November 18, 2021

Kevin F. Coppinger, Sheriff
Essex County Sheriff’s Department Headquarters
20 Manning Avenue
Middleton, MA 01929  (electronic copy)

Re: Facility Inspection – Essex County Correctional Alternative Center, Lawrence

Dear Sheriff Coppinger:

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 2013 Food Code; 105 CMR 500.000 Good Manufacturing Practices for Food; and 105 CMR 205.000 Minimum Standards Governing Medical Records and the Conduct of Physical Examinations in Correctional Facilities; the Department’s Community Sanitation Program (CSP) conducted an inspection of the Essex County Correctional Alternative Center on November 10, 2021 accompanied by Lieutenant Joe Dipietro and Sean Gallagher, Environmental Health and Safety Officer. Violations noted during the inspection are listed below including 19 repeat violations:

Should you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Shanene Pierce
Environmental Health Inspector, CSP, BEH

cc:  Margret R. Cooke, Acting Commissioner, DPH
     Nalina Narain, Director, BEH
     Steven Hughes, Director, CSP, BEH
     Marylou Sudders, Secretary, Executive Office of Health and Human Services
     Carol A. Mici, Commissioner, DOC
     Terrence Reidy, Secretary, EOPSS
     Timothy Gotovich, Director, Policy Development and Compliance Unit
     Heidi Mora, Superintendent
     Sean Gallagher, EHSO
     Michael Armano, Director, Lawrence Inspectional Services
     Clerk, Massachusetts House of Representatives
     Clerk, Massachusetts Senate
**HEALTH AND SAFETY VIOLATIONS**
(* indicates conditions documented on previous inspection reports)

**Main Building**

**Nurse’s Office**
105 CMR 480.500(A)(3)  Procedures; Records; Record-Keeping Log: Generator had no written documentation for blood borne pathogen training, documentation provided did not demonstrate annual training

105 CMR 480.500(B)  Procedures; Records; Record-Keeping Log: Generator did not maintain a record-keeping log for waste sent off-site for treatment, missing August waste pickup

105 CMR 480.500(B)(2)(D)  Procedures; Records; Record-Keeping Log: Generator did not specify off-site treatment parameters, total combined weight of medical or biological waste shipped off-site did not match shipping and tracking papers

105 CMR 480.100(C)(2)  Storage Area: Storage Area not designed or equipped to prevent unauthorized access, secondary container not being stored in manner to prevent unauthorized access in Nurse’s Office

**Storage Closet**
105 CMR 451.383(B)  Fire Safety System: Facility not in compliance with 780 CMR Massachusetts Building Code provisions for fire safety, items stored within 18 inches of the ceiling

**Nurse’s Bathroom**
No Violations Noted

**Lobby**
No Violations Noted

**Control Room**
No Violations Noted

**Shift Commander’s Office**
No Violations Noted

**Bathroom (in Shift Commander Office)**
Unable to Inspect – In Use

**Hallway**
No Violations Noted

**Staff Break Room**
Unable to Inspect – Under Construction

**Second Floor Lobby**

**Deputy of Maintenance Office**
No Violations Noted

**Male Staff Bathroom**
No Violations Noted

**Assistant Superintendents Office**
No Violations Noted
Superintendent’s Office  No Violations Noted
Conference Room  No Violations Noted
Female Staff Bathroom  No Violations Noted
Director of Programming Office  Unable to Inspect – In Use

South Side 1st Floor
Attorney Rooms  Unable to Inspect – In Use
Work Release Waiting Area  No Violations Noted
Work Release Office  Unable to Inspect – Locked
Bracelet Office  Unable to Inspect – Locked
Records Office  No Violations Noted
Reintegration Office  Unable to Inspect – Locked
Temporary Property Storage  No Violations Noted
Female Staff Bathroom  105 CMR 451.123*  Maintenance: Light out above sink
Male Staff Bathroom  105 CMR 451.123*  Maintenance: Ceiling water damaged
Offices  No Violations Noted

Intake Area
Urine Lab  105 CMR 451.123  Maintenance: Floor dirty under soap dispenser
  105 CMR 451.123  Maintenance: Paper towel dispenser broken
Shake Down Rooms  No Violations Noted
South Side 2nd Floor

Hallway

No Violations Noted

Room # S201
105 CMR 451.353 Interior Maintenance: Electrical outlet cover damaged

Room # S202
Unable to Inspect – Under Construction

Room # S203
Unable to Inspect – Under Construction

Room # S204
105 CMR 451.141 Screens: Screen damaged

Room # S205
105 CMR 451.353 Interior Maintenance: Wall damaged outside Room # S205
105 CMR 451.141 Screens: Screen not tight-fitting

Room # S206
No Violations Noted

Room # S207
105 CMR 451.141 Screens: Screen not tight-fitting
105 CMR 451.353 Interior Maintenance: Wall damaged

Room # S208
105 CMR 451.141 Screens: Screen damaged
105 CMR 451.353 Interior Maintenance: Wall damaged

Bathroom
105 CMR 451.123 Maintenance: Strong urine smell

Room # S209
No Violations Noted

Room # S210
Unable to Inspect – Not Used

Room # S211
105 CMR 451.353* Interior Maintenance: Ceiling cracked
105 CMR 451.353 Interior Maintenance: Wall paint damaged

Storage Room
No Violations Noted

South Side 3rd Floor

Hallway
No Violations Noted
Staff Bathroom
105 CMR 451.123 Maintenance: Toilet seat damaged
105 CMR 451.117 Toilet Fixtures: Toilet fixture dirty

Storage Closet
No Violations Noted

Lieutenant’s Office
Unable to Inspect – Locked

Investigator’s Office
Unable to Inspect – Locked

Hallway
No Violations Noted

Room # S301
No Violations Noted

Room # S302
105 CMR 451.353 Interior Maintenance: Outlet faceplate missing
105 CMR 451.353 Interior Maintenance: Outlet not secured to the wall

Property Room
No Violations Noted

Room # S303
No Violations Noted

Room # S304
No Violations Noted

Room # S305
Unable to Inspect – Not Used

Inmate Bathroom
105 CMR 451.123 Maintenance: One light out
105 CMR 451.123* Maintenance: Sink dirty
105 CMR 451.123 Maintenance: Caulking around sink was dirty
105 CMR 451.123 Maintenance: Wall tiles missing near toilet

North Side 1st Floor

Dining Room
105 CMR 451.353 Interior Maintenance: Counter dirty around hot water dispenser
105 CMR 451.350 Structural Maintenance: Window broken
105 CMR 451.353 Interior Maintenance: Spilled juice on floor under dispensers

Ice Machine
No Violations Noted

Tray Room
FC 4-204.113 Design and Construction, Functionality: Warewashing machine missing an easily accessible and readable data plate affixed to the machine for chemical sanitization
Male Visitor’s Bathroom
No Violations Noted

Female Visitor’s Bathroom
No Violations Noted

**Kitchen**

**Back Serving Area**
*FC 6-501.12(A)*
*Methods: Facility not cleaned as often as necessary, rodent droppings observed under dry storage racks*

Refrigerators
No Violations Noted

Serving/Prep Tables
No Violations Noted

Office
No Violations Noted

**Dry Storage Closet**
*FC 6-501.12(A)*
*Methods: Facility not cleaned as often as necessary, buildup of dust and mold observed on structure enclosing the ventilation pipe*

*FC 4-501.11(A)*
*Preventing Contamination from Premises: Food exposed to ice, build-up on boxes of food*

Chemical Closet
No Violations Noted

**Freezer (F2)**
*FC 3-305.11(A)(2)*
*Preventing Contamination from Premises: Food exposed to ice, build-up on boxes of food*

*FC 4-501.11(B)*
*Maintenance and Operation, Equipment: Equipment components not maintained in a state of good repair, ceiling ventilation grill/cover missing*

**Walk-in Refrigerator and Freezer (same unit)**
*FC 4-501.11(A)*
*Maintenance and Operation, Equipment: Equipment not maintained in a state of good repair, floor plate lifting from floor and not secured in freezer*

**Main Kitchen Area**

Office
No Violations Noted

Prep Tables
No Violations Noted

Loading Dock
No Violations Noted
2-Compartment Sink (Left)  
No Violations Noted

2-Compartment Sink (Center)  
No Violations Noted

2-Compartment Sink (Right)  
FC 4-501.14(B)  
Maintenance and Operation, Equipment: Warewashing Equipment not cleaned at a frequency to prevent the accumulation of debris, mold observed on interior seams of 2-compartment sink

Handwash Sink  
No Violations Noted

Steamer  
No Violations Noted

Ovens and Hoods  
No Violations Noted

Kettles  
No Violations Noted

Slop Sink  
FC 6-501.16*  
Maintenance and Operation; Premises, Structure, Attachments, and Fixtures - Methods: Wet mop stored upside down

Ice Machine  
No Violations Noted

North Side 2nd Floor

Counselor’s Office  
No Violations Noted

Inmate Bathroom  
105 CMR 451.123*  
Maintenance: Faucet leaking at handwash sink # 4  
105 CMR 451.123  
Maintenance: Faucet leaking at handwash sink # 1 and 3

Hallway (Next to Barber Shop)  
No Violations Noted

Storage Room (Next to Barber Shop)  
No Violations Noted

Barber Shop  
105 CMR 451.110(A)*  
Hygiene Supplies at Toilet and Handwash Sink: No paper towels at handwash sink

Room # N201  
105 CMR 451.141  
Screens: Screen not tight-fitting

Room # N202  
No Violations Noted
Room # N203  
No Violations Noted

Room # N204  
No Violations Noted

Room # N205  
No Violations Noted

Room # N206  
105 CMR 451.101  Blankets: Blanket damaged  
105 CMR 451.353  Interior Maintenance: GFCI outlet cover damaged  
105 CMR 451.353  Interior Maintenance: Light switch cover broken

Room # N207  
105 CMR 451.141  Screens: Screen damaged  
105 CMR 451.353*  Interior Maintenance: Wall damaged by outlet

Room # N209  
No Violations Noted

Room # N210  
Unable to Inspect – Not Used

North Side 3rd Floor

Hallway  
No Violations Noted

Room # N301  
No Violations Noted

Room # N302  
No Violations Noted

Room # N303  
105 CMR 451.350  Structural Maintenance: Floorboard missing near window

Room # N304  
No Violations Noted

Room # N305  
105 CMR 451.101  Blankets: Blanket damaged  
105 CMR 451.141  Screens: Screen not tight-fitting

Room # N306  
105 CMR 451.141  Screens: Screen damaged

Closet  
No Violations Noted

Bathroom

105 CMR 451.123  Maintenance: Gap between the counter and handwash sink # 1 and 2 was dirty  
105 CMR 451.353  Interior Maintenance: Mop stored on floor
Room # N307
105 CMR 451.350 Structural Maintenance: Window does not open and close properly

Room # N308
Unable to Inspect – Not Used

Basement
Laundry
No Violations Noted

Tunnel near Laundry
No Violations Noted

Maintenance Cage

Sewing Room
No Violations Noted

Maintenance Area
105 CMR 451.353 Interior Maintenance: Wet mop stored in bucket

Maintenance Office
105 CMR 451.200 Food Storage, Preparation and Service: Food preparation not in compliance with
105 CMR 590.000, interior of microwave oven dirty
105 CMR 451.200 Food Storage, Preparation and Service: Food preparation not in compliance with
105 CMR 590.000, interior of toaster oven dirty

Maintenance Bathroom
105 CMR 451.123 Maintenance: Handwash sink dirty

Chemical Room
105 CMR 451.353 Interior Maintenance: Unlabeled chemical plastic pump sprayer

Main Bathroom
Toilets and Handwash Sinks
105 CMR 451.353 Interior Maintenance: Area around toilet dirty in stall # 6, 8, and 9
105 CMR 451.117 Toilet Fixtures: Burn marks on toilet seats in stall # 3, 4, 6, 7, and 8

Main Shower
105 CMR 451.121(A)* Privacy: No privacy partition between showers
105 CMR 451.130* Plumbing: Plumbing not maintained in good repair, shower # 15 leaking

Slop Sink
No Violations Noted

Print Shop (off of Gym)
105 CMR 451.350* Structural Maintenance: Ceiling access panel not secured in storage area

Toilets and Handwash Sinks
105 CMR 451.123* Interior Maintenance: Ceiling tile missing
Officer’s Weight Room

No Violations Noted

Female Staff Bathroom

105 CMR 451.123 Interior Maintenance: Top of shower curtain damaged

Male Staff Bathroom

Unable to Inspect – In Use

Gym

No Violations Noted

Hallway

105 CMR 451.353 Interior Maintenance: Ceiling damaged near light fixture outside male bathroom

Male Bathroom # 105

No Violations Noted

Female Bathroom # 106

Unable to Inspect – Locked

Offices

Unable to Inspect – Locked

Garage

105 CMR 451.350* Structural Maintenance: Roll down door not rodent and weathertight

Anti-Graffiti Garage

105 CMR 451.350 Structural Maintenance: Exterior doors not rodent and weathertight

Back Building

Classroom

105 CMR 451.141 Screens: Screens missing

Office Area

105 CMR 451.350 Structural Maintenance: Window sill water damaged where AC unit is installed

Living Area (Unoccupied)

Toilets and Handwash Sinks

No Violations Noted

Shower Room

105 CMR 451.121(A)* Privacy: No privacy partition between showers
105 CMR 451.130 Hot Water: Shower water temperature recorded at 85°F

Room # 1

No Violations Noted

Room # 2

No Violations Noted
Room # 3

No Violations Noted

Room # 4

105 CMR 451.103 Mattresses: Mattress damaged

Room # 5

105 CMR 451.340 Illumination: Insufficient lighting, light out

Room # 6

105 CMR 451.350 Structural Maintenance: Window broken
105 CMR 451.353 Interior Maintenance: Ceiling tile damaged

Annex Building (Unoccupied)

First Floor

Dorm # 1

105 CMR 451.103 Mattresses: Mattress damaged

Dorm # 2

105 CMR 451.340* Illumination: Insufficient lighting, light out

Visiting Room

No Violations Noted

Bathroom

No Violations Noted

Handicapped Bathroom w/Shower

105 CMR 451.126 Hot Water: Hot water temperature recorded at 100°F

Second Floor

Resource Room

No Violations Noted

Dorm # 4

Unable to Inspect – Not Used

Office

No Violations Noted

Basement

C-Tech Classroom

No Violations Noted

Library/GED Room

Unable to Inspect – Locked

Staff Bathroom

Unable to Inspect – Locked
Inmate Bathroom
105 CMR 451.130* Maintenance: Handwash sink #3 leaking at faucet

Slop Sink
No Violations Noted

Inmate Shower Room
105 CMR 451.121(A)* Privacy: No privacy partition between showers
105 CMR 451.130* Maintenance: Shower # 2 leaking

Observations and Recommendations

1. The inmate population was 70 at the time of inspection.
2. The CSP observed a combination smoke/carbon monoxide detector beeping, indicating low battery. The CSP recommends inspecting and replacing batteries as needed prior to re-occupancy.
3. The CSP did not observe an affixed data plate on the warewashing machine that accurately described the facility’s use of low temperature, chemical sanitization. The CSP recommends permanently affixing an easily accessible and readable data plate that describes machine’s design and operation specifications for chemical sanitization.
4. The CSP observed secondary containment of medical and biological waste inappropriately stored in the Nurse’s Office. In discussions with staff, it was determined that this container was being stored in a manner that allowed for unauthorized access for an extended period of time. The CSP recommends training additional staff in proper storage and waste removal procedures.

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/des and click on "Correctional Facilities" (available in both PDF and RTF formats).

To review the Food Establishment Regulations or download a copy, please visit the Food Protection website at www.mass.gov/dph/fpp and click on "Retail food". Then under DPH Regulations and FDA Code click "Merged Food Code" or "105 CMR 590.000 - State Sanitary Code Chapter X - Minimum Sanitation Standards for Food Establishments".

To review the Labeling regulations please visit the Food Protection website at www.mass.gov/dph/fpp and click on “Food Protection Program regulations”. Then under Food Processing click “105 CMR 500.000: Good Manufacturing Practices for Food”.

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

Sincerely,

[Signature]
Shanene Pierce
Environmental Health Inspector, CSP, BEH