105 CMR 451.123*

Maintenance: Floor not easily cleanable

105 CMR 451.123

Maintenance: Soap scum on shower walls

Janitor's Closet

No Violations Noted

F Pod

Under Renovation-Not in Use

G Pod

Staff Bathroom

No Violations Noted

Cells

No Violations Noted

Showers

105 CMR 451.123*

Maintenance: Floor not easily cleanable in shower # 1-7

105 CMR 451.123*

Maintenance: Black substance on shower walls # 1-7

105 CMR 451.123*

Maintenance: Showers were leaking into back chase area on 1st floor

Sub Dayroom Shower

105 CMR 451.123*

Maintenance: Floor not easily cleanable

105 CMR 451.123

Maintenance: Soap scum on shower walls

Janitor's Closet

No Violations Noted

H Pod – Regional Lockup

Staff Bathroom

No Violations Noted

Cells

No Violations Noted

Showers

105 CMR 451.123*

Maintenance: Floor not easily cleanable in showers # 1-7

105 CMR 451.123

Maintenance: Soap scum on shower walls # 1-7

Sub Dayroom Shower

105 CMR 451.123*

Maintenance: Floor not easily cleanable

105 CMR 451.123

Maintenance: Soap scum on shower walls

Janitor's Closet

No Violations Noted

Warehouse

105 CMR 451.350

Structural Maintenance: Entry door not rodent proof and weathertight

Staff Bathroom

105 CMR 451.126

Water Supply: No hot water supplied to handwash sink

Walk-in Cooler

No Violations Noted

Freezer

FC 4-501.11(A)*

Maintenance and Operation, Equipment: Equipment not maintained in a state of good repair, missing light bulb

FC 4-501.11(A)

Maintenance and Operation, Equipment: Equipment not maintained in a state of good repair, ice build-up on ceiling by door

Observations and Recommendations

1. The inmate population was 245 at the time of inspection.

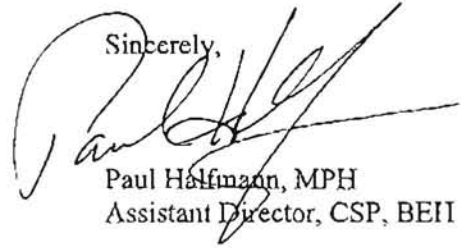
This facility does not comply with the Department's Regulations cited above. In accordance with 105 CMR 451.404, please submit a plan of correction within 10 working days of receipt of this notice, indicating the specific corrective steps to be taken, a timetable for such steps, and the date by which correction will be achieved. The plan should be signed by the Superintendent or Administrator and submitted to my attention, at the address listed above.

To review the specific regulatory requirements please visit our website at www.mass.gov/dph/dcs and click on "Correctional Facilities" (available in both PDF and RTF formats).

To review the Food Establishment regulations please visit the Food Protection website at www.mass.gov/dph/fpp and click on "Food Protection Regulations". Then under "Retail" click "105 CMR 590.000 - State Sanitary Code Chapter X – Minimum Sanitation Standards for Food Establishments" and "[1999 Food Code](#)".

This inspection report is signed and certified under the pains and penalties of perjury.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul Halfmann", is written over the typed name and title.

Paul Halfmann, MPH
Assistant Director, CSP, BEH

cc: Suzanne K. Condon, Associate Commissioner, Director, BEH
Steven Hughes, Director, CSP, BEH
John W. Polanowicz Secretary, Executive Office of Health and Human Services
Carol Higgins O'Brien, Commissioner, DOC
John J. Quinn, Jr., Superintendent
Captain Katherine Sonsini, EHSO
Gina Armstrong, Health Director, Pittsfield Board of Health
Clerk, Massachusetts House of Representatives
Clerk, Massachusetts Senate
Andrea Cabral, Secretary, EOPS